



# Adapting to Climate Change in the Baltic Sea Region – Experiences of the BaltCICA Project

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Union of the Baltic Cities Commission on Environment

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# Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC)

- Founded in 1991
- 106 member cities in 10 countries
- Re-establishing the traditional cooperation after the Cold War
- Polish-Swedish initiative
- Main secretariat in Gdansk, works through 13 commissions



# UBC Commission on Environment and Sustainable Development



- Based in Turku, Finland
- Activities
  - CHAMP - Local response to climate change
  - Solutions local, together 31.1.-2.2.2011  
Nordic conference on sustainable development in the Baltic Sea Region (Turku, Finland)
  - UBC Wheel:  
Baltic Sea Region Good Practice Database

# Climate Change: Impacts, Costs and Adaptation in the Baltic Sea Region

- The project focuses on the most imminent problems that climate change is likely to cause in the Baltic Sea Region.
- Baltic Sea Region is especially sensitive to climate change
  - Large parts of the population and many larger cities are concentrated in coastal areas
  - Sea level rise, changes in precipitation and flood patterns (river floods as well as storm surges) can be expected.
- This affects not only the built environment but also water availability and quality.

# BaltCICA approach



- ⦿ Together with local and regional partners, the project prepares regions and municipalities to cope with climate change.
- ⦿ The BaltCICA project uses climate change scenarios to discuss and develop adaptation measures with relevant planning authorities and stakeholders.
- ⦿ Strong science-stakeholder cooperation

# BaltCICA aims at



- ① Assessment of climate change impacts on the living environment and territorial development.
- ② Testing and implementation of concrete adaptation measures in close cooperation between regions or municipalities.
- ③ Assessment of the costs of rising sea levels and increased flood risks on a pan-Baltic level.
- ④ Development of a process management concept on climate change adaptation and mitigation.

# Partners

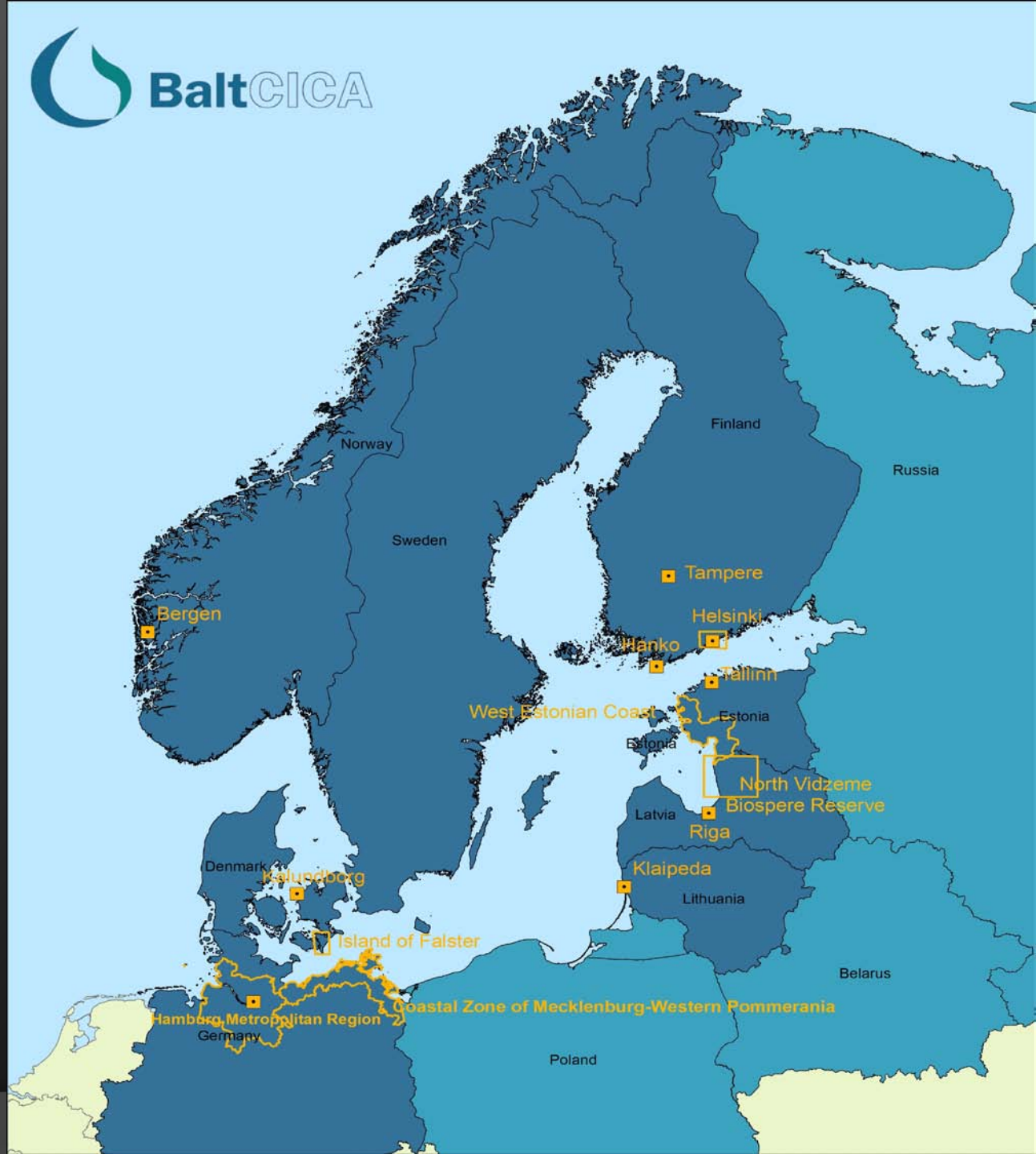


- Partners from 8 different countries (Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Germany)
- Regional and local administration, municipalities, nature reserves, research institutes of different disciplines and universities



# BaltCICA case studies

- The cases focus on different adaptation problems: technical or policy issues
- Different aims: implementing specific adaptation measures, informing citizens or encouraging stakeholders to communicate
- Common for all cases: highly participatory





# Case: Kalundborg



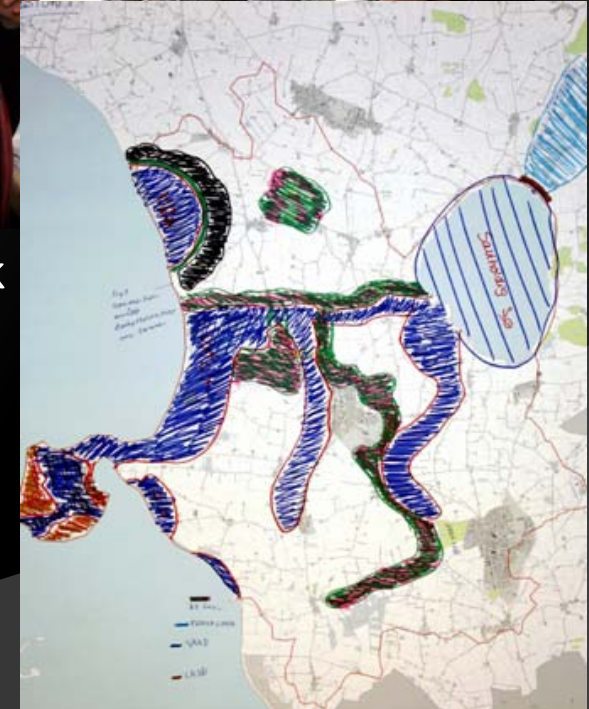
- Developing the stakeholder dialogue methodology focused at climate change impacts and local implementation of adaptation measures.
- Collaboration between The Municipality of Kalundborg, The Danish Board of Technology, Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland
- Activities: Scenario workshop; Citizens summit



# Kalundborg case: Scenario workshop



- Workshop presented local stakeholders to different future scenarios and allowed them to develop different visions on how to deal with climate change in the future.
- Three future scenarios for the year 2091
  - A basic scenario or “laissez-faire” scenario
  - “Protection scenario”
  - “Adaptation scenario”
- Citizens summit 2011 continues the scenario work and provides decision-makers with important information
- Informed decisions on the climate adaptation strategy for Kalundborg



# Helsinki Metropolitan Area, Finland

Reykjavík

Oslo  
Stockholm  
Helsinki  
Tallinn

Moskva

København

London

Berlin

Warszawa

Paris

Wien

Madrid

Roma

Athína



# Case: Helsinki Region



- ⦿ Climate change scenarios are developed
  - ⦿ Climate change impacts are identified
  - ⦿ Concrete adaptation options are developed
- **Developing a regional climate adaptation strategy**



# Case: Helsinki region

## ① Participatory approach

- Background study report about the climate change impacts
- Background interviews for municipalities and stakeholders
- Expert workshops for professionals in different municipal sectors



# Thank you for your attention!



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