

## **Special Session “Future of Coastal Management”**

organized by the BONUS BaltCoast project as part of EUROLAG8 Symposium (<http://eurolag8.org/>)

**Tuesday, 20th March 2018, 17:00 – 19:00**

Chair and moderation: Gerald Schernewski, Germany; notes: Johanna Schumacher; Germany

### **Objective of this session was to**

- discuss the future of Integrated Coastal Zone Management,
- discuss suitable structural frameworks as well as organisation structures,
- explore future co-operation and funding possibilities as well as suitable , guiding, integrating ideas and concepts
- analyse how ICZM elements and tools (like the stepwise Systems Approach Framework (SAF), ecosystem service assessments, sustainability indicator applications or public participation tools) can be utilized to support EU policies.

Spatial focus: The Baltic Sea region and the European context.

Participation: Altogether about 50

Participants had the possibility, together with invited experts, to give brief oral statements of max. 3-5 minutes that addressed the objectives mentioned above. The following participants provided statements: Ramunas Povilanskas, Lithuania; Małgorzata Bielecka, Poland; Georg Umgieser, Italy; Eirik Mickelsen, Norway; Tom Hopkins, USA; Miguel Inacio, Lithuania/Germany; Boris Chubarenko, Russia; Alice Newton Norway/Portugal; Raimonds Ernsteins, Latvia (slide provided afterwards)

### **Summary:**

ICZM as an independent approach has largely vanished from the agenda in the EU and in Russia. A re-vitalization of former or the establishment of new ICZM platforms on European or regional sea level is not promising. Instead, existing relevant networks and initiatives should be utilized to keep ICZM alive (EUCC – Coastal & Marine, Future Earth Coasts, Future Earth’s Knowledge-Action Networks...). A proactive approach is needed to influence policy and research agendas/programs. Today, major ICZM elements are included in several policies and strategies (e.g. Maritime Spatial Planning Directive) and ICZM elements are alive but under different labels.

ICZM is most promising and still needed on a local coastal or lagoon level. With the Systems Approach Framework (SAF) a suitable stepwise approach exists, that guides local initiatives from the issue/problem identification toward the implementation of a solution. Important is the provision of successful local case studies that prove the value of ICZM and the SAF as supporting tool. Most import challenges are still public participation and the provision of information and knowledge. Limited resources are a major challenge on local level. Tools to support ICZM exist, but need to be further developed to meet practical needs (e.g. EIA) and applied. Max Neefs Matrix Method might be a promising approach for improved stakeholder

involvement. Further, the provision of GIS databases and management support tools on a local level seems a promising project idea, especially with respect to cross-border lagoons.

One question was who should run local ICZM initiatives. The SAF requires a team of interdisciplinary experts with clear understanding of practical needs. Today sufficient suitable courses on applied sciences and training courses exist to allow the young scientist generation to successful meet the management requirements.