

**Waterdrive International Stakeholder Forum and
Kick-off meeting**

Riga 26-27 March.2019

Summary report 2019-06-20

Content:

1. 1st WATERDRIVE Communication Brief
2. Summary report in bullet points
3. Link to all presentations on project website
4. Final invitation
5. Program for the meeting
6. List of participants
7. Photos from meeting

1. Communication Brief – 2019-06-20

80 persons from nine countries around the Baltic Sea have discussed how water management in the agricultural landscapes of the Baltic Sea Region can be improved. This happened in Riga on March 26-27 as part of the first Baltic Regional Conference organized by the WATERDRIVE project and financed by the Baltic Sea Region Program 2018-2021.

What changes are needed to improve water management in the agricultural landscapes of the Baltic Sea Region was the main question? Below are some of the first-step messages to be further explored during project implementation.

Main messages:

1. Stimulate local solutions building on cross-sector cooperation. Cooperation that brings local authorities, interest organizations and the farming community together in joint planning and management of water resources.
2. Develop the technologies and the collaborative platforms that have the capacities to increase and change water availability in the landscape during periods of drought and flooding.
3. Optimize location of measures in the landscape taking advantage of modern digital solutions and new decision support tools. Tools that will assist local water management stakeholders and support cross-sector decision making.
4. Shape the policies and financial support schemes that delivers multiple societal- and ecosystem benefits. Systems that are cost-effective and stimulate collaborative management of water resources and steers the financial resources to the most cost-efficient locations.
5. Learn from each other across national borders but still adapting programs and solutions to the national contexts and organizations. The rural contexts and options are very different in the Baltic Sea Region.

For more information: Visit <http://zemniekusaeima.lv/en/projects/waterdrive-2/> or contact Communication officer Zanda Melnalksne <zanda@zemniekusaeima.lv> or coordinator Staffan Lund staffan.lund@slu.se.

2. Summary report for partners and associated partners

1. We have to think and act differently from the traditional way of seeing agriculture, environment and agri-environment measures.
2. The national context and project meetings on national level are important. Meaning that WATERDRIVE will implement a national project agenda.
3. Farmers needs to be more involved in the project activities and meetings.
4. There is a lack of experiences from work with catchment officers and sharing of experiences and more pilot projects are essential.
5. The key factor is trusted advisors, knowledge and skilled people to execute the environmental initiatives. Whole catchment thinking is often missing
6. Main focus in the WATERDRIVE project should be on water management related measures such as landscape water retention, irrigation, controlled drainage, constructed wetlands, sedimentation ponds, buffer strips and leave field management related measure outside the framework of this project;
7. There is a current lack of consistency among the work packages in terms of which case study areas (watersheds) the project will work with.
8. It was suggested to synchronize the case study areas so that they can be used in all WPs.
9. Holistic approach in land ja water use planning, integrating the whole socio-exological system.
10. More incentives for farmers to adopt measures and more measures to promote joint action of farmers.
11. Common understanding – ability to explain the necessity of these measures to common citizens.
12. It was agreed that the WP4 partners develop a pilot case work plan (24 months) by 22 April the latest. The skype meeting will be held on 24 April.
13. It was highlighted that the innovation issues need to be addressed.
14. We have to think and act differently from the traditional way of seeing agriculture, environment and agri-environment measures.
15. Education and training institutions have been so far neglected as beneficiaries and target groups.

3. Kick-off meeting information materials: presentations and videos

Presentations from the project WATERDRIVE project Kick off meeting can be found here: <http://zemniekusaeima.lv/projects/prezentacijas/>

Videos with short messages from the meeting can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/WATERDRIVEbalticsea/> . At FaceBook page you can find info about other on-going project activities.

4. Final invitation



Dear colleagues!

The WATERDRIVE team is happy to wish you very welcome to the first Baltic Regional Conference and Kick-off meeting already next week, 26-27 March in Riga, Latvia.

All together we will be 75-80 participants including the farming community, municipalities and local authorities, advisory organizations, research and official institutions from all countries around Baltic Sea. We are glad about the strong interest to join the meeting and it seems to be a good mixture of experiences, which will lead to fruitful work during the coming two days. Attached, you find the updated program, the participation list and information about the workshops 1-4 during Wednesday. The meeting will be opened by Aivars Lapins, Councillor of the Latvian Ministry of Agriculture and Elena Kolosova, Project Officer/Advisor for external cooperation, Interreg Baltic Sea Region Program.

We will have inspiring guest presentations during first day, when Neil Powell will present Bonus – Miracle project findings and results, Kaja Peterson from Bonus Go4Baltic will present socio – economic- and policy aspects of their work. Anneka France from the Rivers Trust, will share UK experiences in cross-sector cooperation, and Fleming Gertz will introduce experiences of the new catchment officers work in Denmark. Before the panel debate we will also touch upon leadership aspects when working across sectors in water management.

The meeting will start with a buffet lunch at 12:00 at the Radisson Blu Daugava Hotel. If you are an international guest arriving by airplane, you can reach Radisson Blu Daugava Hotel in Riga by taxi or public bus No.22 (exit stop "Nacionālā bibliotēka"). From Riga Bus station, the hotel can be reached by bus No 3, 7, 8, 21, 22, 25 (start from stop 13.janvāra iela, exit stop "Nacionālā bibliotēka"). Bus ticket on the bus is 2 EUR, in electronic ticket machines cheaper.

Have a good trip to Riga and see you soon!

Project coordination Team,

Staffan Lund, Zanda Melnalksne, Frank Bondgaard, Ainis Lapzins, Kaja Peterson, Katarzyna Izydorczyk, Kaj Granholm and Hallvard Wie.

5. Program for the meeting



Actions and strategies for management of water in agricultural landscapes – Baltic Sea Region

Inspiration - learning - working together - Action

WATERDRIVE Baltic Regional Conference and Kick-off

Hosts:	Zanda Melnalksne, Latvian Farmers Parliament Staffan Lund, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU.
Date:	March 26-27, Riga
Venue:	Radisson Blue Daugava Hotel in Riga, Latvia
Language:	English

DAY 1 TUESDAY MARCH 26, 2019

1200	Arrival and lunch at the Radisson Blue Daugava Hotel in Riga, Latvia
1300	Program starts and welcome speech Aivars Lapins, Councillor of Latvian Ministry of Agriculture Elena Kolosova, Advisor for external cooperation, Interreg Baltic Sea Region Program WATERDRIVE - why, what, when and where Zanda Melnalksne, Project Communicator and Staffan Lund, Project Coordinator
1345	Working for development and change – yes, but what development and change? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Innovative governance structures and policy instruments for the Baltic Sea Region. Neil Powell, Bonus - Miracle Project, Uppsala University. The socio-economic Baltic Sea Action Plan. Kaja Peterson, Bonus Go4Baltic, SEI-Tallinn <p>Short break and bee hive</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing trust in local cross-sector cooperation – experiences from UK. Anneka France, The Rivers Trust, UK The work of catchment officers in Denmark. Fleming Gertz, SEGES
1500	Coffee break
1530	The role of leadership in local cross sector collaboration, Magnus Ljung, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU
1600	Panel discussion with the speakers, Moderators, Kaja Peterson, SEI Tallinn/Frank Bondgaard, SEGES.
1645	Closing remarks, Emma Svensson, Swedish Board of Agriculture.
1700	End of day 1
1900	Guided walk in old Riga and dinner.

DAY 2 WEDNESDAY MARCH 27, 2019	
0900	Introduction to thematic workshops, (WATERDRIVE WP leaders)
0920	<p>Workshop 1:</p> <p>How to work with farmers and local authorities in a catchment. <i>Lead: Frank Bondgaard, WP2/SEGES</i></p> <p>Workshop 2:</p> <p>Innovations in multiscale decision support systems and their applications in rural areas. <i>Lead: Ainis Lagzdins, WP3/Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies.</i></p>
1015	Coffee break
1045	<p>Workshop 3:</p> <p>Practices and challenges of water policy and governance in BSR. <i>Lead: Kaja Petersen, WP4/SEI Tallinn</i></p> <p>Workshop 4:</p> <p>Need of education and training - agricultural water management from farm to catchment level. <i>Lead: Katarzyna Izydorczyk, WP5/European Regional Center for Ecohydrology</i></p>
1140	Actions and strategies forward - feed-back from the workshops
1230	Closing the international conference
Lunch	
1330	WATERDRIVE partnership meeting
	Information for the partnership, Elena Kolosova, Project Officer, Interreg Baltic Sea Program Reporting and financial administration, Hallvard Wie, Financial coordinator, SLU
1415	Planning by workpackages 2-5
	What are the immediate activities and deliverables until end of 2019 (periods 1 and 2) and who is responsible for doing what? Step-by-step planning to reach the final outputs and results of the project.
1515	Joint session - Project integration
	Identification of project cross-cutting/integrated activities. Agree on responsibilities for integrated activities.
1600	End of meeting and thanks

6. List of participants

Waterdrive International Stakeholder Forum Waterdrive 26.-27.03.2019

Participant list

No.	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country
1	Kaspars	Abramenko	Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies	Latvia
2	Helena	Äijö	Finnish Field Drainage Association	Finland
3	Audronė	Alijošiūtė -Paulauskienė	BEF Lithuania	Lithuania
4	Anders	Alm	WWF Sweden	Sweden
5	Omran	Alshihabi	SLU	Sweden
6	Laine	Baha	Bauskas novada pašvaldība	Latvija
7	Līga	Baumane	Jelgava Local municipality	Latvia
8	Kristine	Beitane	Jelgava Local municipality	Latvia
9	Inga	Berzina	Union "Farmers Parliament"	Latvia
10	Frank	Bondgaard	SEGES	Denmark
11	Aija	Caune	Environmental Protection Club, Coalition Clean Baltic member	Latvia
12	Janusz	Dabrowski	CDR Brwinow	Poland
13	Johannes	Deelstra	NIBIO - Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research	Norway
14	Thorben	Enghart Jørgensen	Water & nature. Odense municipality	Denmark
15	Tobias	Facchini	Region Kalmar län	Sweden
16	Anneka	France	The Rivers Trust	United Kingdom
17	Sandra	Frosth	Ecoloop	Sweden
18	Flemming	Gertz	SEGES	Denmark
19	Kaj	Granholt	Baltic Sea Action Group	Finland
20	Linda	Grinberga	Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies	Latvia
22	Małgorzata	Grodzicka-Kowalczyk	PHENO HORIZON (OLP Sp z o.o.)	Poland
23	Justas	Gulbinas	Baltic Environmental Forum Lithuania	Lithuania
24	Olle	Hägglom	Finnish Field Drainage Association	Finland
25	Magda	Jentgena	Pasaules Dabas Fonds	Latvia
27	Aivars	Jermuss	LLU	LV
28	Kaidi	Kaaret	SEI Tallinn	Estonia
29	Elita	Kalnina	Environmental protection club	Latvia
31	Dainis	Keidāns	Jelgava Local Municipality	Latvija
33	Elena	Kolosova	Interreg Baltic Sea Region Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat	Latvia
34	Maciej	Kowalczyk	PHENO HORIZON (OLP Sp. z o.o.)	POLAND

35	<i>Franziska</i>	<i>Kruse</i>	<i>State Agency for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas of the German Federal State Schleswig-Holstein (LLUR)</i>	<i>Germany</i>
36	<i>Līga</i>	<i>Krūklīte</i>	<i>Zemnieku saeima</i>	<i>Latvija</i>
37	<i>Artūrs</i>	<i>Krūklītis</i>	<i>Zemnieku saeima</i>	<i>Latvija</i>
38	<i>Piret</i>	<i>Kuldna</i>	<i>Stockholm Environment Institute Tallinn Centre</i>	<i>Estonia</i>
39	<i>Ari</i>	<i>Kultanen</i>	<i>ProAgria Southern Finland</i>	<i>Finland</i>
40	<i>Katarina</i>	<i>Kyllmar</i>	<i>Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i>	<i>Sweden</i>
41	<i>Ainis</i>	<i>Lagzdins</i>	<i>Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies</i>	<i>Latvia</i>
42	<i>Jolanta</i>	<i>Lapinskienė</i>	<i>Ministry of Agriculture</i>	<i>Lithuania</i>
43	<i>Aigars</i>	<i>Lavrinovičs</i>	<i>Institute for Environmental Solutions</i>	<i>Latvia</i>
44	<i>Gun</i>	<i>Lindberg</i>	<i>Västervik Municipality</i>	<i>Sweden</i>
45	<i>Magnus</i>	<i>Ljung</i>	<i>Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet</i>	<i>Sweden</i>
46	<i>Staffan</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Swedish Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU</i>	<i>Sweden</i>
47	<i>Zanda</i>	<i>Melnalksne</i>	<i>Zemnieku saeima</i>	<i>Latvija</i>
48	<i>Fredrik</i>	<i>Meurman</i>	<i>Ecoloop AB</i>	<i>Sverige</i>
49	<i>Elvyra</i>	<i>Mikšytė</i>	<i>Baltic Environmental Forum</i>	<i>Lithuania</i>
50	<i>Ilze</i>	<i>Munda</i>	<i>Bauskas novada administrācija</i>	<i>Latvija</i>
51	<i>Ainars</i>	<i>Nābels-Šneiders</i>	<i>Ministry of Agriculture</i>	<i>Latvia</i>
52	<i>Reena</i>	<i>Osolin</i>	<i>Ministry of Rural Affairs of Estonia</i>	<i>Estonia</i>
53	<i>Elza</i>	<i>Ozolina</i>	<i>Pasaules Dabas Fonds</i>	<i>Latvia</i>
54	<i>Kaja</i>	<i>Peterson</i>	<i>SEI Tallinn</i>	<i>Estonia</i>
55	<i>Mikhail</i>	<i>Ponomarev</i>	<i>North-West Research Institute of Agricultural Economics and Organizations (NWRIAEO)</i>	<i>Russia</i>
56	<i>Neil</i>	<i>Powell</i>	<i>Swedish Internation Centre of Education of Sustainable Development, Uppsala University</i>	<i>SWEDEN</i>
57	<i>Dana</i>	<i>Prižavoite</i>	<i>Baltic Environmental Forum Latvia</i>	<i>Latvia</i>
58	<i>Uwe</i>	<i>Rammert</i>	<i>State Agency for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas of the German Federal State Schleswig-Holstein (LLUR)</i>	<i>Germany</i>
59	<i>Ingars</i>	<i>Rozītis</i>	<i>Jelgava Local Municipality</i>	<i>Latvija</i>
61	<i>Anne-Mari</i>	<i>Rytkönen</i>	<i>SYKE</i>	<i>Finland</i>
62	<i>Helen</i>	<i>Saarniit</i>	<i>SEI Tallinn</i>	<i>Estonia</i>
63	<i>Maija</i>	<i>Sirvide</i>	<i>Latvian Rural Advisory and Training Centre</i>	<i>Latvia</i>
64	<i>Anne</i>	<i>Sloth</i>	<i>Centrovce</i>	<i>Denmark</i>
65	<i>Mats</i>	<i>Söderström</i>	<i>Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i>	<i>Sweden</i>
67	<i>Reinhold</i>	<i>Stauss</i>	<i>State Agency for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas of the German Federal State Schleswig-Holstein (LLUR)</i>	<i>Germany</i>
68	<i>Emma</i>	<i>Svensson</i>	<i>Swedish Board of Agriculture</i>	<i>Sweden</i>
69	<i>Sirkka</i>	<i>Tattari</i>	<i>Finnish Environment Institute</i>	<i>Finland</i>
70	<i>Ilze</i>	<i>Tijone</i>	<i>Bauska local Municipality</i>	<i>Latvia</i>
71	<i>Matilda</i>	<i>Valman</i>	<i>South Baltic Water District Authority</i>	<i>Sweden</i>
72	<i>Artūrs</i>	<i>Veinbergs</i>	<i>Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies</i>	<i>Latvia</i>
73	<i>Hallvard</i>	<i>Wie</i>	<i>swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</i>	<i>Sweden</i>
74	<i>Anete</i>	<i>Zvaigzne</i>	<i>University of Latvia</i>	<i>Latvia</i>

75	<i>Ekaterina</i>	<i>Latysheva</i>	<i>ECAT, Kaliningrad</i>	<i>Russia</i>
76	<i>Emīls</i>	<i>Ķīsis</i>	<i>Baltijas Studiju Centrs</i>	<i>Latvija</i>
77	<i>Ieva</i>	<i>Braņicka</i>	<i>Zemkopības Ministrija</i>	<i>Latvija</i>
78	<i>Iveta</i>	<i>Grudovska</i>	<i>Zemnieku saeima</i>	<i>Latvija</i>
79	<i>Laura</i>	<i>Liepiņa</i>	<i>Zemkopības Ministrija</i>	<i>Latvija</i>
80	<i>Aivars</i>	<i>Lapiņš</i>	<i>Zemkopības Ministrija</i>	<i>Latvija</i>

7.Photos from meeting



Project manager Staffan Lund (SLU) presents WATERDRIVE concept to conference participants



WP 4 leader Kaja Petersen, SEI Tallinn, EE (left) and Frank Bondgaard, SEGES, DK (right) leading Panel discussion with Conference speakers Flemming Gertz, SEGES, DK, Ari Kultanen, Nutrinflow project, Pro Agria, FI, Neil Powell Bonus-Miracle Project, Upsala University, SE, Aneka France, The Rivers Trust, UK.



Ainis Lagzdiņš, LULST, LV, is leading working group on planning WATERDRIVE WP 3 activities