



*Meeting with stakeholders (Public talk "Café Scientifique")  
9 January 2012, Klaipėda, Lithuania*

**Goal of the event** was to introduce to the stakeholders and general public to the new deep-sea port plans in Lithuania, discuss the alternatives and their socio-economic and environmental implications. The event featured a talk by the Director General of the Klaipėda State Seaport Authority who presented the findings of the newly completed feasibility study for the construction of the new deep-water seaport. After the presentation he answered a variety of questions from the audience and engaged in a discussion about justification for the new port, different approaches to alternative scenarios and many more.

During the first part of the meeting **a presentation on the following topic was made:**

- **New deep-sea port for Lithuania.** Dr. Eugenijus Gentvilas, Director General of the Klaipėda State Seaport Authority presented the economic importance of the State seaport in Klaipėda, explained justification for the new deep-water port development, outlined the alternatives analyzed in the recently completed feasibility study, elaborated on reasons behind the proposed priority in Butinge and detailed socio-economic as well as expected environmental effects.

#### **Discussions and outcomes:**

The presentation was followed by a moderated session of questions and answers between the audience and the presenter. A number of issues were raised by the participants:

- Advantages and disadvantages of the Melnrage and Butinge alternatives;
- Geo-morphological conditions in Butinge and their effect on future maintenance costs of the deep-water port;
- Elaboration and comparison of environmental impacts of the analyzed alternatives, including expansion of dumping sites, effects on coastal communities and transboundary effects for Latvia;
- Socio-economic benefits for coastal communities in the vicinity of the proposed development;
- Prospects of Klaipėda port competitiveness after the new deep-water port starts operation;
- Prospects of the newly constructed seaport in Sventoji if the event of choosing Butinge option;
- And many more.