



## 2nd BaltSeaPlan Meeting Tallinn 26<sup>th</sup> November 2009

### Minutes

#### Day 2 morning: External Event

The external event was organised by BEF Estonia in cooperation with the Marine Institute of University of Tartu. Around 80 key Estonian maritime stakeholders from the associated ministries and authorities, port administration, universities and NGOs took part. VASAB and HELCOM representatives and all BaltSeaPlan partners were also present. Main themes of the meeting were:

→ *Current status of MSP in EU and Baltic Sea Region*

Nico Nolte introduced the concept of MSP: what is it, what are its benefits, and what is the status of development on EU level and of the activities for the Baltic Sea Region

→ *BaltSeaPlan project*

Angela Schultz-Zehden gave an overview on the goals, activities and current status of the project. She stressed the importance of the former MSP projects in the Baltic Sea Region (BaltCoast, BALANCE and PlanCoast), and expressed her happiness to welcome for the first time Estonian stakeholders in the MSP process. BaltSeaPlan will put the recommendations of the former projects into reality via demonstration projects.

→ *BaltSeaPlan pilot projects in Estonia*

Estonian MSP pilot projects in Pärnu Bay and Hiiuma and Saaremaa islands were introduced by Georg Martin, Estonian Marine Institute of the Tartu University, who represented the group of Estonian scientists and practitioners working in BaltSeaPlan. He talked about the planned practical activities, as well as data needed for conducting them.

→ *Implementation of MSP in Estonia*

Mrs. Agnes Pilv of Marine Bureau of the Ministry of the Environment Estonia discussed the legal and institutional framework for MSP in Estonia.

The last contribution was followed by a lively discussion on the future of MSP in Estonia, and who should be responsible for it (county level vs. higher level). The lack of coordination between the different ministries and initiatives was the main problem raised by speakers. This was partly explained by the fact that there are no maritime plans existing yet – BaltSeaPlan could change it. An amendment of the Estonian spatial planning law could also be used for setting competence for MSP. National Development Strategy 2030 is probably too high reach, but some of the MSP principles could be integrated here, too.