

REPORT

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Life - Coastal Woodlands



Recommendations
for an ICZM Strategy in Forests by the Baltic Sea

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Summary

Within the frames of the EU Life project “Coastal Woodlands” an expert group has studied coastal forestry, conservation activities for nature and culture values, rural planning and development from an Intergrated Coastal Zone Mangement (ICZM) perspective. The group has visited Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Sweden. Denmark and Germany were represented in the group.

For the development of ICZM related to the *forestry sector*, the basic way for success will be to manage the coastal forests in close consultation with local and regional stakeholders. To facilitate the creation of a functioning ICZM in forests by the Baltic Sea, we would like to propose the following ideas to be considered. As forest management companies, the forest authorities, NGO:s are not directly involved in country development planning, the recommendations are of mainly practical character, concretizing the ICZM principles and strategies recommended by the European parliament and the Council..

1. Establish regional coastal forest councils, with support from the responsible authorities to develop ICZM.
2. Develop regional guidelines for the coastal zone forestry and the nature and culture conservation in coastal forests and other woodlands.
3. The nature and culture values in coastal zones should be surveyed, mapped and classified, to create a basis for planning and conservation actions.
4. Give priority to the protection of coastal woodlands dominated by pine and oak, that have been identified as areas with high nature values in the Baltic Sea region. We have an international responsibility for these unique types of woodlands and also the species (insects, lichens, mosses, fungi etc.) dependent on pine and oak.
5. Develop the identities of different coastlines and parts of the Baltic Sea archipelagoes, where close-to-nature forestry and management of nature and culture values are important parts of the identities.
6. Introduce the ICZM thinking among staff in authorities, organizations, companies, NGO:s dealing with forest management and nature conservation, during trainings, in information materials and in education programs.
7. Extend the use of existing and future new information centers, nature schools e.g., in the coastal zones for more information about coastal zone forest management and nature and culture conservation actions.
8. Give priority to information about wood as environmentally friendly material.
9. Pay certain attention to coastal zones and archipelagoes and their specific problems in EU rural and agriculture policies

10. Infrastructures for transporting of heavy goods are generally poor in the coastal zones, which constitutes a major problem for the development of the areas. To maintain and develop the coastal zones it is imperative to solve this problem.
11. When planning the coastal zones, the concept of social carrying capacity may be used as a way to analyze and canalize the public access to sensible parts of the coast.
12. Develop compensation systems and grants for landowners to enable protection of certain nature areas, also in combination with possibilities for compensation with other land areas.
13. Develop cooperation between authorities, municipalities and stakeholders for planning of landing piers for goods and people.
14. Access to good Internet and mobile phone connections is important for people living in coastal zones and archipelagoes.
15. Support to the development of rural tourism based on the different local traditions in handcraft, house building, cultural heritage, food traditions and the visiting of attractive coastal woodlands.



Background

The project *Coastal Woodlands* is a Life – Environment project, working 2006-2007, mainly in the SE coastal zone and archipelago of Sweden. There were also some actions carried out in Finland, Estonia and Latvia. Extended versions of the project information are available on www.skogsstyrelsen.se.

In this document we are reporting on the international actions carried out and presenting recommendations for the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) strategy for Baltic Sea coastal zone forests.

The EU focus on ICZM is not very well understood and its relation to huge areas of forest land must be explained to people in order to attract their interest for this important subject.

ICZM is designed to “join up” all the different policies which have an effect on the Union’s coastal regions. It is about both planning and management of coastal resources and coastal space. It is not a “one off” solution but an ongoing dynamic process the will evolve over time.

The need to bring together all the local, regional, national and European policy-makers and other stakeholders whose activities affect coastal regions is central to ICZM. Without coordination at all levels, efforts to protect the Union’s coastlines will only have limited success. These “stakeholders” should include not only government officials and policy-makers but also other interested parties such as local residents, non-governmental organizations and businesses.

ICZM is not just an environmental policy. While the need to protect the functioning of natural ecosystems is a core aim of the strategy, ICZM also seeks to improve the economic and social well-being of coastal zones and help them develop their full potential as modern, vibrant communities. In the coastal zone, these environmental and socioeconomic goals are intrinsically connected.¹

An international work group was established, to be responsible for the elaboration of a proposal for regional ICZM forest management recommendations , in

¹European Commission: *EU focus on coastal zones*

accordance with the EU document 2002/413/EC. Almost all group members are professionally involved in ICZM in their daily work in different ways.

One of the objectives for the project is to formulate recommendations for Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Forests by the Baltic Sea. The recommendations should be based on discussions during study tours to the countries around the Baltic Sea, on workshop discussions and presentations, on scientific results, recommendations and legislation from national authorities and international cooperation organizations, etc. The recommendations for an ICZM strategy should be directed to the EU Commission and the responsible authorities in the involved countries.

The document should be translated to the Latvian, Estonian and Finnish languages and be presented during the concluding workshop in Sweden in September 2006.

Deeper information about the ICZM actions in the Baltic Sea region may be studied in the document from the Helsinki Commission, "Lessons learned in ICZM".²

1. Task title and project objectives

The title for the task 1 in the project is "*Expert Advisory Group for an ICZM strategy and the Project Demonstrations*".

The objectives are, as described in the project proposal:

- 1. To base the project on best available knowledge*
- 2. To create a discussion on ICZM in Finland, Estonia, and Latvia, and communication with Danish and German organizations and thus assist the project in achieving results relevant for Baltic Sea environment and an ICZM strategy.*
- 3. To create a basis for dissemination of project results*

The project partners have understood the objectives like this:

We should formulate recommendations to the Commission for forest management in coastal woodlands by the Baltic Sea, based on the different national traditions, legislation and recommendations, as well as in accordance with the EC recommendation 2002/413/EC³ and the HELCOM recommendation 24/10⁴.

2. Overview of the work group activities

² Helsinki Commission (2003): *Lessons learned in ICZM*

³ Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2002 concerning the implementation of ICZM in Europe 2002/413/EC

http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2002/l_148/l_14820020606en00240027.pdf

⁴ Helsinki Commission HELCOM Recommendation 24/10 - Implementation of integrated marine and coastal management of human activities in the Baltic Sea area
www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec24_10/ (2005-06-08)



The main activities linked to this task have been the four study tours carried out for the work group, in Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Sweden. During the study tours, the hosting organizations had organized both workshops and field tours with relevance to ICZM and the Baltic Sea coastal forest management. Below the activities are summarized. There are

more detailed reports available among the *Progress reports* from the project to the Commission. In addition, there is a report from the tours to Estonia and Latvia from February 2005.⁵

The group members have also contributed with papers on specific issues, which are referred to later in this report.

Estonia

The tour to Estonia, in August 2004, was organized by the Centre of Forest Protection and Silviculture in Tartu. We started with a workshop in Tallinn before going on a field tour to the coastal zones in the north, to the island Saaremaa and the coast in western Estonia. One of the most important issues discussed was the rural development problems in Estonia.

There is clear trend of urbanization in Estonia, of from small villages and countryside to regional and national centers. It is a process that is negative if you intend to maintain possibilities for people to stay in villages and have equal access to good service in general. This has been reported on and analyzed in a special paper for the project, written by Mr. Björn Segrell, PhD and Senior Lecturer at the Linköping University. The report is attached to this report as annex.⁶

One of the major actions in Estonia, to at least retard this development, was the land reform in 1991. In the land reform, or restitution, the former owners or their ancestors regained the ownership of their former holdings. A large part of the state owned land was in this way privatized, also in coastal zones and on the islands. Mr. Segrell's conclusion is that there will always be some potential in the traditional economic activities in the country side, but the tourism will be much more important in the future. The high natural and cultural values in the Estonian coastal zones including the islands will attract people from all over Europe.

⁵ International Expert Advisory Group: *Report from the IEAG study tours to Estonia and Latvia*

⁶ Björn Segrell (2005). *Regional Development and Migration Patterns – the Case of Estonia*. Linköping University

Skovrider Claus Jespersen, Denmark, contributed with a paper⁷ to the project about recommendations for for integrated coastal zone management. As manager in the *Danish Skov -och Naturstyrelsen*, under the Ministry of Environment, he has personal experience of actions in coastal zone management.

He recommends development of compensation systems to enable private land owners to take special considerations for environmental values in a wide perspective, systems for the recovering of land taxes in the coastal zones, the creation of councils in regional coastal zones for an increased dialogue and the formulation of targets for nature protection. There should be set targets for the nutrients in zones affecting the coastal waters from forest land, with reference to the Helcom recommendation 25/3.⁸

When planning the coastal zones the concept of social carrying capacity may be used as a way to analyze and canalize the public access to sensible parts of the coast.

In Estonia, the establishment of Natura 2000 has met some difficulties with the private owners who had problems to accept the concept, mainly due to the quite fast process. Compensation with other state owned land areas is one option to discuss when private property is included in Natura 2000 areas. In Estonia, there is an interesting tax reduction system for private land owners within Natura 2000 areas.

Latvia

In September 2004, was hosted by Latvijas Valsts Meži, LVM, the Latvian State Joint Stock Forest Company. A group of representatives from Latvian relevant authorities and organizations participated during a workshop in Ventspils, where the visitors from Sweden received basic information about the Latvian coastal situation and problems linked to the management of this land area.

Latvia has 500 km coast. As is Estonia, the coastal zone was prohibited area for almost all civil persons during the Soviet period. This means that the population is not very dense here and there is lack of several infrastructure elements. You will find a concentration of nature values in the coastal forests, mainly in old pine forests on the sand dunes.

The attraction of the coastal zones is of course mainly an opportunity, but as mentioned during the workshop, it can also imply problems. One specifically mentioned, is the large numbers of coastal visitors during the summer, which may cause irreparable loss of nature values. Some sort of planning or regulation is often seen as an important tool to counter the problem. Such actions are probably also necessary in order to maintain the attraction of the coastal zone in a longer perspective.

⁷ Claus Jespersen (2005). *A possible recommendation from the integrated coastal zone management project*

⁸ Helsinki Commission (2004). *Helcom recommendation 25/3 Reduction of nutrients and other pollutants leaching from forestry land*. Helsinki 2004

The environmental values are also in conflict with some municipal interests for exploitation of coastal areas close to regional centers. Like in many other regions, there is a conflict here too, between the local families' needs for fire-wood, which traditionally is collected on public land, and the ecological needs for more dead wood in the forests.

During the workshop in Ventspils, Mr. Manfred Baum from the *Ministerium für Ernährung, Landwirtschaft, Forsten und Fischerei Mecklenburg-Vorpommern*, Germany, presented an overview of the situation in this part of the country. This "Bundesland" has a high unemployment rate and other typical structural problems for parts of the Baltic Sea region that are traditionally depending on farming and other rural economical activities. There is an afforestation program with subsidies to land owners for the creation of new forests. A "close-to-nature" forestry has been developed during the 1990-ies. Almost half of the forest land in the Bundesland is privately owned. There is a long tradition in Germany for sustainable forest management.

Finland

The expert group from the project visited the archipelago of Finland in May 2005. The forest authority *Skogscentralen Kusten* was out host and organized the field tours and the workshops.

The main area for the study tour was the Aaboland archipelago and the coastal area inside the islands. This part of Finland has large similarities with the nature on the Swedish project area in SE Sweden. However, we noticed some significant and interesting differences, commented more on under the headline about good examples.

The work group studied the following fields in Finland:

- Municipality cooperation in Aaboland, for a positive rural development in the archipelago
- The organization and activities of the Forest Owners' Association
- Forestry, including nature conservation, grants, protection of the cultural heritage, urban forestry
- Forestry education, in Ekenäs
- Archipelago infrastructure issues
- Environment information center
- Topics related to the bilingual situation in southeastern Finland

As one special Finnish solution, the membership in forest owners' associations is compulsory for Finnish forest owners. The fees are collected by the tax authorities and delivered to the local associations. Only the smallest properties, with a few hectares of forest, are not obliged to be members. All information is produced in both Finnish

and Swedish, as the two languages are both officially recognized as national languages in Finland.

During the trip in Finland the work group had two workshops and an evaluation meeting, to compile the common impressions both from Finland and from the other countries.

Sweden

The work group had one study tour together in the Kolmården area, to study forestry activities that may affect the water quality, the leakage of nutrients and sediments into the Baltic Sea. Fish breeding rivers may also be under threat when carrying out forestry operations. Some workshops were also arranged during the visit in Kolmården, with the objective to create a deeper understanding among the group members about ICZM and the task for the project *Coastal Woodlands*.



Mr. Jens Johannesson, the County Administration of Östergötland, Sweden, contributed with a paper on nature conservation and environmental issues to the work group.⁹

More background information about ICZM in Baltic Sea countries

Well-structured and useful back ground information about ICZM in Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Sweden may be studied in the document “*Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Baltic States - State of the Art Report*”, compiled by Dr. Alan Pickaver.¹⁰

The Swedish ICZM process in full detail described and analyzed in the recently published report from The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, “*Vad händer med kusten?*”¹¹.

⁹ Jens Johannesson, County Administration of Östergötland (2005): Proposal for advice to the European Commission from the project Coastal Woodlands concerning nature conservation.

¹⁰ Alan Pickaver (2002): *Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Baltic States - State of the Art Report*. EUCC

¹¹ Boverket (2006): *Vad händer med kusten?*

In the report from Life –Coastal Woodlands “*Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe - an overview with insights into the Swedish process*”, Tora Strandberg is reporting about ICZM with focus on forest management and interviewing key persons participating in the Swedish process.¹²

The recommendation from the European union 2002/413/EG concerning the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe

Chapter IV of the recommendation develops what to do within the framework of the national strategies for ICZM. The bullet points c, d, e and g are most relevant for the partners of this project to put focus on.

(c) develop or maintain national and, where appropriate, regional or local legislation or policies and programmes which address both the marine and terrestrial areas of coastal zones together;

(d) particularly, identify measures to promote bottom-up initiatives and public participation in integrated management of the coastal zone and its resources;

(e) identify sources of durable financing for integrated coastal zone management initiatives where needed, and examine how to make the best use of existing financing mechanisms both at Community and national level;

(g) include adequate systems for monitoring and disseminating information to the public about their coastal zone. These systems should collect and provide information in appropriate and compatible formats to decision makers at national, regional and local levels to facilitate integrated management. The work of the European Environment Agency can serve *inter alia* as a basis for this purpose. These data should be publicly available in accordance with relevant Community legislation, in particular with the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on public access to environmental information and repealing;

Below you will find some good examples referred and a list of proposed recommendations based on these findings for ICZM in forests by the Baltic Sea with clear links to the EU recommendation.

When you try to express the spirit of ICZM, we would like to quote what Mr. Lennart Gladh from WWF Sweden formulated in a presentation 2004. This is what the work group members now also experienced during the study tours and the discussions.

“Integrated Coastal Zone Management - A Process - Not an End Product
What do we mean by Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)? Essentially, it refers to a process of developing more effective use of human resources,

¹² Tora Strandberg, Swedish Forest Agency (2005): *Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe - an overview with insights into the Swedish process*

*institutional arrangements, policies, laws and regulations, and other instruments to promote more efficient use of public and private capital and natural resources to meet development objectives. We are talking about a **Process - ICZM is not an end in itself.***

The process starts with awareness of issues of common concern. Awareness facilitates dialogue and exchange of views among interested and affected parties, and supports cooperation amongst the parties. Cooperation is the basis for coordination of action, which in time fosters integration of policies, investment, spatial plans and natural resources management in coastal management initiatives.”¹³

3. The good examples studied in the project

These are some examples on practical ICZM related to the coastal woodlands and forests that we noticed during the tours. Together, these examples and other experienced positive impressions are the back ground for our proposed recommendations.



Organizations for forest owners

In Western Estonia there is now a well established organization for private forest owners called Lääne Ranniku Metsäühistu, LRM¹⁴, (Västra kustens skogsägare). The organization has 125 members. They are offering the members service for logging, planting, timber sale, extension and training. In this part of Estonia there is historically a large group speaking Swedish, so the LRM is a bilingual organization. Forestry is one of the important income sources for persons living in the sparsely populated coastal zones.

Also in Finland and Sweden the Forest Owners´ Associations are of crucial importance for the possibilities to carry out loggings and bringing the timber and pulp wood to the market. It is interesting to notice that in Finland forest owners

¹³ Lennart Gladh: [www.helcom.fi/stc/files/ Projects/BSRP/ICZMintroduction.pdf](http://www.helcom.fi/stc/files/Projects/BSRP/ICZMintroduction.pdf)

¹⁴ www.lrm.ee. Homepage for the Forest Owners Organization of Western Estonia

are legally obliged to join the association while in Estonia, Latvia and Sweden membership is voluntarily.

In all studied countries, the advisory service from forest authorities, state forest management companies, forest owners associations, forest companies and contractors is an important tool to implement forest policies, including environmental considerations, among the coastal population.

Municipalities

The municipalities in the Estonian, Finnish and Latvian coastal zones are smaller than in Sweden, both in terms of population and land area, which probably also means that the people carrying out the planning are more present locally. The Swedish municipalities are generally larger and the physical distance is bigger between the managers in the municipality center and the remotely situated villages and farms. Will more attention be given to countryside issues in the smaller municipalities? In the region Aaboland in Finland there is a living cooperation between a group of eight municipalities with the objective to keep the archipelago vigorous and contribute to a positive development.

Environment information to visitors in the coast landscapes

All studied countries demonstrated existing information places and houses, and presented additional ambitions to establish new information centers related to the coastal environment. Examples are *Blåmusslan* in Finland, *Skogsgården* at Kolmården Zoo and *Naturum* on several places in Sweden, *Pape* area in Latvia with free-living horses, and information activities in *Lahemaa* national park in Estonia. In Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, we have one example in the “*ErlebnisWald Trappenkamp*”, a well developed centre for forest and nature experiences for school classes and families.



Infrastructure elements

Lack of good ferry communications is a problem in some parts of the Swedish archipelago. In Aaboland, Finland, there is a system like a ring with roads and state owned connection ferries between main islands, which makes it possible to travel and transport goods effectively far out among the islands.

Schools, health care, shops, mobile phone and internet access, are other elements which are basic for a comfortable year-round living. Especially in Finland and Estonia we noticed that these parts of the public service seemed to be well developed.

Land owners and migration patterns

On the negative side of the balance sheet you find the same ongoing change of owner structure in all counties studied. The Baltic Sea coasts are to a large extent rural areas, sparsely populated and with a general tendency of decreasing and ageing population. Coastal properties are increasing in price, as local persons can't compete with more wealthy urban people and several properties are transferred to weekend and holiday estates. The group studied the migration especially in Estonia, where there is an ongoing concentration of the population to some regional centers and three-four national centers.

Nature conservation and environment actions

All countries have very ambitious programs for nature conservation. Here are some examples studied:

Building of cowsheds in the Swedish archipelago, to make it possible for the farmers to keep the grazing animals also on islands.

The projects at lake Pape and lake Engure in Latvia, with free-living horses grazing and restoring the landscape to what the scientists think is an original type of landscape.

Frequent use of available grants for protection of forests in Finland and Sweden, by compensating private owners with high nature values on their properties.

The creation of visitor centers, with parking facilities etc, in Estonia and Latvia, for reduction of the uncontrolled negative impact on the fragile sand dune environment

The cultural heritage

GIS information in the computers of the logging machines

A treasure with former manor houses old villages that are rich components in the landscapes

Remaining human memories from 1000 of years ago, often hidden in the forest today, due to the land-rise along the coasts in the northern part of the Baltic Sea.

Forest management

Forestry is one of the traditional income sources in coastal areas and in archipelagoes. During the last decades the forest volume has increased in these areas. Decline in the agriculture sector has led to that vast land areas are more or less abandoned and left for natural regeneration with bushes and later forest.

Actions need to be taken to reduce the tendencies towards a coastal zone totally overgrown with forest.

Nature protection managers also need forest management resources (workers, machinery, roads and boats) to manage areas of conservation. For example, former meadows and pastures need to be restored by removal of bushes and trees.



Incomes generated from forestry will contribute to continued possibilities for people to live in coastal areas also in the future.

In the Swedish project area there are now new draft guidelines for forestry that has been developed in cooperation between the project partners. The currently used forestry methods need to be further developed and refined to meet the environmental and economical needs. However, this work is going on, for example in Latvia where LVM demonstrated areas where selective cutting in coastal forests is tested, to activate the forest management here. German experiences from close-to-nature forestry should be further studied.

Pro Silva

When initiating the project “Coastal Woodlands” we intended to consult the European forestry organization “*Pro Silva*”. Developing and formulating the guidelines for coastal forestry in the project area, the *Pro Silva* documents have been thoroughly studied. Several of the basic ideas and principles for sustainable forestry there has been evaluated and adapted to the coastal zone environment in SE Sweden.

The guidelines of *Pro Silva* are developed from a central European perspective on nature and forestry and are not directly transferable to coastal forestry in the Baltic Sea region. Some of the principles are not quite in accordance with the Swedish forestry legislation. For example, traditional final felling followed by planting of seedlings is recommended as one option for forest regeneration in Sweden. In the *Pro Silva* concept, the forest soil should never be left without vegetation and a gradual regeneration should be used.

Rural development factors

In the Baltic Sea region countries there are a range of **positive factors** for rural development:

- Beautiful coastal landscapes with a variety in character
- The post-war history has contributed to some very long coastal zones that are almost unexploited
- Network of villages and small towns with a low rate of exploitation
- Historical places like former manor houses, recently transformed to attractive hotels and restaurants
- Friendly populations and low risk for crimes
- Strong farming traditions, supported by the EU agriculture policies
- Developed structures for nature conservation and protection of the cultural heritage
- Strong handicraft traditions, with products that are attractive to the market
- Many possibilities for exclusive fishing and hunting tourism, health tourism, golf tourism, boat tourism, study-the –nature-tourism, bicycle tourism
- New job opportunities with management of nature reserves, national parks, information centers etc
- The distance to the big central European populations, and expected visitors, are not so far away
- Rural roads are renovated, made safer and more comfortable from traveling.
- Medium scaled wood based industries contribute to the employment of people in coastal zones.
- There are an increasing amount of private contractors available for forestry services to forest owners

But, there are also some **negative factors** to be mentioned....

- The tourist season is rather short
- Some lack of public transports like buses and ferries
- Decreasing permanent population
- High transportation costs for heavy materials like forest products and building material
- Extremely high prices on properties and houses

- Dependence on extraordinary political support for a prosperous future
- Decreasing professional fishery sector
- Weak identities for the different coastal areas
- Uneven level of professionalism among local tourism organizers
- Shrinking market for year-round service all kinds
- Constant lack of grazing animals for nature conservation management

Proposed recommendations for ICZM in forests by the Baltic Sea

The Baltic Sea country side coastal zones are mainly sparsely populated. Coastal zones possess a unique biodiversity. The cultural, economic, social and recreational importance is great. The future will include *both* planning actions for conservation of nature and culture values *and* actions for development of new or extended living areas, roads, improved tourism infrastructure, work places, e.g.

For the development of ICZM related to the *forestry sector*, the basic way for success will be to manage the coastal forests in close consultation with local and regional stakeholders. To facilitate the creation of a functioning ICZM in forests by the Baltic Sea, we would like to propose the following ideas to be considered. As forest management companies, the forest authority, NGO:s are not directly involved in country development planning, the recommendations are of mainly practical character, concretizing the ICZM principles and strategies recommended by the European parliament and the Council..

1. Establish regional coastal forest councils, with support from the responsible authorities, to develop ICZM in accordance with local traditions and for dissemination of related coast information to the public and to stakeholders.
2. Develop regional guidelines for the coastal zone forestry and the nature and culture conservation of coastal forests and other woodlands.
3. The nature and culture values in coastal zones should be surveyed, mapped and classified, to create a basis for planning of forest management, protection actions as well as other country side planning.
4. Give priority to the protection of coastal woodlands dominated by pine and oak that have been identified as areas with high nature values in the Baltic Sea region, as we have an international responsibility for theses unique types of woodlands and the species dependent on pine

and oak. (Hundreds of species of mosses, lichens, insects, fungi, polypores e.g.).

5. Develop the identities of different coastlines and parts of the Baltic Sea archipelagoes, where close-to-nature forestry and management of nature values are important parts of the identities.
6. Introduce the ICZM thinking among staff in authorities, organizations, companies, NGO:s dealing with forest management and nature and culture conservation, during trainings, in information materials and in education programs.
7. Use existing and future new information centers, nature schools e.g., in the coastal zones for more information about coastal zone forest management and nature and culture conservation actions.
8. Give priority to information about wood as environmentally friendly material for house building, construction of piers, boat construction, heating etc., with a strong anchoring in the culture of the coastal populations around the Baltic Sea.
9. Pay certain attention to coastal zones and archipelagoes and their specific problems in EU rural and agriculture policies
10. Infrastructures for transporting of heavy goods are generally poor in the coastal zones, which constitutes a major problem for the development of the areas. To maintain and develop the coastal zones it is imperative to solve this problem.
11. When planning the coastal zones, the concept of social carrying capacity may be used as a way to analyze and canalize the public access to sensible parts of the coast.
12. Develop compensation systems and grants for landowners to enable protection of certain nature areas, also in combination with possibilities for compensation with other land areas.
13. Develop cooperation between authorities, municipalities and stakeholders (e.g. private persons, companies, farmers, forestry, tourist organizers, the army etc.) for planning of landing piers for goods and people.
14. Access to good Internet and mobile phone connections is important for people living in coastal zones and archipelagoes.
15. Support to the development of rural tourism based on the different local traditions in handcraft, house building, cultural heritage, food traditions and the visiting of attractive coastal woodlands.

Dissemination actions

1. The EU Commission will receive the proposed recommendations for forestry and nature conservation in forests by the Baltic Sea, to consider during the future actions for development of ICZM.
2. The recommendations will also be disseminated to forestry, nature and culture conservation authorities and organizations in all countries in the region, for adaptation and development of national, regional and local recommendations.
3. The document will be presented and discussed during the concluding workshop in Sweden in September 2006. After the seminar, it will be translated into Estonian, Finnish and Latvian languages and distributed to stake holders in the Baltic Sea region.



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