



VILA – Opportunities and Benefits
of Joint Use of the Vistula Lagoon

HELCOM-BASE Implementation of the
Baltic Sea Action Plan in Russia

Vistula Lagoon Forum - the First International Forum dedicated to sustainable use of water resources in the Vistula Lagoon sub-region

*contributing to the implementation of HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan ,
organised by international projects VILA and HELCOM BASE*

Date: 13-14 May 2014

Venue: Kaliningrad, Radisson Blu Hotel

Rationale:

The Vistula Lagoon and its watershed are shared by Republic of Poland and Russian Federation. The Vistula Lagoon itself is on the list of HELCOM “hot spots”, as nutrient load from its catchment significantly influences water quality of the Baltic Sea. At the moment there is no joint trans-border management plan of activities in the Vistula Lagoon and its watershed. There is also a lack of serious public discussions in Russia and in Poland on water resources issues in the area.

Long history of cooperation among stakeholders from Poland and Russia brought the understanding that next step in trans-regional cooperation may be done only via open discussions of wide scope of themes.

On the other hand, the Vistula Lagoon and its basin have always been and will remain the most important development factor of this sub-region. Many local, regional, national, and even international bodies and projects are already cooperating on issues related to the management of the Lagoon. Cooperation is often structured around one specific issue. A joint discussion between institutions representing different interests such as maritime spatial planning, fisheries management, environmental protection and several other important factors has been lacking.

Therefore, there is an urgent need to develop plans for common use of the Vistula Lagoon and its catchment. This will be done in cooperation between Russia and Poland, based on the ecosystem approach, where the economic benefits are achieved while the vital interests of the parties as well as environmental safety of the region remain intact.

Objectives:

BASE and VILA projects are organising this Forum to bring together representatives of different interests at international, national, regional and municipal levels. Representatives of government, regional authorities, economic actors, research institutions and projects are invited.

The aims of the Forum are to share knowledge about current plans for the Lagoon and to exchange ideas towards a joint management plan for the Vistula Lagoon for reaching its good environmental status, sustaining wide range of human economic and social activities in the region, an overall aim of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan.

Working languages: Polish / Russian / English. Simultaneous translation will be provided.





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Monday 12 May 2014	
	<i>Arrival of participants</i>
08:00 (Polish time)	Departure of mini-bus (up-to 8 persons) with VILA group. Shopping center "Madisson", Gdańsk
13:00-13:30* (Kaliningrad time)	Arrival of mini-bus with VILA group. Check-in Radisson Hotel.
12:00 (Kaliningrad time)	Arrival of Ecology and Business group by plane from Saint-Petersburg
14:00 (Polish time)	Departure of bus with participants from Gdańsk. Shopping center "Madisson", Gdańsk
15:00 (Polish time)	Pick-up of participants from Elbląg. City Council, ulica Laczności 1.
16:00-17:00*	Press-conference (at Radisson Blu Hotel) * - all times are Kaliningrad time (Warsaw time + 1 hour) unless otherwise stated
20:00-20:30	Arrival of the bus with participants from Poland. Check-in Radisson Hotel
20:30	<i>Dinner for foreign participants (at the Restaurant in the Radisson Blu Hotel)</i>
Tuesday 13 May 2014	
9:00-9:30	Registration, welcome coffee
Official opening	
9:30-10:00	Welcome speeches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kaliningrad Oblast Authorities, - HELCOM, including the BASE Project, - VILA Project, - Polish Consulate in Kaliningrad
Plenary Session	
10:00-10:30	Legal basis regulating Polish-Russian socio-economic relations in the Vistula Lagoon sub-region - Mr. Vasilii Fedorov, Rospirodnadzor for North – West federal district and Prof. Jarzy Młynarczyk, Director of University of Business and Administration, Gdynia
10:30-11:00	Strategy and plans for development in the Vistula Lagoon Subregion - Mr. Sergey Poberezhniy, Head of Service on Ecological Control and Inspection / representative of the Polish Ministry of Infrastructure and Development, tbc.
11:00-11:30	Coffee break





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11:30-13:00	<p>Session 1. Maritime spatial planning for the Vistula Lagoon - potential conflicts of interests in water using, transboundary conflicts.</p> <p><i>Moderators: Dr Witold Kuszewski (PL) and Dr. Boris Chubarenko (RU)</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Saija Vuola (BASE Project Manager)</i></p>
11:30-11:40	Spatial planning on the Russian part of the Vistula Lagoon subregion [speaker – tbc.]
11:40-11:50	Protected areas Mrs Monika Michalek, Maritime Institute Gdansk, Poland
11:50-12:00	Fishery Dr Witold Kuszewski, Maritime Institute Gdansk, Poland
12:00-12:10	Potential conflicts of interests in water use of the Vistula Lagoon Mr. Dmitri Domnin, Atlantic Branch of P.P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanology of Russian Academy of Sciences, Kaliningrad, Russia
12:10-13:00	Open discussion on potential conflicts of interests in water using, trans boundary conflicts
13:00-14:15	Lunch break
14:15-15:40	<p>Session 2. Directions and prospects for cooperation across Vistula Lagoon region.</p> <p><i>Moderators: Prof. Tadeusz Palmowski (PL) and Ms. Ekaterina Vorobyeva (RU)</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Marcin Burchacz (VILA Project)</i></p>
14:15-14:45	Directions and prospects for cooperation across Vistula Lagoon region - Mr. Jerzy Weisła, Elblag Municipality, and Mr. Aleksey Zalivatskiy, Head of Mamonovo Municipality
14:45-15:00	Assessment of possible changes in the Vistula Lagoon hydrology due to navigation canals developments and climate variations - on behalf of FP7 Project LAGOONS, Dr. Boris Chubarenko, Atlantic Branch of P.P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanology of Russian Academy of Sciences, Kaliningrad, Russia
15:00-15:40	Discussion on directions and prospects for cooperation across Vistula Lagoon region
15:40-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:00	Presentation of current international projects (after prior agreement, projects ARCH(no) MOMENT, ARTWEI (MIR), VISLA (nobody), HERRING (MIR), PL0223 (Halina Burakowska) and others are expected)
17:00-17:45	Discussion of “VL Forum Resolution”, communication with audience. Moderators: tbc (PL) and tbc (RU) Rapporteurs: Saija Vuola (BASE Project Manager), Marcin Burchacz (VILA Project)
18:20 - 21:00	Official dinner for participants (bus will bring participants from the Hotel at 18.20 and come back to the Hotel at 21.00)
Wednesday 14 May 2014	
09:00 – 10:00	Maritime special planning issues for the Vistula Lagoon – expert meeting <i>Moderators: Dr. Jacek Zaucha (PL) and Dr. Boris Chubarenko (RU)</i>
10:00-12:30	Open joint meeting for BASE, VILA, (after prior agreement) projects: next steps towards





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	common use/management plan for the Vistula Lagoon. Moderators: Ms. Ekaterina Vorobyeva (BASE Project) and Dr. Boris Chubarenko (VILA project)
	Coffee will be served along the session.
12:30-13:00	Summary : Ms. Ekaterina Vorobyeva and Dr. Boris Chubarenko
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14.00-15.30	Free time for participants
15:30	Departure of bus with 2 nd group of participants to Elbląg and Gdańsk (bus will bring participants from the Hotel Radisson Blu)





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Forum Partners

VILA project:



Maritime Institute in Gdansk, Poland



Municipality of Elblag, Poland



P.P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanology of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Atlantic Branch, Kaliningrad, Russia



Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University, Kaliningrad, Russia



Baltiysk Municipal District, Kaliningrad Region, Russia

HELCOM-BASE project:



Public Organization “Ecology and Business”, Russian Partner in the BASE Project, St. Petersburg, Russia



Service for Environmental Control and Supervision of the Government of Kaliningrad Region, Russia



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission – HELCOM)

Forum associative Partners

FP7 Project LAGOONS



Baltic Institute for Ecology of Hydrosphere (BIEH)

