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Stormwater Management and Cluster Building

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BALTIC FLOWS

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Building a cluster: The example of Baltic Flows

- What are we going to discuss:
  - What are clusters and why are they being built?
  - Actions we have done in the Baltic Flows project.
  - How are we going to develop our cluster further i.e. what are the next steps?

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What are clusters?

- Cluster is a geographic concentration of interconnected businesses, suppliers, research and other associated institutions.
- Vertically and horizontally engaged in a single value chain in a particular field.

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Added value of clusters

- Clusters have the potential to affect competition in three ways:
  - increasing the productivity of the companies in the cluster;
  - driving innovation in the field;
  - stimulating new businesses in the field.
- Competitive advantage from more productive use of inputs and continual innovation.
- Social activities are an important factor as it is “the glue which binds clusters together”.

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The Baltic Flows project

- A geographical concentration around the Baltic Sea catchment area.
- Follows a triple helix structure: research institutions, private and public sector.
- Single value chain of rainwater monitoring and management field.

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Goal of the project

- The main goal of the Baltic Flows cluster is to reduce the number of pollutants entering the Baltic Sea, increase cooperation and innovation capacity and support the SMEs working in the field in exports.

- The goal is and will be achieved by:
  - Establishing a collaboration network;
  - Increasing R&D capacity and cross-border cooperation in the field of rainwater monitoring and management;
  - Facilitating inter-organizational relations beyond formal ties;
  - Gathering SMEs in field and offering ways to increase their export revenues in cooperation with academia and public sector.

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How did we start and which methods did we use?

1. Gathering all actors in the field (Report on Regional Capacities 2014).
2. Inviting stakeholders to regional meetings.
3. Organizing international events to exchange know-how and cooperation.
4. Developing joint project initiatives and connecting partners.

Outcome: an international comprehensive database of Stakeholders who attend regular events and form a strong network/cluster.

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Who are the stakeholders?

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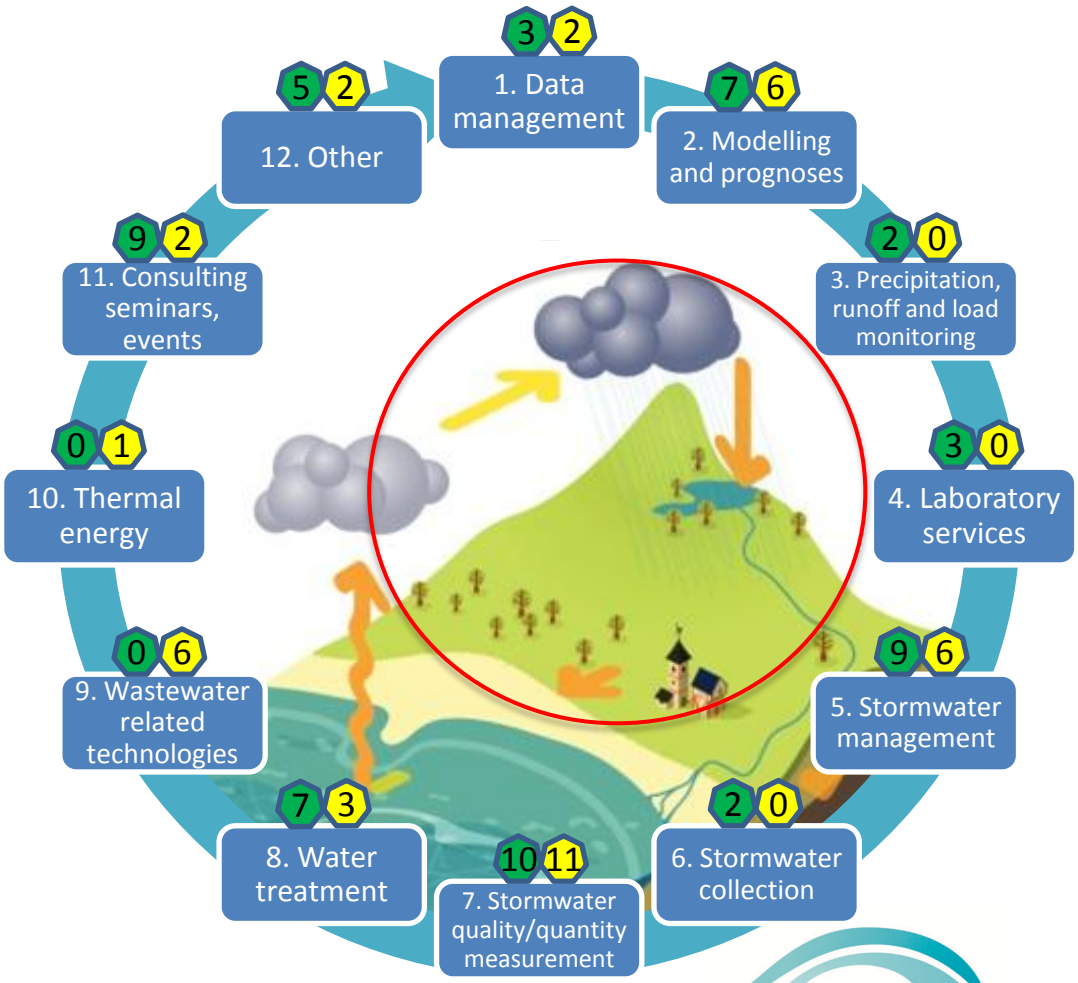
- Our focus is the **whole stormwater monitoring and management cycle**, from a raindrop until entering the sea.
- Following the triple helix method: all public authorities, research institutions and SMEs in the Baltic Sea region. (Quadruple helix – active citizens).



3 Number of products on the market in the cluster area

2 Number of technologies in development in the cluster region

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Initiatives which have grown out the activities

SWAM – Storm Water Management
SENSor NETwork for sewage monitoring
WMS - Water Monitoring System
Implementation of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems
Platform of total stormwater sewerage network
Platform – Test field of Technologies, certification
Automated nitrogen load monitoring from nonpoint sources
Cleaning and utilizing mining and industrial waters
Developing sensors for the detection of phosphous
Water Sustain
AGRIwaters
Detection and removal of pharmacological contaminants
Substitution of $FeCl_3$ to $CeCl_2$/$CeCl_4$ for binding P and As
Monitoring by Citizens
Usage of sewage and stormwater heat

Lead partner exists

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Next steps

- Annual conferences in cluster member countries.
- Joint marketing – keeping list of cluster stakeholders, common marketing materials and demos, an updated website, LinkedIn group, Facebook.
- Keeping up list of active project initiatives and compiling interest groups.
- Common export missions to other countries.
- **During each meeting or event, an action plan is agreed and acted upon and outcomes presented during the following meeting.**

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Upcoming Baltic Flows related events

Name of the event	Date and location
International water day workshop	06.04.2016 Tallinn, Estonia
The Road from Paris: Implementing Climate Change Management and Strategies in Cities and Municipalities in the Baltic Sea Region	06.06-08.06.2016 Uppsala, Sweden
The Baltic Sea, our common interest - Solutions and practices for the better future	08.06.2016 Turku, Finland
BalticFlows partner meeting	06.09-09.09.2016 Turku, Finland
The first BalticFlows conference	14.09-15.09.2016 Tallinn, Estonia

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