



Document title	Baltic and North Sea Coordination and Support Action BANOS
Code	2-1
Category	INF
Agenda Item	2 - Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan
Submission date	05.02.2018
Submitted by	Executive Secretary and BONUS
Reference	

Background

The *Baltic and North Sea Coordination and Support Action (BANOS CSA)* 'Towards a Baltic and North Sea research and innovation programme' prepares a framework for launching the joint Baltic Sea and the North Sea research and innovation programme as a successor of the Baltic-Sea-focused BONUS programme, and runs from November 2018 until early 2021. HELCOM is one of the strategic partners in the project, with a major task being to contribute to drafting a strategic research and innovation agenda.

The attached briefing provides information on the Baltic and North Sea Coordination and Support Action (BANOS CSA).

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.



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BANOS CSA

briefing

number 1

FEBRUARY 2019

Towards a joint Baltic and North Sea research and innovation programme: The Baltic and North Sea Support and Coordination Action (BANOS CSA)

Major research and innovation funders of 12 countries (BE, DK, EE, FR, DE, LV, LT, NL, NO, PL, SE, UK) have come together to prepare a joint Baltic and North Sea research and innovation programme. The future programme will fund high quality science and innovation based on its joint marine and maritime strategic agenda in

support of sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services.

Together with HELCOM, OSPAR, ICES and JPI Oceans¹ as its strategic partners, the BANOS CSA consortium is now building the necessary preconditions for the future programme to start in 2021.

Why the “sister seas” approach?

The two seas have much in common:

Both are marginal seas and directly interconnected via the Danish Straights.

Both are in the same climate and biogeographical zones, with multiple countries having coastlines along the both seas.

Their ecosystems are connected through flows of water masses and migration of biota.

Both seas are faced by similar human induced threats: climate change, coastal eutrophication, overfishing and habitat destruction and many more.

The busy waterways, in both the Baltic and North Sea, generate persistent pressures upon the ecosystems as well as constitute risks of accidental pollution.

Pooling of resources and research and innovation capacities is the best approach for tackling these challenges.

Human activities, affecting both seas, are governed by mutually coordinated maritime policy and legislation of the EU, as well as, Norway and the United Kingdom.

Implementing a joint marine and maritime strategic research agenda is most efficient and cost-effective if same strategies and approaches are applied in both areas.

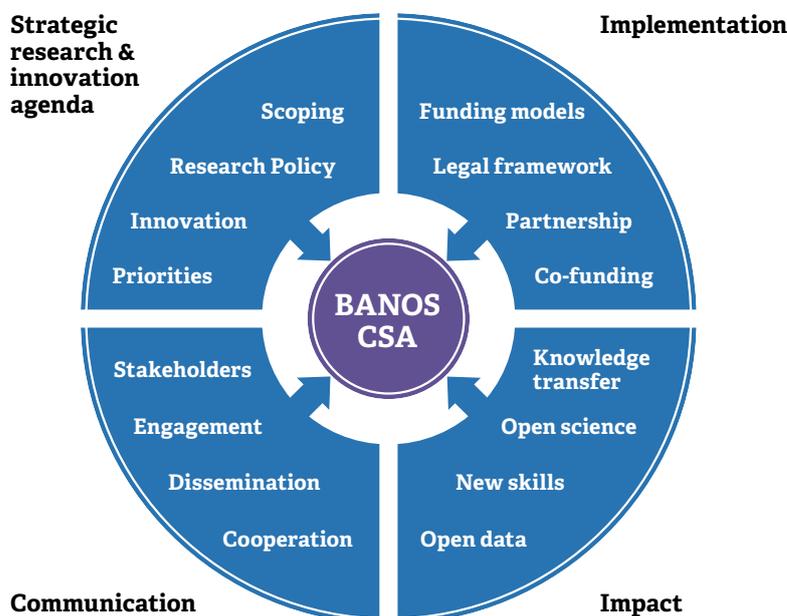
¹ HELCOM, Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission, OSPAR, Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic, ICES, International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, JPI Ocean, Joint Programming Initiative Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans

What the future programme brings about?

- 1 Overcome fragmentation** – Current marine and maritime research and innovation activities of the member states are fragmented, hampering the effective implementation of major directives, policies and strategies e.g. the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Common Fisheries Policy and the EU Blue Growth Strategy in Europe's sea basins. As such, agreeing on a joint marine and maritime strategic research and innovation agenda for two Northern European sea basins is a prerequisite for environmentally, economically and socially sustainable blue growth at both national and macro-regional levels.
- 2 Underpin and develop EU national policies and strategies** – State-of-the-art research and innovation, carried out in the joint programme, are expected to yield high-impact results, as such, informing future policy and supporting the Europe's sustainable blue growth strategy.
- 3 Strengthen EU added value and impact** – The joint programme elevates European research and innovation capacity to a new level, while promoting sustainable marine and maritime economy.
- 4 Enhance cross-national collaboration** – Pooling of resources and targeting a joint, well-defined research and innovation goals for Baltic and North Sea is done most efficiently through team play. Multinational collaborations are expected to achieve high impact research. In addition, a close link is made with other regional sea programmes, such as, Atlantic AORA, Mediterranean BlueMed CSA and PRIMA, as well as the future Black Sea Basin CSA, to promote synergy, in both research and policy targets, across Europe.
- 5 Embark on effective dialogue on scientific knowledge with end-users** – Promoting open science and innovation policies and easy access to open data is crucial for efficient communication of science to all potential end-users, be it policy makers and managers in various economical sectors, innovative entrepreneurs, or general public.
- 6 Engage with stakeholders from the very beginning** – BANOS CSA pursues to form genuinely efficient platforms of stakeholder engagement, involving the research and innovation community from the start.

What BANOS CSA consists of?

What is inside BANOS CSA?



BANOS CSA consists of four key action areas, including development of (i) strategic research and innovation agenda, (ii) implementation modalities, (iii) communications and (iv) impact strategy. Each of these areas include vital building blocks of the future joint Baltic Sea and North Sea research and innovation programme.

To whom BANOS CSA project and the future programme is for and how to get involved?

This is for all with vested interest and desire to influence European seas' research and innovation agenda, input to related marine and maritime strategy in European regional seas context, or who want to be part of enhancing Europe's sustainable

blue growth agenda. Whether you are a policy maker or a civil servant, a funder, a representative of industry, an IGO or a NGO, a member of the science community or any other stakeholder, we invite you to get involved.

	When?	BANOS CSA Activity	How to get involved
NOV 18	Nov 2018–May 2019	Exploring the existing research and innovation (R&I) priorities.	Inform us of your organisation's R&I priorities.
	Mar 2019–Oct 2019	Forming a comprehensive network of the stakeholders of the future programme.	Identify your interest and provide us with your details.
APR 19	Apr 2019–Oct 2019	Forming the strategy of human capacity building (HCB) and skills development of the future programme.	Express your interest and contribute to the HCB and skills development strategy.
	Apr 2019–Apr 2020	Forming the innovation strategy of the future programme.	Express your interest and contribute to the innovation strategy.
	May 2019–Mar 2020	Forming the 'citizen science' strategy of the future programme.	Express your interest and contribute to the 'citizen science' strategy.
JUN 19	Jun 2019–Feb 2020	Drafting the strategic research and innovation agenda (SRIA) of the future programme.	Express your interest and participate in the national-level consultation activities (SRIA).
	Jun 2019–Mar 2020	Forming the knowledge synthesis and impact strategy of the future programme.	Express your interest and contribute to the knowledge synthesis and impact strategy.
OCT 19	Oct 2019–Feb 2020	Forming the data management strategy of the future programme.	Express your interest and contribute to the data management strategy.
	Oct 2019–Mar 2020	Forming the 'open science' strategy of the future programme.	Express your interest and contribute to the 'open science' strategy.
	Nov 2019–Feb 2020	Strategic orientation workshop (SOW).	Express your interest towards the SOW.
MAR 21	–Mar 2021	TBA, other activities associated with BANOS CSA.	Express your interest in BANOS CSA.

Contact BONUS EEIG (see back page) to find out how to join the stakeholder platforms and input from your national setting to the processes of developing various elements of the future programme.

About us

The **BANOS CSA consortium** represents the leading research and innovation funders of the EU member states and associated states surrounding the Baltic and North Seas. BONUS EEIG acts as the coordinator. This is the dedicated implementing structure of BONUS, the joint Baltic Sea research and development programme www.bonusportal.org (TFEU Art. 185 initiative).

Consortium members

- BONUS EEIG** – Baltic Organisations' Network for Funding Science
- Belgium** – Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ)
- Denmark** – Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD)
- Estonia** – Estonian Research Council (ETAg)
- France** – French National Research Agency (ANR)
- France** – Institut Français de Recherche pour l'exploitation de la Mer (IFREMER)
- Germany** – Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (JÜLICH)
- Latvia** – State Education Development Agency (SEDA)
- Lithuania** – Research Council of Lithuania (RCL)
- Netherlands** – Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)
- Norway** – Norges forskningsrad (RCN)
- Poland** – National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)
- Sweden** – Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS)
- Sweden** – Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SWAM)
- United Kingdom** – Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)

Strategic partners

- HELCOM** – The Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission
- ICES** – The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
- JPI Oceans** – The Joint Programming Initiative Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans
- OSPAR** – The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic

The European Commission has an observer status in the BANOS CSA.

The future programme is intended to be co-funded by national funding agencies of the member states involved in BANOS CSA and to be part of next European framework, Horizon Europe.

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and follow @BANOS_CSA in twitter!



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 817574.

