

Plastic waste pathways into the Baltic Sea (BLASTIC)

Programme Priority: P2 Sustainable use of common resources

Programme Specific Objective: 2.4. Reduced nutrients, hazardous substances and toxins inflow into the Baltic Sea

Sub-programme: Central Baltic

Duration: 01.01.2016 - 31.12.2018

Total funding: 1.016.555 EUR

ERDF funding: 784.522 EUR ERDF

Project Summary:

The BLASTIC project aims at reducing plastic waste and thereby hazardous substances inflow into the Baltic Sea by mapping and monitoring litter levels in the aquatic environment.

Marine litter consists mainly of plastic and packaging material in the Central Baltic region. The project demonstrates how plastic waste in urban areas finds its ways to the Baltic Sea and becomes marine litter. Land-based sources count for most of the marine litter while rivers are major pathways feeding the sea with litter. In practise the project takes regional and national strategies into use on a local level and also produces updated local action plans. The project compiles a list of sources and pathways with recommendations that are closely linked to resource efficiency in waste and water sector. The methodology is implemented in 3-4 urban areas and the concept is further promoted in other areas.

As a result of the project the amount and inflow of plastic marine litter and hazardous substances are reduced in the Central Baltic area and the Baltic Sea. The outcomes that lead to overall result are 100 kg less plastic in pilot areas, real data and a new methodology that suit the pilot areas as well as general guidelines with list of identified and prioritized sources with focus on plastic waste and urban areas. This project is built to expand after the project is completed, which provides conditions that ultimately contribute to the reduced hazardous substances and toxins' inflow into the Baltic Sea.

Map of Partners



Partners

Lead Partner

Håll Sverige Rent

Country: SE

www.hsr.se

Partner budget: 205.800 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 154.350 EUR ERDF

Project Partners

Pidä Saaristo Siistinä ry

Country: FI

www.pidasaaristosiistina.fi

Partner budget: 196.325 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 147.244 EUR ERDF

SA Säästva Eesti Instituut / Stockholmi linn

Country: EE

www.seit.ee

Partner budget: 102.402 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 87.042 EUR ERDF

IVL Svenska Miljöinstitutet

Country: SE

www.ivl.se

Partner budget: 188.240 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 141.180 EUR ERDF

Vides izglitibas fonds

Country: LV

www.videsfond.lv

Partner budget: 67.876 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 57.694 EUR ERDF

Suomen Ymparistökeskus

Country: FI

www.syke.fi

Partner budget: 153.407 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 115.055 EUR ERDF

Turun kaupunki

Country: FI

www.turku.fi

Partner budget: 51.725 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 38.794 EUR ERDF

Tallinna Linnavalitsus

Country: EE

www.tallinn.ee

Partner budget: 50.780 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 43.163 EUR ERDF

Results

Expected results

This project will focus on plastic fractions and its hazardous substances (HS leaching and absorption) with urban areas and rivers as main key players and will be based on previous experience and existing knowledge of marine litter (ML) in the Central Baltic (CB) area. This will contribute to a reduction of the amounts and inflow of plastic ML and thus HS (e.g. phthalates, flame retardants, DDE) in the CB area and the Baltic Sea (BS), in the short (3-4 areas) and long-term (multiple areas). The project is built to survive and expanded after the project is completed, which thus provides all the conditions that ultimately contribute to the programme result indicator R2.4. The results that will lead to overall CB result indicator are: 1) reduced amounts of plastic (about 100 kg during monitoring) and HS in the 3-4 pilot areas; 2) new methodology/approaches that suit respective pilot areas, serves transferability of project results; 3) data from 3-4 pilot areas (1/country) - preventive actions; 4) list of identified and prioritized sources and a selection of actions to reduce ML and HS in the BS with focus on plastic waste and urban areas; 5) increased awareness of ML and HS of plastic ML through campaigns. As an additional result Blastic provides answers to HELCOM RAP on ML Regional Action RL2. Setting concrete measures of ML reduction for the project period is challenging as several measures will be both time-consuming and resource demanding, why the effects cannot be measured within such a short period of time. During the project the pilot areas will develop action plans for reducing plastic ML that set targets and measures that are based on the HELCOMs and national ML action plans. As some of the more "simple" proposed measures will be less demanding, the project group estimate that the participating municipalities will implement measures from the developed action list leading to 5% reduction of plastic ML and HS from the municipalities within the project period.

Achieved results

Project Visibility

Social media links

[Website](#)

Other media visibility

[Radio: Makroplast kan vara största källan till all plast i havet \(SR P1\)](#)

[Reducing refuse in Finland's Aura River \(Info Regio\)](#)

[Radio: Ny metod ska mäta plasten i havet \(SR P4\)](#)

[Aurajoessa virtaavan roskan määrää tutkitaan \(Available in FI, EN, SV\)](#)

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