



BUP action plan 2024

To reach the goals and implement the BUP Strategy 2021-2025, the following action plan is developed for 2024.

1. Organisation and Management

- 1.1. Host national meetings for participating universities in each country. The meetings aim to update the BUP's participating universities on current project and events as well as having an open dialogue on local BUP initiatives.
- 1.2. Organise two national centre meetings for The Baltic University Programme's National Centre Directors. The first meeting will take place in the spring term in Poland and second during the autumn term in Czechia. The focus of these meetings is the BUP's internal strategy, continued work and financing.
- 1.3. Conference for international offices. Host a conference together with University of Ostrava focusing on cooperation among BUP participating universities and especially on international offices and their work.
- 1.4. Launch the new BUP website. Transferring content from the previous website to the new site, as well as updating the layout and visuals of the BUP website.
- 1.5. Investigate increased financial support for the BUP's Coordinating Secretariat. Investigate the potential for a more stable long-term financing for the Coordinating Secretariat to secure the financial support for both events and hiring new permanent staff members.
- 1.6. Organise two board meetings in June and December of 2024.
- 1.7. Work with applications for financial support to arrange BUP Symposium 2025 as well as BUP Rectors' Conference 2026.
- 1.8. Renew the BUP's National Centres by open call to participating universities to host the National Centre
- 1.9. Continue the recruitment of new BUP participating universities and to develop routines on how to communicate with new universities and get them engaged in BUP from the start.

2. Students

- 2.1. Working with the BUP Course Platform. Improve the quality of the content in the nine BUP MOOC courses, by editing and recording materials of poor quality. Also increase the range of activities and assignments in the existing courses. Introduce the concept of micro credentials for the current courses. Increase the dissemination of the BUP MOOCs.
- 2.2. BUP Master Thesis Training. Organise the BUP Master Thesis Training hosted by Uppsala University for master students from BUP. The students will get support with external supervision and training for their work on their master thesis.
- 2.3. BUP's annual Student Conference 2024. Organise the BUP's annual Student Conference 2024 on the topic of "Changed circumstances and new threats for sustainability in the Baltic Sea Region" hosted by Poznan University of Technology for 90 students from BUP. The conference is part of the RESCUU project financed by Swedish Institute, and will focus on the War in Ukraine as a threat to the sustainability in the region. The event also hosts the BUP Students' Parliament.
- 2.4. BUP summer school Science and Sail 2024. Organise the summer school "Science and Sail 2024" hosted by Klaipeda University for 36 students and 3 PhD students. The aim is to teach students about the environmental impacts on the Baltic Sea Environment, by a series of field trips and lectures. The students will also be conducting their own outreach projects to share their knowledge and findings.

3. PhD students and young researchers

- 3.1. CAPABLE* PhD student consulting. Organise individual research consulting for 26 selected PhD students from BUP participating universities in Ukraine. The external consulting will focus on the PhD students research and take place during three online sessions in the autumn 2024.
- 3.2. CAPABLE* seminar series for PhD Students. Organise a four-part online seminar series addressing, scientific methodologies, scientific rendering (writing and presenting) as well as academic practices and transparency. The seminar series is part of the CAPABLE project.
- 3.3. CAPABLE* PhD student conference. Organise a PhD student conference for 50 PhD students from BUP participating universities (out of which 26 come from BUP participating universities in Ukraine) and whose thesis focuses on a BUP theme within a Baltic Sea Region context. The conference is part of the CAPABLE project.
- 3.4. The BUP PhD Award 2024. One award will be granted in social sciences and one natural sciences and technology. A respective committee for each award, selects the winning thesis and awards the author with €1000 in either a travelling or publication grant.
- 3.5. The BUP Mobility Grant 2024. Awarding one young researcher up to €3000 to conduct an exchange visit at another university in the Baltic Sea Region. A respective committee will select the successful candidate. A committee will select the researcher.

*CAPABLE - Common Academic Practices and Abilities in Learning for Research

4. University teachers

- 4.1. Supervisor collegium. Arrange a supervisor training series with five sessions online and one in-person meeting for two days with five workshops
- 4.2. BUP Teachers' Course 2023-2024. Finalise the two-parts course for BUP teachers, hosted by Åbo Akademi University. The aim of the course is to assist teachers to better integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals into their teaching, courses and study programmes. The second part will take part in Warsaw, hosted Åbo Akademi University.
- 4.3. BUP Teachers' Course 2024-2025. Start a new BUP Teachers' Course, with the first part of the course taking part in 2024 hosted by Åbo Akademi University. The aim of the course is to assist teachers to better integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals into their teaching, courses and study programmes.
- 4.4. BUP teachers' Day 2024. A full-day programme of online seminars and workshops for university teachers within the BUP. The program will focus on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD).
- 4.5. Launch the BUP material bank. Making BUP's educational material available for download to university teachers at BUP participating universities through the new BUP material bank.
- 4.6. Introduction to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Course. Develop a new Massive Open Online Course for The Baltic University Programme's Course Platform, focusing on the essentials of Education for Sustainable Development. The course will be aimed primarily towards university teachers, but is also open for anyone interested.

5. Researchers

- 5.1. The BUPRaP Roadshow. Host a full-day seminar on publication opportunities and networking among researchers. The seminar will take place around the region, including in Turku, Tallinn, Riga, Ostrava, Łódz, Nitra and Uppsala.
- 5.2. Scientific networking event in Finland. Host a full day event to foster cooperation between researchers within the Baltic Sea Region. The event is combined with the BUPRaP Roadshow seminar in Turku.
- 5.3. Establish new ways to communicate research within the BUP. Investigate and determine how researchers within the BUP would like to disseminate their research within the programme, by surveying their needs online.
- 5.4. Universities facing challenges of sustainable development. Participate in the Scientific Conference "Universities facing challenges of sustainable development" hosted by the University of Łódz with a BUP session and support BUP researchers' attendance.

- 5.5. The Role of Universities and Research for Sustainable Regional Development. Participate in the Scientific Symposium “The Role of Universities and Research for Sustainable Regional Development” hosted Bialystok University of Technology featuring a BUP session and support BUP researchers’ attendance.

- 5.6. Symposium on Waste Management. Participate in the Scientific “Symposium on Waste Management” hosted Hamburg University of Applied Science and University of Daugavpils. The BUP will participate through BUP Germany and support BUP researchers’ attendance.