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# BALANCE Newsletter

 ▲ No 1 ▼ July 2005

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Information from the BALANCE Secretariat to partners, sub-contractors and members of the Steering Group

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## Approval of BALANCE

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2005, the BSR INTERREG III B Steering Committee made decision of approval of the applications for the 7<sup>th</sup> call for project proposals at its meeting in Oslo, Norway. BALANCE was approved and will be co-financed by the BSR INTERREG III B Programme with a maximum of 2.2 MEUR. With the national co-financing the total budget of BALANCE increases to approximately 4.5 MEURO. All partners in BALANCE can be proud after the approval. All the hard work has turned out to be justified. Well done – and congratulations to all!

According to the letter of approval from the BSR INTERREG Steering Committee, BALANCE has been approved under the following conditions:

1. National co-financing to BALANCE will be made available as stated in the application.
2. Project activities in relation to habitat mapping, modeling of bottom salinity, sediment maps correlated with video and seabed samples must be better described. Habitat maps must remain in the public domain.
3. The impact of the tools developed under WP3 (on marine spatial planning) should be investigated.
4. Partnership in WP4 (pilot areas) should be extended to involve both partners responsible for sea use planning and other relevant stakeholders.
5. BaltCoast recommendations on off-shore planning must be properly implemented.
6. No Norwegian national funds will be made available.
7. BALANCE should establish cooperation with the Baltic Master project.

Responses to these conditions have already been discussed with the BSR INTERREG office and a reply will be submitted before the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2005.

## BALANCE Secretariat

The BALANCE project secretariat was established on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2005. The staff at the secretariat is Johnny Reker (Project Co-ordinator), Jesper H. Andersen (Project Manager) and Maj-Britt Bunch (Financial Secretary). The forthcoming issue of the BALANCE newsletter will include a description of the tasks of the secretariat.

## BALANCE website

The official BALANCE website can be found at <http://www.balance-eu.org>. The staff at the secretariat is at the moment busy compiling more information for the website. The intention is to update the website at least once a week.

## BALANCE Kick-off Meeting

The BALANCE kick-off Meeting will take place on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August and the 1<sup>st</sup> of September in Copenhagen. All WP leads and partners are foreseen to attend the meeting. Please note that all WP leads will be invited to present an overview of activities, expected results and collaboration with other WPs. An official invitation, agenda and other information will be available soon – please check the BALANCE website in early August.

## Lead Partner Seminar

Lead Partners of the 17 projects approved in the 7<sup>th</sup> call met in Rostock on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2005 for the information seminar. More than 30 representatives of the projects took part in the seminar representing all the new projects. The aim of the seminar was to give practical information concerning the implementation and reporting of the BSR INTERREG III B projects. It also served as a contact forum, which may lead to further co-operation between projects. More information (agenda and presentations) can be found at the Baltic Sea Region INTERREG IIIB homepage (<http://www.spatial.baltic.net>)



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## BALANCE partners and subcontractors

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**Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland**

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**National Environmental Research Institute**

Frederiksborgvej 399  
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<http://www.dmu.dk>

**Danish Institute for Fisheries Research**

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DK-2800 Lyngby  
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**WWF Denmark**

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**WWF Germany**

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<http://www.wwf.de>

**Institute of Aquatic Ecology, University of Latvia**

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**Estonian Marine Institute, University of Tartu**

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**Coastal Research and Planning Institute**

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LI-92294 Klaipeda  
<http://copri.ku.lt>

**Metsähallitus Natural Heritage Service**

Vernissakatu 4  
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<http://www.metsa.fi>

**Finnish Environment Institute**

Mechelininkatu 34a  
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**Geological Survey of Finland**

Betonimiehenkatu 4  
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**WWF Finland**

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**Swedish Environmental Protection Agency**

Blekhölmterrassan 36  
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**National Board of Fisheries**

Kustlaboratoriet P.O. Box 109  
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**Geological Survey of Sweden**

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**County Administrative Board of Stockholm**

Hantverkergatan 29  
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**Department of Marine Ecology, Gothenburg University**

Tjänö Marine Biological Laboratory  
SE-45296 Strömstad  
<http://www.marecol.gu.se>

**Subcontractors to BALANCE:**

- Geological Survey of Norway (NGU)
- Norwegian Water Research Institute (NIVA)
- Leibniz Institute of Marine Sciences (IfM-Geomar)
- Polish Sea Fisheries Institute
- Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute
- University of California (UC)