



Implementing the UBC Sustainability Action and UBC participation in the implementation of the EU strategy for the BSR

UBC Joint Commission meeting in Gdynia
18 – 19 March 2010



A Sustainable Baltic Sea Region



*One of the most active regions in
Sustainable development in the
world*

**A region with a similarities
and differences**

**A region with common challenges
and problems**

A region with common Goals



Transnational cooperation on spatial development 2007 - 2013 (INTERREG IV B)

Geometric Basis: GFK Macon
Source: Operational Programme Baltic Sea Region

The Baltic Sea Region today



East – West arena

Enormous changes in a short time!

Now an integrated region, 8/10 EU members

A region hosting a considerable number of institutions

Governmental-parliamentary institutions

Nordic institutions and Baltic institutions

Regional institutions and local institutions

Civic organisations and networks

Governance!

Successes in the Baltic Sea Region



Tradition in cooperation and high level of networking
Forerunner cities (e.g. in Environmental issues)
Tradition of voluntary actions



Challenges for a sustainable BSR



Geographic & Economic concentration

Aging population and Migration

Inefficient Energy consumption and availability

Traffic, transport and accessibility problems

State of the Baltic Sea

Climate change



**Global
financial
crisis!!!**



**UBC founded 1991 in
Gdansk Poland by 32 cities.
Today 106 member cities**



UBC Agenda 21 Action Programme 2004 – 2009



UBC Agenda 21 Action Programme 2004 – 2009 covering the whole UBC and all UBC Commissions, coordinated by UBC EnvCom

Some results....

- Projects

25 projects finalized including a total budget on 16,2 m € and more than 40 UBC member cities involved in projects

- Surveys in 2004, 2006 and in 2009

- Involved in arrangements of **several large scale conferences** in Europe
- **Well defined reputation and wanted cooperation partner** in the Baltic Sea Region
- **Broad participation** in BSR and European Policy making
- **Direct links** and communication with EU Commission and ministries
- **New cities and cooperation partners** involved in UBC activities
- Improved **involvement of Russian cities** in UBC activities



Managing **Urban** Europe-25
sustainable future for cities



The EU Strategy & Action Plan for the BSR **A NEW PHASE** in the Development and **Integration of the Baltic Sea Region!!**



- To make the BSR an **environmentally sustainable region**;
- To make the BSR a **prosperous and economically balanced region**;
- To make the BSR an **accessible and attractive region**;
- To make the BSR a **safe and secure region**

Priority area 1 “Reduce nutrient inputs to the sea to acceptable levels”

1.2 “Cleaner wastewater

Priority area 4. “To become a model region for clean shipping”

4.1. “Promote measures to collect ship generated waste”

4.2. “Promote measures to reduce emissions from ships and enhance the development”

4.3. “Introduce differentiated port dues depending on the environmental impact of ships”

4.4. “Eliminate the discharge of sewage from ships”

4.5. “Improve the waste handling on board and in ports”

Priority area 5. “To mitigate & adapt to climate change”

5.3 “Create a network of sustainable cities and villages”

8.4 “Make the Baltic Sea an Eco-efficient region”etc.

CITIES AND THE BALTIC SEA STRATEGY



– CONCRETIZING THE NEXT
UBC SUSTAINABILITY ACTION
PROGRAMME 2010-2015

30-31 October 2008

National Library Conference Center, Tõnismägi 2, 15189 Tallinn

Photo: Maria Eres

Change of concept from 2003 to 2009, from Agenda 21 to Sustainability Processes

Commission meetings, Tampere February 2008, Tallin October 2008, St Petersburg March 2009

Broad participation; Several UBC Commissions (Energy, Info Soc., Youth, Social Affairs, Education, Transport, Environment..) appr 50 cities, research and business contacts. Between 60 – 80 persons per commission meeting and totally more than 200 persons

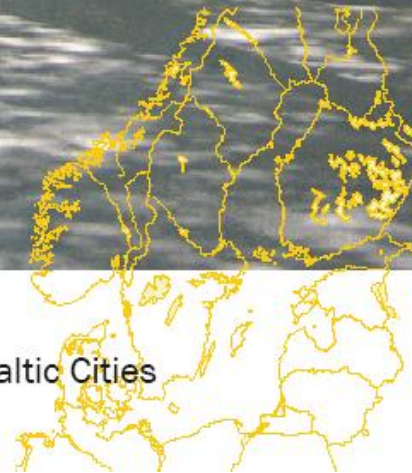


UBC Sustainability Action Programme



2010
2015

Agenda for Sustainable Baltic Cities



Clear correlation between the **UBC Strategy** & **Sustainability Action Programme** and the **EU strategy for the Baltic Sea Region**

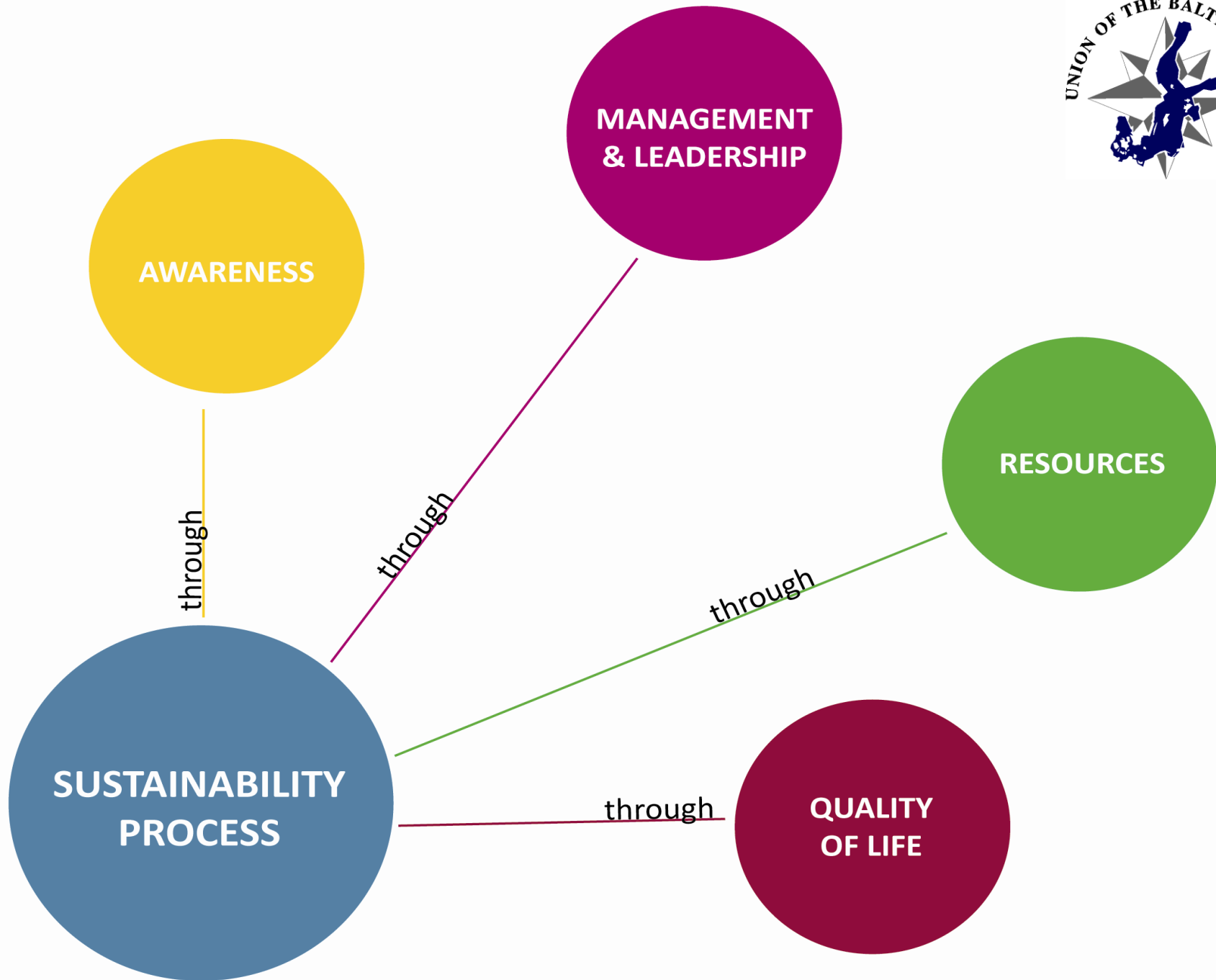
**EU strategy for the
BSR up to 2013**

4 pillars,
priority areas
78 flagships



**UBC strategy & UBC SD Action
Programme 2010 – 2015**

10 key tasks
4 SD process
36 goals & targets



37 Measurable goals and targets



Goals and targets

- 50% of UBC cities use strategic sustainability city leadership and sustainability Management systems by 2015.
- UBC actively involved in mainstreaming a set of common sustainability Indicators including local, national and EU level.
- All UBC cities to prepare local sustainability programmes and action plans.
- All UBC cities should by 2015 have integrated risk management plans.
- Increased use of benchmarking by help of peer review, more widely used between UBC cities.
- 50 peer reviews implemented in the Baltic Sea Region in UBC cities.
- More efficient exchange and promotion of Good Practices and success factors.
- Identification and compiling the UBC Good Practice
- Database of at least 500 good practice cases in the Baltic Sea Region serving all UBC members.

*UBC Commission on Environment and the
Sustainability Action Programme 2010 – 2015
Issues to work more on with....*



New more efficient types of actions & cooperation
Improved internal cooperation
Measurable goals for our activities
Strengthening UBC profile as a good partner
Bring Attractivity and Quality of Life in BSR cities





3. How shall UBC implement the active programme? (page 13)

The main strength of the Union of the Baltic Cities are our **member cities** that make the network active, useful and efficient for all its members. Other remarkable strengths are the **effective decentralised organisation, good contact surface for partnerships and political liaison, and proven performance in running strategic sustainable development programmes and projects, as well as the large resources of know-how and experiences available** in the member cities. ***By fully utilising all these strengths – mobilising our whole potential – we are in a position to create permanent change for sustainable development in our cities and region.*** We will work through following types of activities:

- Mobilise our whole network organisation and its basic services to promote and raise awareness, study and analyse, and build city partnerships for sustainable development actions.
- Implement co-operation projects on different types of thematically content based on sustainability principles.
- Implement tailor made training and consultations for UBC member cities for reaching urgent and specific challenges and tasks.
- Build partnerships and synergy with other organisations and contribute to
- Baltic Sea Regional and European policies and co-operation processes on sustainable development, and
- Take an active role as a Baltic Sea Region policy actor.



**In the light of results of the past and
the need of the future...**

**4 questions for all in the meeting
in Gdynia 18 – 19 March 2010**

- What issues should we focus on for the moment ?
- How shall we work in order to meet the needs and solve problems ?
- How improve the cooperation and support our cities better ?
- How take a more active role as a Baltic Sea Region policy actor ?

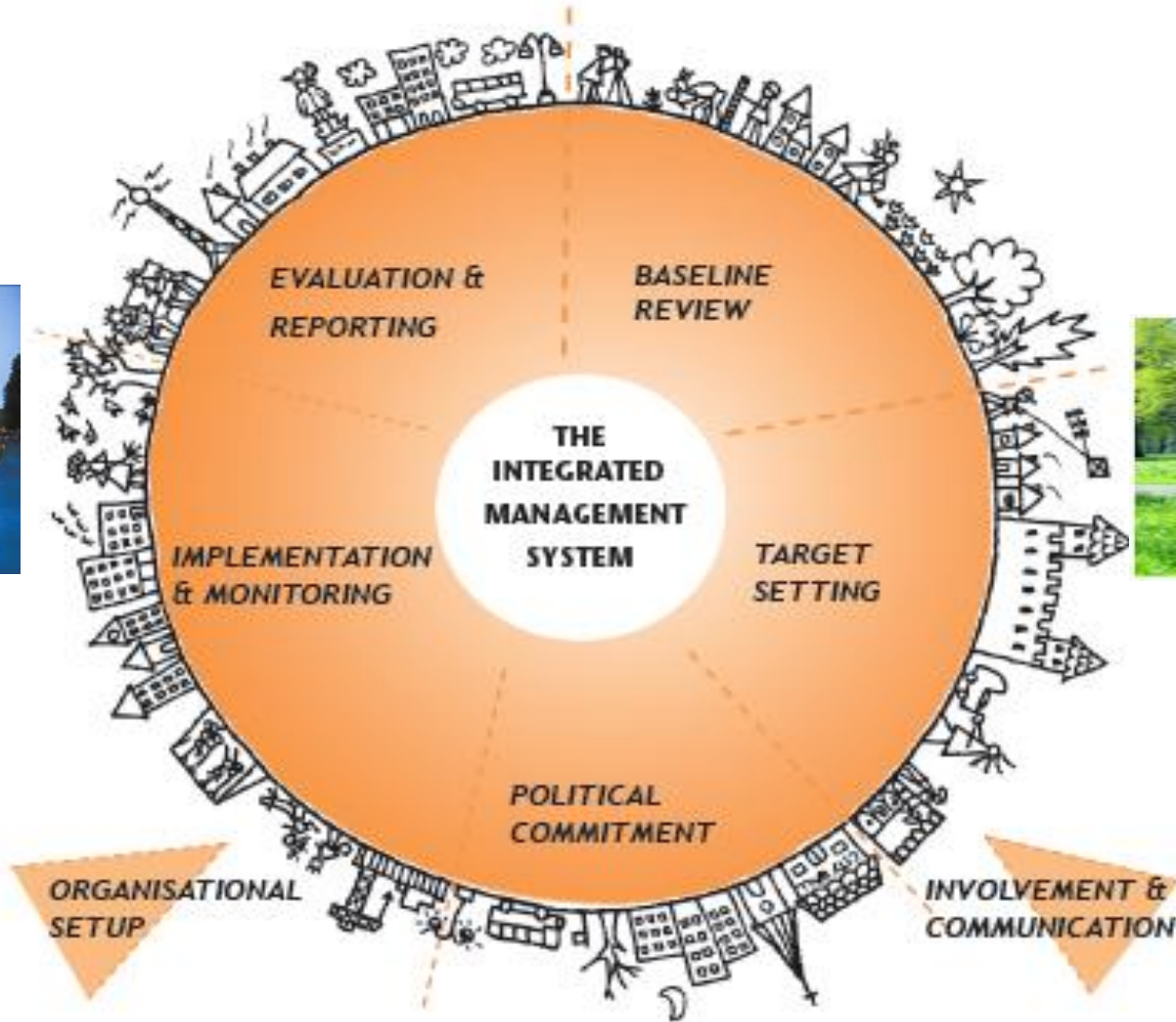


Climate Change impacts in BSR and our cities

- Wind patterns
- Temperature
- Baltic sea level
- Extreme events, floods
- Coastal erosion
- Changes in ecosystem
- Water level in lakes
- Blue-green algae blooms



A Sustainable Future for cities & the Baltic Sea Region need more Integrated Actions!



UBC Commission on Environment some ongoing & upcoming activities



8 ongoing projects appr. 9,5 m €

Climate Change, Awareness raising, Urban Rural development, Stakeholder involvement, Phosphorous removal from urban wastewaters of Baltic cities, Preparation of a major Sustainability Conference in 2011

several applications

Involved in the implementation of the EU strategy for the BSR!!!

More concrete and direct support to UBC member cities
Building and using the UBC Good Practise database

www.ubcwheel.eu





Welcome to the UBC Commission on Environment - Good Practice Database

[GOOD PRACTICE DATABASE](#) [HOW TO USE](#) [GOOD PRACTICE](#) [BACKGROUND](#) [TERMINOLOGY](#) [LOGIN](#) [CONTACT](#)

TOP 10 TAGS

awareness raising,
health, stakeholder
involvement,
cooperation, urban
planning, waste
management,

AALBORG COMMITMENTS

1. Governance
2. Local Management Towards Sustainability
3. Natural Common Goods
4. Responsible Consumption And Lifestyle Choices
5. Planning And Design
6. Better Mobility, Less Traffic
7. Local Action For Health
8. Vibrant And Sustainable Local Economy
9. Social Equity And Justice
10. Local To Global



Welcome to the Good Practice Database!

At the moment there are 351 published cases in English. The latest Good Practice cases available in the English language are:



Passive houses of the future

Wed Sep 9 16:23:45 2009

Civil Initiative "Let's do it" in Estonia

Wed Sep 9 10:47:05 2009

Chelyabinsk: Rehabilitation of waste processing factories

Wed Sep 9 10:46:47 2009

Development of Latvian Health Care System Investment Policy

Tue Sep 1 22:44:44 2009

Climate change in the focus in the North

Tue Sep 1 22:44:00 2009

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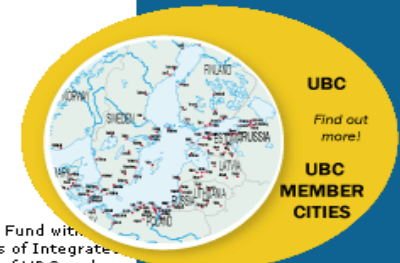
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norden
Nordic Council of Ministers
Nordic Council



YMPÄRISTÖMINISTERIÖ
MINISTERIO DEL AMBIENTE
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT



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www.ubc-environment.net

www.ubcwheel.eu

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR
ATTENTION**

