



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

The Baltic University Programme



CSD Uppsala.

Uppsala Centre for Sustainable Development

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Baltic University Programme
Uppsala Centre for Sustainable Development
Uppsala University, Villavägen 16, SE-752 36 Uppsala, Sweden
Phone: +46-18-471 18 40 Fax: +46-18-471 17 89
E-mail: magnus.lehman@csduppsala.uu.se
Web page: www.balticuniv.uu.se

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The Baltic University Programme in 2012



Baltic University Programme (BUP) is a platform for cooperation among universities, their staff and students, with focus on a sustainable development in the Baltic Sea region. We fulfill this task through different activities, such as teachers' and students conferences and workshops, development of new course contents and materials and common projects. With these activities we are well situated as a Flagship project under the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, in which BUP has been given the task to enhance cooperation among IHEs in the region.

In order to strengthen the activities and to secure the funding base for BUP, the voluntary contributions were introduced this year. Already during the short time of only a few months many universities sent their contributions. We are very grateful for the positive reaction and support and we are encouraged to continue. In November the BUP international board decided that this sum would be used for students' conferences and development of new activities. One such new activity is a BUP PhD-students' conference, which is planned for autumn 2013. The next BUP Rectors' conference, planned for 2014, will follow up and give the overall guidelines for the use of the voluntary contributions.

An equally important way of contributing to the BUP network is to co-finance and co-organise our activities. I mention here only two examples from this year. The BUP teachers' conference in November in Kazimierz Dolny, Poland was co-organised by Åbo Akademi University and Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin. The second example is the BUP students' conference, also in November, in Świnoujście, which was co-organised by the Maritime University of Szczecin. We warmly recognize these contributions!

One major achievement this year is the finalization of the project Environmental Health and Sustainable Agriculture (EHSA). It was a huge project, with partners in the Baltic Sea and Great Lakes Regions, and with several financers. The major outcome of

this effort is three large text books on sustainable agriculture to be used by professionals and at universities in both regions. A conference was held in June for university teachers with an introduction to the content and how to use the books in the courses. An additional outcome is the expanded network and cooperation with the US and Canadian researchers, which brings in new dimensions in our work. Warm thanks go to all partners and financers, with special thanks to Christine Jakobsson and Ingrid Karlsson for their engagement as editors of the books and in keeping the project coordination going smoothly. We are also grateful to Lars Rydén for his job as editor of the third EHSA book.

During BUPs more than 20 years of activities a wide range of teaching and learning materials on sustainable development has been produced. Materials have been integrated in the universities' courses in different ways. On our website there is for most courses a whole course package with ECTS documents to be followed and with the BUP international diploma at the end. Other ways of using the materials is to integrate parts into existing courses. This year the TEMPUS-financed project UZWATER has started, through which some materials will be further developed and transferred to yet another new region.

The BUP activities are coordinated and followed up by the BUP International Board. Board meetings were held in Uppsala June 8th, and November 27th. The Board and the national centres' meetings are communicating with each other. So we had this year three centres' coordinating meetings in the region, 18-20 January in Nitra, 20-22 June in Kaliningrad and 12-14 December in Hamburg.

In September we received the message that Lars-Christer Lundin, BUP's long time chair of the board, course mentor, colleague and friend, had passed away. His generous personality and genuine concern for the network will always be remembered.

Paula Lindroos



Introduction

The Baltic University Programme is a network of more than 200 institutions of higher education in the Baltic Sea region, coordinated by a secretariat at Uppsala University, Sweden. The Programme's main focus is to produce and offer courses for studies on sustainable development of the region, of its environment and its political changes. The Baltic Sea region is in this case the drainage basin of the Baltic Sea. There are 14 countries completely or partially within the basin, including the Nordic and Baltic States, Russia, Poland, and Germany, as well as the major inland states of Belarus, Ukraine and the Czech and Slovak republics. The region has 85 million inhabitants constituting 11% of the population of Europe.

"The purpose of the Programme is to promote and support universities and corresponding institutions in the development of the Baltic Sea region towards peaceful cooperation, democracy and economic, social and ecological sustainable development."

Instructions to the Board

The Role of Universities

Universities, where new generations receive their education, have a key role in the changes towards a democratic, peaceful and sustainable development of the region. This builds on a long tradition of internationalism within the academic world. Today universities also address the general public, and cooperate with authorities and companies when specialist competence is needed. These roles of the universities are needed even more after the dramatic political and societal changes that have taken place in our region.

Courses and Applied Projects

The Programme produces curricula and teaching materials. All of the courses have an element of regional studies and are interdisciplinary and problem oriented. The Baltic University Programme network intends to be useful to several sectors of society. The activities and study materials have been used in many of the countries as a resource to develop national strategies of sustainable development. The network has also been a resource in the development of cities. Cooperation with other actors in society in applied projects is an important part of studying and developing sustainability strategies.

Sustainable Development

The Baltic University Programme was initiated by Uppsala University in 1991. It has its roots in the major changes in the Baltic Sea region at the end of the Cold War. Global efforts to promote sustainable development started during the same period, with the World Summit for Environment and Development in Rio in 1992. Sustainable development addressing environmental, economic and social issues has become a widespread goal during the changes in the Baltic Sea region. Today, the Baltic University Programme has developed into one of the largest university networks in the world with more than 200 universities and institutions of higher education. Several kinds of universities are active within the network: classical, technical, agricultural and pedagogical and universities of applied sciences. The participating universities cooperate in areas of common interest for the whole region – a sustainable regional development.

Organization

The Baltic University Programme is led by an international board, appointed for a period of three years by the Vice-chancellor of Uppsala University. The task of the board is to develop the contents and long term policy of the Programme, as well as to follow and support its implementation at the participating universities and institutions. Furthermore, the board works for the financing of the Programme and decides on its plan of activities. The day-to-day activities are coordinated by the secretariat located at Uppsala University. The secretariat also administers the Programme economy, including applying for financing and contacts with the funding organizations. The 15 centres distribute information on courses and develop Programme activities within their countries. All countries have one national centre except for Russia with centres in St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad and Germany with centres in Hamburg and Zittau.



The National Centres 2012

Belarus

Belarusian State University, Minsk
Centre Director: Siharei Darozhka, Assoc. Prof.

Czech Republic

Technical University of Ostrava
Centre Director: Alena Labodova, Dr.

Denmark

Aarhus University
Centre Director: Henrik Knudsen, Assoc. Prof.

Estonia

Tallinn University of Technology
Centre Director: Tatyana Polayeva, Prof.

Finland

Åbo Akademi University
Centre Director: Ea Maria Blomqvist, MSc

Germany

Hamburg University of Applied Sciences
Centre Director: Walter Leal, Prof.

University of Applied Sciences, Zittau/Görlitz,
Bernd Delakowitz, Prof.

Latvia

University of Latvia, Riga
Centre Director: Kristine Abolina, Dr

Lithuania

Kaunas University of Technology
Centre Director: Linas Kliucininkas, Assoc. Prof.

Poland

Technical University of Lodz
Centre Director: Ireneusz Zbicinski, Prof.

Russia

Kaliningrad region
Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University
Centre Director: Elena Kropinova, Dr

North-Western region

St Petersburg State University
Centre Director: Victor Ionov, Prof.

Slovak Republic

Slovak University of Agriculture, Nitra
Centre Director: Alexander Feher, Assoc. Prof.

Sweden

Blekinge University of Technology, Karlskrona
Centre Director: Lars Emmelin, Prof.

Ukraine

Ivan Franko National University of Lviv
Centre Director: Iryna Kriba, Dr

The Secretariat 2012

Director: Paula Lindroos, PhD

Network Manager: Maria Hejna, MSc. Econ.,

Web Master: Christian Andersson, PhD

Producer: Magnus Lehman, MA,

Project Assistant: Lyudmyla Babak, MA (on leave from March)

Project Assistant: Anna Ruban, MA (March - August 2012)

Project Assistant: Wojciech Szrubka, PhD (Sep. 2012 -)

Professor Emeritus: Lars Rydén, Professor

The BUP Board 2012

Chairs: *Lars-Christer Lundin*, Professor
Uppsala University, Sweden

Kerstin Sahlin, Professor
Uppsala University, Sweden (from July 2012)

Members:

Caroline Liberg, Professor
Uppsala University, Sweden (to July 2012)

Lars Holmer, Professor, Uppsala University, Sweden

Matthew Kott, PhD, Uppsala University, Sweden

Ian Snowball, Researcher, Uppsala University

Per G. Berg, Professor, Swedish University of Agricultural
Sciences, SLU, Uppsala, Sweden

Carl Lindberg, UNESCO special advisor

Lena Sommestad, MP, Former Minister of Environment,
Sweden (to July 2012)

Maria Wetterstrand, Former chair of the Green Party,
Sweden (from July 2012)

Malin Brännback, Professor, Vice Rector, Åbo Akademi
University, Finland

Ireneusz Zbicinski, Professor, Vice Rector,
Technical University of Lodz, Poland

Tatyana Polayeva, Professor,
Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia

Victor Ionov, Professor, St Petersburg State University,
St. Petersburg, Russia

Student representatives:

Pontus Ambros, Uppsala University, Sweden

Magda Barecka, Lodz Technical University, Poland (to July 2012)

Kirill Zinin, Euroakadeemia, Estonia (from July 2012)

BUP Courses

The courses are undergraduate and master's level courses, as well as specialised courses for professionals and teachers. The task of the Baltic University Programme is to create a rich learning environment with books, films, Internet sites and conferences to study the development of the region. The courses are run separately by each university in the network. Students register at their home university, while course material is produced and distributed within the Programme. Student conferences, summer camps as well as the internet, connect the student groups in the network. We also organize several university teachers training courses each year to uphold a good standard of knowledge and to introduce new teachers to our materials and courses. During 2012, there were 7,508 students in a total of 269 course groups at 157 universities all over the Baltic Sea region studying BUP courses and there were 266 academic teachers contributing to delivering the courses.

International Education

Baltic University Programme courses are international, multidisciplinary, problem-oriented, and based on ongoing research at the participating universities. The courses intend to give comprehensive knowledge on education for sustainable development, the environment and of the societies in the Baltic Sea Region. The courses are organized as an international cooperation within the network. In this way, we keep the best standard possible, considering that the topics chosen are so wide that no single university, East or West, has the competence needed to produce such a course on its own. The course groups in the different countries are offered possibilities to get in touch with each other, and to participate in common events, lectures and seminars.

Teachers and Students Conferences

To support the university teachers in the network, seminars and conferences are arranged for various subject areas. Each year we organize at least one large teachers' conference on education for sustainable development and one teacher training on another subject. In 2012 two conferences/teacher training workshops. Teachers get the opportunity to discuss with colleagues on the BUP educational material, how to cooperate with other universities as well as practitioners, how to build networks and how to address questions of sustainability.

Students are invited to attend summer camps, sailing trips and other events organized by the participating universities and the Baltic University Programme Secretariat. Students' conferences are arranged regularly to promote contacts, international understanding and democracy development. Since 2008 we have held both spring and autumn Students conferences.



The Web Page & Course

The Secretariat web page (www.balticuniv.uu.se) is intended to be a resource for both students and teachers. It contains information on the courses and the course material, meetings and conferences, as well as the latest publications from the Baltic University Press. A discussion forum, a guest book and information about the countries in the Baltic Sea region can also be found. One part of the homepage is dedicated to Education for Sustainable Development ESD (www.balticuniv.uu.se/ESD) and much information can be found on this topic there. This part of the homepage is financed by Åbo Akademi University.

In 2004, the Sustainable Water Management course (15 ECTS) was launched as the first full distance mode BUP course. All course material, (a total of some 600 pages) can be downloaded as pdf-format documents from the web page. Project tasks, internet links, questions, and study groups, etc. are available or organized over the homepage. See further: www.balticuniv.uu.se/swm.

A web-based course called Concepts of Sustainability (COS) giving 5 ECTS credit points is offered by the Open University at Åbo Akademi University. This introductory course is made in the open source learning platform Moodle. A new course entitled Sustainable Development has been developed during 2012 by Prof. Lars Rydén. This course material is now available at the BUP website.

SAIL – Sustainability Applied in International Learning (7.5 ECTS) is an international course at Uppsala University on sustainability organised by the Baltic University Programme. 40 students and teachers from all countries within the Baltic Sea drainage area work, study, sail and live together on a sailing ship during 17 days. The education consists of workshops, seminars and group discussions at sea on board. The students also participate as sailors and perform watch duties on the ship around the clock.

Undergraduate Level

Environmental Science ES

The ES courses give multidisciplinary overviews of the situation of the environment in the Baltic Sea region and on how to manage and protect it. The courses provide an excellent background for studying the Baltic University courses on sustainable development. The 15 ECTS course can be divided into two modules which can be studied separately:

Environmental Science (15 ECTS)

- i. **The Baltic Sea Environment** (7.5 ECTS)
- ii. **Basic Environmental Science** (7.5 ECTS)

English for Environmental Science EE

This is an intermediate level English language course which develops comprehension, vocabulary and skills of expression. Terminology used in environmental studies is explained and practised.

The Baltic Sea Region Area Studies AS

The AS courses treat the Baltic Sea region and its societies under eight headings: history, culture, language, democracy, multiculturalism, social conditions, economics and security. The courses deal mostly with the conditions in the region after the systems change in 1989-91. Regional development is in focus with emphasis on democracy, human rights and economics.

The Baltic Sea Region (15 ECTS)

- i. **Peoples of the Baltic** (7.5 ECTS)
- ii. **Regional development and the Baltic Sea region** (7.5 ECTS)

A Sustainable Baltic Region SBR

The course deals with sustainable use and management of natural resources and long-term protection of the environment. Important issues in the course are energy and energy use, material flows, economy and ethics, industry, agriculture, transport and community development. (7.5 ECTS)

Sustainability Applied in International Learning SAIL

A course at Uppsala University on sustainability organised by the Baltic University Programme. The education consists of workshops, seminars and group discussions on board a sailing ship. (7,5 ECTS)

Master's Level

Sustainable Water Management SWM

The SWM courses are master's level courses focusing on issues of sustainable use of water and water resources in the Baltic Sea region. Students should preferably have a background in e.g., hydrology, geology, physical geography, agronomy, soil science, forestry or environmental engineering. The full SWM course consists of three modules which can be studied separately:

Sustainable Water Management (15 ECTS)

- i. **The Baltic Waterscape** (4.5 ECTS)
- ii. **Water Use & Management** (4.5 ECTS)
- iii. **River Basin Management** (6 ECTS)

Sustainable Water Management can also be studied as an internet course at Uppsala University.

Community Development CD

The CD courses are master's level courses focusing on sustainable community development and urban planning with an emphasis on the Baltic Sea region. The courses are interdisciplinary, problem oriented and preparatory for a professional career. The course includes three modules:

Community Development (15 ECTS)

- i. **The City** (4.5 ECTS)
- ii. **Building Sustainable Communities** (4.5 ECTS)
- iii. **Urban Sustainability Management** (6 ECTS)

Environmental Management EM

The EM courses address management in all kinds of organizations, although industries are in focus. They are well adapted for competence development for professionals. The course consists of four modules:

Environmental Management (30 ECTS)

- i. **Policy Instruments for Environmental Management** (7.5 ECTS)
- ii. **Cleaner Production and Technologies** (7.5 ECTS),
- iii. **Product Design & Life Cycle Assessment** (7.5 ECTS)
- iv. **Environmental Management Systems and Certification** (7.5 ECTS).



Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture EHSA

The EHSA courses address the field of rural development, sustainable agriculture and animal health pertaining to the Baltic Sea Region and to some degree also the Great Lakes region. The course consists of three modules:

Environmental Management (30 ECTS)

- i. **Sustainable Agriculture** (7.5 ECTS)
- ii. **Ecology and Animal Health** (7.5 ECTS),
- iii. **Rural Development and Land Use** (7.5 ECTS).

Course Statistics

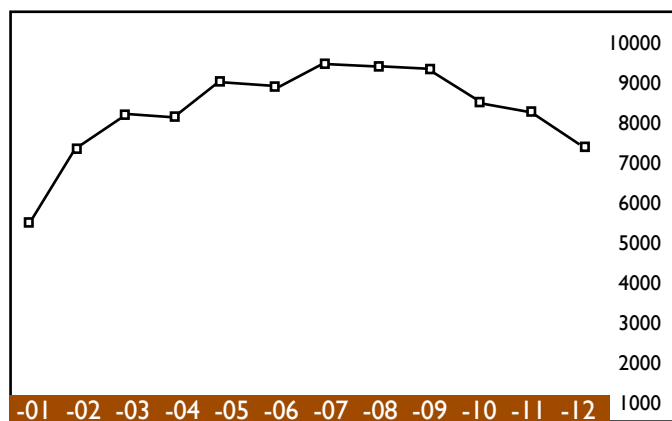


The yellow column below shows the number of students on the BUP courses, in the different countries.

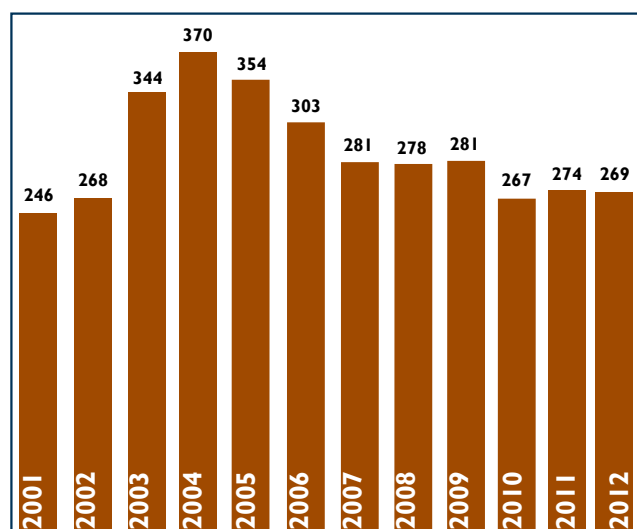
- BSE - Baltic Sea Environment/Environmental Science
- POB - Peoples of the Baltic/Regional Development
- SBR - A Sustainable Baltic region
- SWM - Sustainable Water Management
- SCD - Sustainable Community Development
- EE - Environmental English
- EHSA - Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture
- EM - Environmental Management
- Others - number of students using the BUP material

Number of students on the different course sectors:

Country	Universities	Teachers	Study groups	Students	BSE	POB	SBR	SWM	SCD	EE	EM	EHSA	Others
Finland	2	3	4	118	0	0	18	59	0	0	0	0	41
Estonia	5	7	12	628	0	48	35	0	0	0	0	0	545
Latvia	5	18	30	1054	145	32	64	149	29	72	238	28	297
Lithuania	14	24	18	425	145	54	186	0	0	0	22	0	18
NW Russia	11	26	29	283	99	73	28	0	15	15	25	0	28
Kaliningrad	3	11	11	300	210	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belarus	28	47	52	1951	503	86	1158	98	0	60	46	0	0
Ukraine	10	27	26	370	0	72	96	0	26	150	26	0	0
Slovak Rep.	3	6	6	199	0	0	60	15	0	0	0	0	124
Czech Rep.	1	9	18	427	0	0	0	0	0	0	73	0	354
Poland	61	69	51	1401	183	135	655	0	270	22	60	0	76
Germany	8	11	4	193	60	18	20	0	15	40	21	0	19
Norway	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denmark	2	3	3	38	0	0	0	0	12	0	26	0	0
Sweden	3	4	5	121	0	15	0	11	65	0	30	0	0
TOTAL	157	266	269	7508	1345	533	2410	332	432	359	567	28	1502



Total amount of students 2001-2012.



Total number of BUP study groups from all courses.

Marina Povitkina was a student of the BUP SAIL course. Now she has successfully implemented a project developed during the course...



Tools Library

Text and photo: Marina Povitkina

The idea

of the tool library is to start sharing things instead of buying them. The principle is Collaborative Consumption (See Rachel Botsmans great book "What's mine is yours").

Many things we buy are not used very often - think of how many times a day you use your screwdriver, while at this very moment there is someone who is desperately looking for the tools that idly lie in your storage room.

Buying causes over-consumption and additional pressure on the environment, so why not use/reuse the stuff that we or your neighbour/friend/community has? "What you really need is not the product ... but the service it provides" (Roo Rodgers). "The difference between the stuff we buy and what we use is waste" (Clive Hamilton)

When I moved in to my student apartment, it was completely empty and I needed some tools to fix it up. As a typical international student, I didn't have the necessary tools and my tight budget did not allow me to buy them either. It took me quite some time to borrow some tools to fix anything

During the summer I was preparing for a Baltic University Programme course - Sustainability Applied in International Learning (SAIL) and was required to present a project idea, to be developed during the course.

The BUP SAIL Course provided a unique opportunity to exchange ideas with an international team of students and teachers. Straight after I came back from the course, I applied for funding from the Sendzimir Foundation - who is hosting a sustainability course in Poland where I got the initial inspiration (see also page 17). Getting the funding gave the necessary push. However, it was not the money that played a crucial role, but the support, constant feedback and monthly reports which motivated me to implement the necessary further steps.

The implementation took around 6 months (with breaks). During this time I tried to get as much support as possible, contacting different NGOs, student organizations and companies-manufacturers of the tools. I was also

searching for volunteers in my student area and learned that many fellow students supported the idea.

The project got local support, room, volunteers and most importantly - tools to sufficiently stock the library. Most of the tools were donated and facebook announcements did most of the job here. However, numerous posters around the town, emailing and word-of-mouth helped a lot as well.

With everything ready, it was soon time for the opening, which was arranged as a bicycle workshop and coffee with snacks.

Thus, thanks to the courses visited this summer with invaluable input for project development from BUP SAIL course and funding and inspiration from the Sendzimir Foundation course, the tool library now successfully serves a community of 70 student apartments and 120 people.

I truly hope that the idea spreads and more tool libraries appear to serve communities. By means of collaborative consumption we could help slow down consumerism, for the future of our planet.

For more on Ceres Tool Library see <http://cerestoollibrary.blogspot.se> or contact us at ceres.tool.library@gmail.com

Conferences, Seminars & Events 2012

179 students from the region participated in the two student conferences and in the SAIL course. They came from: Belarus 15 students, Czech Republic 4, Estonia 13, Finland 10, Germany 10, Latvia 16, Lithuania 10, Poland 44, Russia 16, Slovak Republic 10, Sweden 16, Ukraine 15 students. 57 teachers participated in conference in Kazimierz Dolny and about 40 in the meetings on Maritime Spatial Planning.

BUP Centres Meeting

18-20 January 2012
Nitra, Slovakia

Maritime Spatial Planning

25-26 January 2012
Karlskrona, Sweden

BUP Latvian National Meeting

23-24 February 2012
Riga, Latvia

BUP Swedish National Meeting

8 March 2012
Karlskrona, Sweden

BUP Nordic Meeting to Strengthen the Network

9 March 2012
Karlskrona, Sweden

BUP Student's Conference: Towards Sustainable Consumption

18-22 April 2012
Rogów, Poland

Baltic Sea Days

25-26 Apr 2012
Berlin, Germany

Student Conference: Economics for Ecology

27-30 Apr 2012
Sumy, Ukraine

NovaBova Meeting, Workshop on BUP

5 May 2012
Tartu, Estonia

BUP Presentation to Finnish Rectors

8 May 2012
Stockholm, Silja Symphony, Sweden

Seminar: Revitalize the City for Sustainability

8-11 May 2012
Halmstad, Sweden

Biogas meeting

14-18 May 2012
Uppsala, Sweden

Maritime Spatial Planning 2nd Meeting

18-25 May 2012
Gothenburg, Sweden and sailing on board STS Fryderik Chopin

EU Maritime Days: Workshop on Maritime Spatial planning

21-23 May 2012
Gothenburg, Sweden

Baltic Sea Conference on Education. BUP Presentation.

30 May - 1 June 2012
Hamburg, Germany

EHSA Teachers Conference

3-7 June 2012
Rogów, Poland

BUP Side Event on ESD in Higher Education

5-6 June 2012
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Board Meeting

Friday, 8 June 2012
Uppsala, Sweden

Green Infrastructure: From Global to Local

11-15 June 2012
St. Petersburg, Russia and Uppsala, Sweden

Baltech Rectors Conference

16-20 June 2012
Tallinn, Estonia

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Annual Forum 2012

18-20 June 2012
Tallinn, Estonia

Center Directors Meeting

20-21 June 2012
Kaliningrad, Russia

Integrative Approaches to Sustainability

27-30 June 2012
Riga, Latvia

Baltic Artek: BUP Students Anna Ruban and Pontus Ambros lead workshop

1-5 August 2012
Kaliningrad, Russia

SAIL 2012

10-27 September 2012
On board STS Fryderyk Chopin from Gdynia to Swinoujscie, Poland via Karlshamn, and Liepaja

Students summer course

11-15 September 2012
Zittau/Görlitz, Germany

Environmental Protection in Industrial Regions

17-19 September 2012
Legnica, Poland

The Power of ESD: Workshop on ESD and BUP. Conference organized by Swedesd

24-26 October 2012
Visby, Sweden

Teachers Conference Area Studies: Security and Stability in the Baltic Sea Region

7-10 November 2012
Kazimierz Dolny, Poland

Maritime Spatial Planning 3d Meeting

14 November 2012
Szczecin, Poland

Students Conference Autumn: Stability & Security in the Baltic Sea Region.

20-21 November 2012
Stockholm, Sweden

Baltic21 Expert Group Meeting

Tuesday, 27 November 2012
Uppsala, Sweden

BUP Board Meeting

Tuesday, 27 November 2012
Uppsala, Sweden

Center Directors Meeting

12-14 December 2012
Hamburg, Germany



Prof. Josef Mosiej lecturing at Rogów student conference. Photo: Krzysztof Ciesielski.



Dr. Ulf Nordberg from JTI, the Swedish Institute of agricultural and environmental engineering in Uppsala guiding Belarusian visitors at the biogas plant in Västerås. Photo: Lars Rydén.



Dr. Sylvia Lorek discusses consumption and sustainability at Rogów student conference. Photo: Krzysztof Ciesielski.



Participants at the student conference on Stability & Security in the Baltic Sea Region, Maritime Spatial Planning and Baltic Sea transport in Szczecin on 14-17 November. Photo: Kirill Zinin.



Photo: Krzysztof Ciesielski.



Student judges at the Oxford Debate in Rogów. Photo: Krzysztof Ciesielski.



Rogów dance hall students. Photo: Krzysztof Ciesielski.



Opportunity to play African drums at the Rogów student conference. Photo: Krzysztof Ciesielski.

BUP Profile Interview

Lars Emmelin



Attending a conference at University of Latvia in Riga 2010. Photo:Tomas Grinbergs.

Prof. Lars Emmelin from The Swedish School of Planning at Blekinge Institute of Technology, holds the Unesco Chair in Education for Sustainability and is Centre Director in Sweden for The Baltic University Programme network.

– How is BUP doing in Sweden? What are the difficulties and possibilities?

Sweden is the country where the idea of Baltic University Programme started over 20 years ago. It's a network with a great potential which we need to care for in order for it to grow. However, as everything else this work is connected with both possibilities and difficulties.

The Swedish network had been without a National Centre for a while when Blekinge Institute of Technology took over the role as Swedish network coordinator. We now stand with the challenge of revitalising the Swedish network. We have started our work by establishing specific contact persons at most Swedish member universities which will facilitate our work and communication.

Sustainable development is a major issue in Scandinavia and in our second year as National Centre we see that there is interest in the network to work with BUP. However, apart from student activities, the member univer-

sities emphasise the importance of developing research projects and also to improve information and communication structures within the network.

Two of the main obstacles that students have raised for their participation in BUP activities, have been 1) activities that are organised at the same time as examination period and 2) funding. Those students that have taken part in BUP activities all agree that the seminars have been very interesting and rewarding and that the possibility to get travel grants has been essential. At the same time they raise the issues that the activities have been too open – that is to say, that the participating students have had different levels of knowledge on the topic in focus. These are issues that we will work on in the coming years.

In 20 years the Baltic University has grown to include over 200 universities in the wider Baltic Sea area out of which 18 are in Sweden. This of course creates great possibilities but demands of us as a National Centre that we focus on QA (quality assurance) – adjusting the structures of coordination, communication and functioning to the new size and dimension of the network. This is probably a challenge that also other centres have had ahead of them and we see here a possibility to look together at these issues, learn from each other and to find new working structures. We see a potential in the Baltic University, the Swedish network and not least in an increased cooperation with universities in the other Nordic countries.



Blekinge Institute of Technology in Karlskrona is located by the Baltic Sea in Southern Sweden. Photo: Magnus Bäck.

– Have you been able to introduce Sustainable Development in higher education? What do the teachers say about the Baltic University?

There are not many BUP courses held in the Swedish network, but we see a great interest at the member universities, in working with sustainable development (including both environmental, climate, economic, social, historic issues etc).

Teachers working with sustainable development at member universities consider the BUP-network interesting with exciting possibilities for students to develop themselves in different kind of students' conferences, courses and seminars. Teachers working with SD-courses at eg Blekinge Institute of Technology see a potential for both students and themselves to work with international experience exchange and cooperation in order to further develop their knowledge in sustainable development.

– What kind of role do you see for BUP in the longer term in Sweden?

In Sweden we see many SD-networks that have been created over the years, and the issue of distinguishing ourselves from other networks has been raised. How has BUP's vision changed with time? What can we offer that other networks can't? If we manage to answer these questions, BUP with its experience and network has the possibility to play a key role in the work with Sustainable Development in Baltic Sea region. It is now important to have a vision and to use these pre-conditions well.

In the Swedish network the wide selection of student activities is appreciated. What the universities would like to work more with is the development of research projects which we as a national centre will do our best to facilitate.



Maritime Spatial Planning

Course for Professionals

Prof. Lars Emmelin together with Prof Jacek Zaucha from the Maritime Institute in Gdansk, Poland have planned a new Baltic University professional development course on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP). The VASAB-HELCOM

The main objective of this course is to enhance the theoretical and practical proficiency of current and future professionals to deal with the specific requirements of MSP in the Baltic Sea region. The course will expose participants to the current state of the art of MSP in the region and elsewhere.

Another objective is to bring maritime spatial planners together and establish a professional network of planners and other MSP professionals. Such a network is considered paramount for the adequate and harmonised implementation of MSP in the BSR.

The primary target group for this course includes professionals from the different agencies involved in Maritime Spatial

Planning in the Baltic Sea Region (BSR). A second target group comprises NGOs and consulting companies working or preparing to work with MSP and assist with MSP implementation in the region. The course may also be of interest to PhD students in the field of MSP.

Particular planning cases will be used to illustrate approaches, demonstrate the use of tools and frame discussions. Lectures with MSP experts from the BSR will inspire the participants and ensure the high level of discussions.

During 2012 work on the project has been ongoing with three meetings arranged in Sweden, 25-26 January in Karlskrona, 18-25 May in Gothenburg and in 14 November, in connection to the students' conference in Szczecin, Poland. Seed money for planning was received from Swedish Institute.

The first MSP course will be organized in autumn 2013.

Student

Rogow



Dr. Kristine Abolina discusses with students during workshop. Photo: Pontus Ambros.



Prof. Lars Rydén leading the Oxford debate. Photo: Pontus Ambros.

In April 2012, it was once more time for the annual Students' conference in Rogów, Poland. 86 students from 12 of the Baltic Sea Region countries, participated in the conference, which topic aimed to highlight the path towards a Sustainable Consumption in our region.

With introduction lectures by Dr. Sylvia Lorek from the Sustainable Europe Research Institute (SERI) and former director of BUP, Prof. Lars Rydén, the participants were introduced to the topic and given the tools for the upcoming workshops. In addition, each participating country prepared a poster installation, where the different aspects of their home countries sustainable consumption were presented.

To widen the understanding of sustainable consumption and its complexity, the workshop "How to address the three most important areas of consumption" were given by Dr. Sylvia Lorek. The students were given the task to develop strategies for sustainable consumption, within a selected sector of the society, balancing between policy based regulatory instruments and informal voluntary instruments, to achieve a good mix of implementations for a more sustainable consumption.

After the workshop, each invited expert was facilitating a coffee table discussion, where their area of expertise was further discussed. This gave the students a possibility to ask questions and discuss the topics more in detail.

Continuing the conference, Prof. Ireneusz Zbicinski introduced the concept of Life Cycle Assessment and Prof. Kristine Abolina discussed sustainable consumption in a lifestyle oriented approach. Following Prof. Abolina's lecture, another workshop was performed developing strategies for the local community to take action for a sustainable consumption and lifestyle. To fill in all possible gaps, M.Sc. Lilija Apine, presented the municipalities role in the local societies path towards sustainable consumption.

After one and a half days of intensive lectures and workshops, the Friday, offered a short trip to Lodz. We visit-

ed the beautiful town but also Lodz Technical University, where the Baltic Debate took place. The debate that almost has developed as a conference tradition, was held for the fifth conference in a row. To facilitate the debate, Prof. Tomasz Branka lead the students through the different session, meanwhile all the students actively worked to ensure their victory in the debate. After three debate sessions and a final speech, debating for and against the topic "Economic growth as an insurance for sustainable development". The jury, consisting of seven randomly elected students, decided on a winner.

Back in Rogów the last day of the conference included some final lectures and the annual BUP Students' Parliament. Where all the conference participants had a possibility to influence the decision making by giving proposals to the board and electing the international Students representative. Through democratic elections some new proposals were decided upon and a new students representative was elected into the board.

After four days of hard work and social mingling until early in the morning, the 86 students left Rogów with new knowledge, skills and friends. And hopefully also with an eager desire to change the prospect of our future, to be more sustainable, peaceful and prosperous.

Pontus Ambros

Students representative of BUP board 2011-2012

Conferences

Swinoujscje

The BUP Student's Autumn Conference 2012 took place 14-18 November in the small, yet beautiful seaside town of Swinoujscje, Poland. It was organized by the Secretariat of the Baltic University Network, located at Uppsala University in cooperation with the BUP center in Poland and Maritime University of Szczecin.

With a vast amount of marine operations taking place in the Baltic nowadays – from sea transportation to energy production and resource extraction, it is clear that the region needs international effort and expertise to continue evolving in a modern and sustainable manner.

Hence, the conference welcomed over 60 participants from 12 European countries: students with various backgrounds (from international relationships and security to engineers and marine studies) aiming to sharpen their skills of collaborating and managing security and stability of the Baltic Sea and the region itself.

Thanks to the organizing party, major experts in those areas were invited not only to lecture and deepen the young specialists' understanding of the current challenges, but also brought up edgy topics on the coffee table discussions with the participants.

Some participants were also prepared to share reports on various concerns or innovative projects taken up by the countries they were representing, helping their international colleagues to broaden their perspective of the region's current state.

In addition, "The Baltic Debate" - an Oxford type discussion, was held. The debate's idea is to encourage participants to practice their rhetoric and public presentation abilities, providing con and pro arguments on a controversial topic. This year the young researchers competed to either approve or disapprove overall benefits of the "Nord Stream" project, and judging by the intensity of the process the debate was a traditional success.

The last major activity of the conference, organized by a group of students of Maritime University of Szczecin, was a workshop on security of marine vessels. The conference's participants, divided into teams resembling specific departments (like telecommunications dep. or search and rescue dep.), worked together to create a report suggesting actual improvements on a regional level.

All in all, one of the most reassuring outcomes of the conference is clearly the atmosphere of active and involved contribution of its participants. It nourishes hopes that the younger generation is not only open to understand, but also willing to act and is concerned about peace, unity and wellbeing in the Baltic's.

*Kirill Zinin,
International BUP Student Representative*



Kirill Zinin speaking at the Rogow student conference. Photo: Krzysztof Ciesielski.



Group work at the conference in Swinoujscje. Photo: Kirill Zinin.



Evening entertainment. Photo: Kirill Zinin.

Biogas in Sweden and Belarus

The Baltic University Programme carried out a project on biogas production on farms in Belarus and Sweden. A seven person strong team from the Ministry of Agriculture, three universities in Minsk, and one farm complex visited Sweden in May and a return visit of a Swedish expert from the Institute of Agricultural Engineering was conducted in late June. A report on the project with much material on biogas in Sweden and Belarus as well as the rest of northern Europe is available on the BUP homepage, both in English and Russian.

Production of biogas offers many benefits to society and is an important contribution to a sustainable development. One of the most important tasks we face today is to develop systems for recycling of material, and use of renewable energy. In the biogas process, organic waste (e.g. manure) is converted into energy and nutrients and results in two final products, biogas and bio fertiliser. The biogas can be used to generate electricity and heat, while the residual product is an environmentally-friendly fertiliser. The development of biogas production represents a strategically important step away from oil dependence and contributes to climate mitigation.

Livestock farming in Belarus is characterized by a high level of specialization. Livestock production is concentrated to large private and state pig and cattle farms. There are approximately 107 large pig and 97 large cattle farms, and thousands of smaller farms. Together they generate annually millions of tons of manure. 42 of the pig farms (agricultural complexes) are situated in the Baltic Sea basin. Today most of the manure is just deposited on the neighbouring fields and of course leach to the water and cause serious eutrophication. The farm the project studied in some detail has 20,000 pigs and empties 350 tons of pig manure on the fields every day year around.

In Sweden biogas has been produced since the 1950s, but it is not until the last decade that biogas production has increased quickly. According to the national Swedish biogas statistics in 2010 there were 135 sewage treatment plants, 14 farm plants and 18 municipal co-digestion biogas-producing plants in the country. The goal was then that 3.5 TWh of energy should be produced by biogas by 2012.

In Belarus there are only a few biogas plants. However the interest is large and at present poor financing to build plants is the largest obstacle for getting more plants. The project group concluded that the conditions for development of biogas in Belarus are economically reasonable, technically possible, environmentally good and will promote new jobs and regional development. It is a strong recommendation to start such projects in Belarus. Funding for this project was received from Swedish Institute.

Lars Rydén

Project leader Swedish-Belarusian biogas project



**Производства биогаза
в Республике Беларусь и Швеции**

Обмен опытом



The biogas report is available for free download from the Baltic University website in both an English and a Russian version.
<http://www.balticuniv.uu.se/index.php/boll-online-library>



Dr Ulf Nordberg from JTI guides Belarusian visitors at the Frötorp pig farm outside Örebro where manure is converted to biogas. Photo: Lars Rydén.



Belarusian biogas plant. Photo: Lars Rydén.

Network Partners



One of the Baltic University network partners is The Sendzimira Foundation, which "... initiate and support education, research and practical activities aiming at development of ecologically conscious civil society, and to the improvement of environmental quality. The Foundation promotes local, national and international initiatives that enhance the quality of life with respect to natural balance and rational use of natural resources, and attaches particular importance to building sustainable relationships with public institutions, societies, business and other projects' participants, that are based on profound partnership in project implementation." The Sendzimira Foundation cooperates with many universities in the region and also supports research addressing environmental problems with special emphasis on Eastern Europe.

Of special interest is the Summer Academy "Challenges of Sustainable Development" (ChoSD), which is a three week intensive course arranged each year since 1998 in July in Poland. Close to 200 students apply for the course and about 30 students are selected to form interdisciplinary and diverse teams to learn for the future. Before attending the course students need to study and this preparation phase is also important for the admission. Different teaching methods are used throughout the course including two big practical course projects. Since a few years ago also non-polish students are accepted and the language of the course is now English. Read more about it at: <http://www.sendzimira.org.pl/en/challenges>.

The Sendzimira Foundation has published an extensive textbook covering most important issues related to sustainability in Poland with many practical tools and case studies. The book which is entitled Challenges of Sustainable Development was published in 2010 and it was edited by Jakub Kronenberg and Tomasz Bergier. It is available online for free download.

A journal with the name Sustainable development Applications is also available from the website. The first



Engaged group discussion at the 15th ChoSD Academy in Kartuzy in North-Western Poland. Photo: Grzegorz Siwek

issue concerning sustainable development of local communities, was published in 2010, the second issue in 2011 and third on urban ecosystem services in 2012. The last of these issues has been officially recognized as the "Polish TEEB Guide for Cities". The topic of urban ecosystems will also be covered in the fourth issue which is now under preparation. Beside the online version there is also a hardcopy available.

Magnus Lehman

<http://www.sendzimira.org.pl/en/journal>
<http://www.sendzimira.org.pl/en/textbook>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWxL3y08DG0>



Financial Report

The voluntary contributions were introduced in summer 2012. Already during the first months 30 universities in all Baltic Sea region countries had responded. These contributions from participating universities are warmly recognized.

The total income during year 2012 amounted to 7,2 MSEK. This sum includes Government grants, Uppsala University grants and an accumulated project funding which leaves 1,8 MSEK to be used in the forthcoming years in granted projects. The operational result for the year 2012 was in balance.

Introduction of voluntary contributions

The voluntary contributions from universities were introduced in summer 2012, as a result of a common understanding at the BUP Rectors' conference in October 2011. During the second half of the year already 30 universities had responded, and the total sum amounted to 245 000 SEK. This financial support is directed to network activities, to support internationalisation and capacity development. In November the BUP international board decided to use this year's contributions to secure BUP activities in 2012 for which no project funding was currently available, such as the BUP students' and teachers' conferences. The voluntary contributions are warmly acknowledged.

Revenues and Costs

The main source of income consists of government grants from the Ministry of Education in Sweden and Uppsala University. From 2011 the SAIL course is given as an ordinary course at Uppsala University with funding included in the Government/Uppsala University grants. The remaining financing comes from project funding. Most of these projects were on going and expected to be finalized in 2012 or later, and only few new were granted. Some EU financing was received from the Baltic Sea Region Programme for the Ecoregion project.

Network Activities

The costs for activities of the BUP Centres, the Board, student activities, and teachers' conferences, increased compared to previous years. Funding relied still partly on projects financed by Swedish Institute, and Åbo Akademi University as managed by the Finnish centre as an additional source. Hamburg University of Applied Sciences financed the summer course on Sustainability for the network. Technical University of Lodz administered in an excellent way all activities which were organised in Poland. The universities, which host centres, all contributed to covering costs for the centres; the value of this is estimated to 1 MSEK. Likewise, the hosts of the students and teachers conferences contributed in both financing and organisation.

Baltic University Programme Courses

The costs for running courses are covered by each university. The value of this activity is difficult to estimate, considering the very different conditions of the universities in the network. The most reasonable estimate seems to be that costs outside the BUP organisation itself are equal to the costs inside the organisation. Then course costs for more than 7,508 students would be some 6 MSEK.

OPERATIONAL REVENUES		
	2011	2012
Government Grants	4,511,177	4,662,146
Voluntary contributions	-	245,000
Fees	582,538	140,989
Compensation from authorities/financiers including transferables	1,958,645	2,093,051
Other compensations	32,700	31,210
TOTAL REVENUES	7,085,060	7,172,396
COSTS		
	2011	2012
Salaries	2,317,741	1,764,575
Travel and representation	567,061	378,736
Premises	47,788	84,692
Other operational costs, goods	56,553	282,802
Other operational costs, services	1,287,028	918,553
Redistribution common costs (Overhead costs)	1,599,467	1,799,500
TOTAL COSTS	5,866,904	5,228,858
RESULT	1,509,041	1,943,811

The result for 2012 regarding compensation from authorities include transferables SEK 1,800,285.

The BUP Network





The Baltic University Programme is a network of teachers, students and researchers at more than 200 universities and other institutions of higher learning in the Baltic Sea region. The Programme is coordinated by a secretariat at Uppsala University, Sweden.

The Programme works through producing and offering courses and activities for studies of the Baltic Sea region, its environment, political change, and sustainable development. All courses have an element of regional studies and are interdisciplinary. Cooperation with other actors in society in applied projects is an important part of studying and developing sustainability strategies, and promoting competence development at large.

The Baltic University Programme
Uppsala University
Villavägen 16
SE-752 36 Uppsala, Sweden
Tel: +46 18 471 18 40
Fax: +46 18 471 17 89
E-mail: info@csduppsala.uu.se
Webpage: <http://www.balticuniv.uu.se>