

## Workshop protocol

Developing ideas for an successful link between the management of natural coastal resources and socioeconomic development in the South Baltic

On the 28th April 2015 the Coastal Union Germany (EUCC-D), the World Maritime University (WMU) and the National Marine Fisheries Research Institute (NMFRI) organized a workshop in Malmö, Sweden. The workshop was part of a project extension which was granted to the Interreg project HERRING by the EU South Baltic Programme 2007 – 2013. The aim of the work was to reflect former EU projects which dealt with the management of natural resources of the southern Baltic coast by connecting benefits to regional development. Based on discussions about best practices and gaps of former projects and initiatives new project ideas were developed. They aim at successfully implementing a link between natural resource management and socioeconomic development.

Following a brief welcome by Mr. Nilsson from World Maritime University (WMU) and a presentation of the content and objectives of the workshop, each of the 13 participants gave a short introduction of their professional background and expectation of the workshop. The introductions revealed a broad professional expertise which could be utilized in the course of the workshop. The selection of participants was based on the fact that they were involved in one or more Interreg or EU Life+ projects with respect to the management of natural resources.

As a starting point, Mr. Fey (NMFRI), Mr. Nilsson (WMU) and Mr. van Laak (EUCC-D) briefly presented projects and results of the desktop study which was conducted in advance and complementary to the workshop. The study report was available to each participant as hand out material for the following session.

In order to establish a common basis on which ideas for new projects will be developed, all participants were asked to recapture relevant projects, guided by three questions 1) **Best practices**, what worked very well in former projects; 2) Main **gaps** in former projects; and 3) How should and could the project been continued, **new ideas**.

The diversity of projects greatly reflected on the diverse input which was collected by the participants. In respect to the questions “How would you proceed the project” (new Idea) there was an emphasis on “awareness raising”. According to the participants raising the awareness about a natural coastal resource is considered not only important for an improved management, but also for an enhanced value of the resource among the public. This is a vital step in order to introduce the resource into the “economic circle” and therefore utilize it for socioeconomic development of the region.

After a presentation about the scope and objectives of the upcoming South Baltic Programme 2014-2020 by N. Stybel (EUCC-D), the participants were asked to outline concrete ideas for new projects that aim at either a) objective 2.1 “Increased development of the South Baltic area’s natural and cultural heritage assets into sustainable tourist destinations” or b) objective 5 “Improve the Cooperation capacity of local South Baltic area actors through participation in cross-border networks”. Always keeping the scope of the workshop “Linking the management of natural coastal resources with socioeconomic development” in mind, the following ideas for future projects were discussed:

The idea for objective 2.1 mainly focused on recognizing and expanding coastal fisheries as a common cultural heritage and feature of the South Baltic sea region. The participants came up with the idea of a Baltic platform which includes a range of activities that not only strengthen the local coastal fisheries but utilize this feature for the tourism sector and regional socioeconomic development.

The idea development process for objective 5 was manifold and controversial in identifying common issues for a new project idea which really improves capacities of cross-border actors. However, after debate, the cooperation and joint promotion of local fish products and the development for better marketing strategies for the coastal fisheries were identified as a promising subject. In this respect the concept of “Community Supported Fishery” which already exists in Sweden came up. This is a tool which provides market security for local fishermen and allows consumers direct access to seasonal fresh fish, by agreeing to regularly buy a certain amount of fish.

The participants agreed to present aspects of the discussed ideas at the open consultation days which will take place in the next days.

28<sup>th</sup> April 2015  
Malmö, Sweden