



BALTIC FLOWS



URBAN STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION:

SPREADING EXCELLENCE, EXPLOITING RESULTS AND DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE

HAMBURG STORMWATER STAKEHOLDERS ROUND TABLE-RELEASE

The Hamburg University of Applied Sciences in cooperation with its Baltic Flows www.balticflows.eu project partners, Ifu Hamburg and the Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI), concluded its round table meeting *Urban Stormwater Management and Monitoring in the Baltic Sea Region: Spreading Excellence, Exploiting Results and Disseminating Knowledge*, this past July 4th, 2016 as part of the dissemination activities and efforts to give exposure to the project and make a solid contribution towards real-world impact of the BALTIC FLOWS project results.

The round table brought together a total of 14 stakeholders from Hamburg public water authorities; the environmental organization-NABU; the Hamburg water utility; and overall water experts from university and research sectors who shared viewpoints on current and the future vision for stormwater management planning in Hamburg. The main conclusions from the meeting were that:

- Flooding is considered to be an issue in all countries around the Baltic Sea. There is a need and still potential to enhance transnational learning, knowledge exchange and sharing of best practices in order to foster mitigation and adaptation strategies concerning urban stormwater management. On this issue BALTIC FLOWS has served as an incubator creating room for this required knowledge exchange
- BALTIC FLOWS has contributed also to establish international bilateral contacts and networks to foster future collaboration (e.g. study visit from Barcelona representatives to collaborate with Hamburg public water authority)
- Financing, especially questions of water tariffs, is less of a problem in countries like Germany, as these questions were mainly solved a few years ago-something that could potentially open up opportunities for knowledge transfer and further pan-European collaboration
- The institutionalization of the “*Hamburg Stormwater Stakeholder Round Table*”, could serve as a participatory strategy to keep building knowledge and exchange of



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information and ideas while strengthening the communication and future project collaboration between stakeholders with decision making power. A follow up meeting to take place in autumn 2016 is currently under discussion

The Baltic Flows project (www.balticflows.eu) is a European Union's Seventh Framework project concerning rainwater monitoring and management in Baltic Sea catchment areas. The strategies, knowledge and expertise created during the project are meant to be exploited elsewhere-in the European Union and also globally. Enhanced capacities in diffuse load monitoring and urban stormwater management are intended to lead to new business opportunities in the global market for water monitoring and management and know-how.

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