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Hundred million of support for research to protect the Baltic Sea

The European Parliament has in its plenary sitting in Strasbourg on 16 June 2010 supported the European Council's compromise which will launch a new research programme to protect the Baltic Sea. The new programme 'BONUS-169' will produce and implement 'fit-for-purpose' regulations, policies and management practices specifically tailored for the Baltic Sea region. In its work BONUS-169 will consider both the marine ecosystem and the socio-economic activities in the Baltic Sea area. Half of the funding comes from the EU Commission's Research Framework Programme and half from the national funding agencies in the Baltic Sea countries.

In the coming year BONUS-169 will focus on building strong links across the wider communities and different sectors in the society within and between the Baltic Sea countries. These activities will also provide valuable guidance to development of the strategic research agenda of the programme. The BONUS-169 programme will also act as a model for the protection of the other regional seas in Europe – the Mediterranean, the Black Sea and the North Sea.

Further information: Kaisa Kononen, Executive Director, BONUS EEIG, Tel. +358 40 581 1189

Call for Offers: Development of a Methodology for Research Infrastructure Integration within the Framework of the Joint Baltic Sea Research Programme BONUS

BONUS EEIG hereby invites you to submit a proposal for the development of a methodology for research infrastructure integration within the framework of the Joint Baltic Sea Research Programme BONUS.

For Terms of Reference and background information, see www.bonusportal.org/news. The closing date for submission of the proposal is **31 August 2010 at 16.00 hours CET**.

The proposal shall be submitted in English, in one original and one copy to the BONUS EEIG, Executive Director Kaisa Kononen, Hämeentie 33, 00500 Helsinki. The contact persons in the BONUS EEIG are: Executive Director Kaisa Kononen and Programme Manager Andris Andrusaitis.

BONUS PhD field course by BALTIC GAS: Seismo-acoustic Imaging of Sedimentary and Gas-related Features in the Baltic Sea

The course offers a combined lab and field course to introduce the most relevant instruments and survey methods of acoustic surface and subsurface imagery to both geophysicists and non-geophysicists. Course participants will acquire a full set of skills, from the basics of analyzing and interpreting seismo-acoustic data, through operational aspects such as cruise planning, watch keeping, logistics, onboard data management and processing, towards data archival and final documenting of shipboard results.

The course is offered to PhD students and post docs from the whole Baltic Sea Region. The number of participants is limited by classroom / vessel capacity, appx. 14 berths. The course will be jointly held with master students from the University of Szczecin and the Maritime Academy, Szczecin, totalling 30 participants. The course is free of charge. However, travel costs to / from Szczecin have to be covered, but some support can be provided by the organizers on request.

Registration deadline: 25 June 2010

Further information is provided at <http://balticgas.net> and in the two course announcements (PDF): [PhD course Announcement](#) and [Baltic Gas PhD course details](#).

Web based Poll on Priority Research Topics in Baltic Sea System Science

The Poll is an important step in designing the Strategic Research Agenda for BONUS-169, Joint Baltic Sea Research Programme. It will form the basis for the future Calls for proposals to be launched within the Programme. The Poll is open to everyone – both individuals and representatives of organizations. BONUS is especially interested in receiving feedback from research professionals in academia and sector research institutes, government officers and experts in all relevant spheres: agriculture, fisheries, transportation & energy, environment, regional development and spatial planning, local governments, tourism and recreation, as well as industries having a stake in marine and maritime research.

You can provide your input at: www.bonusportal.org/poll

Please note that the poll form must be finished in one session. Most possibly, you will first need to familiarize yourself with the questions and proposed structure of research areas, consider your ideas, and then sit down and fill the form. Please, use opportunity to discuss ideas with your colleagues – input on behalf of groups and organizations will have more weight when the outcomes are analysed.

The Poll will be open until **16 August 2010**.

Open Positions

Stockholm University announces two positions as senior lecturer in Baltic Sea ecology at the Department of Systems Ecology:

[MARINE BENTHIC ECOLOGY](#)

[MARINE PELAGIC ECOLOGY](#)

Pilot version of European Atlas of the Seas to shed new light on maritime Europe

The European Commission launched a pilot version of a new European Atlas of the Seas - a dynamic online atlas where users will be able to learn more about Europe's seas, its maritime sectors, the interaction between them and the maritime policy which brings them all together. Check <http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeatlas> (reprinted from EUROCEAN NL 02.06.2010)

Second EUROWFLEETS e-newsletter

The EUROWFLEETS project which aims at bringing together the European research fleets to enhance their coordination and promote the cost effective use of their facilities, launched its second project e-newsletter (May 2010). The newsletter is available for [download](#) on the [EUROWFLEETS](#) website. (reprinted from EUROCEAN NL 02.06.2010)

best regards,
BONUS EEIG Secretariat