

BSR INTERREG III B Progress Report – Activity Report (general information)

Project name:	Principles, tools and systems to extend spatial planning on water courses		
Reporting period:	01.07.2005 - 31.12.2005	Number of the report:	3

Summary description of the project

Please provide a brief overall summary of the project to be published on BSR INTERREG III B webpage.
(maximum 2500 characters)

River basin planning in the BSR has always been a complex, yet important topic. It has gained a new momentum with the implementation of EU Water Framework Directive (WFD). Also principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) are to be applied and national expansions of Natura2000 networks are in progress. All these actions support sustainable use of waters, but they also restrain and steer economical activities of society. Even different EU directives have opposing goals. All these practices and contrasting goals need to be taken into account in river basin planning. In BSR especially the needs of increasing tourism for natural and recreational areas together with well-developed areas have to be foreseen in land and river basin planning. Often these contrary actions are too demanding for spatial planners, and therefore multiple criteria decision support systems addressing as well the ecological as the socio-economic dimensions are urgently needed. Legally binding workload will be demanding especially in sparsely populated areas, where resources and funds are highly limited. Moreover, some such regions have numerous water bodies, which further impedes the planning processes. New member states will aggravate the situation in European scale, since with different societal backgrounds and environmental problems they are required to begin their river basin planning activities according to EU legislation and directives.

The main aims of the project are to prepare a strategy via which challenges seen in river basin planning in the Baltic Sea region may be addressed by

- 1) Analysing and synthesising the different directives and conventions focused on use of watercourses.
- 2) Evaluating, how the goals of the regulations are expressed at the regional scale land use planning (especially related to WFD)
- 3) Demonstrating different situations of river basin planning with a wide set of case studies ranging from southern tip of BSR (Poland) to northern parts of it (Northern Finland)
- 4) Providing a Water Planning Decision Support System for spatial planners, which takes into account all main components needed for economically, socially and ecologically sustainable use of watercourses
- 5) Raising capacity to promote the sustainable development in river basins by means of an information exchange platform, training workshops and the dissemination of the information needed for sustainable use of river basins by a handbook.

More details are available at www.watersketch.net

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Achievements of the project so far

Please describe the main achievements of the project so far to be published on BSR INTERREG III B webpage.
(maximum 1500 characters)

Different directives and conventions related to river basin planning were collected and national implementation phase among the Baltic sea countries was analysed by questionnaire and special workshop (WP1). Results were collected in draft report at the end of second milestone. Key principles of Public participation in WFD were collected.

Ten different case studies were finalising their first phase covering main uses of river basins of BSR (WP2). Case studies have collected a large number of stakeholders, spatial planners and research institutes to numerous smaller workshops and meetings. Case studies produced detailed reports for further utilisation.

Sophisticated tools and best practices used in river basin planning problems were actively transferred from one partner country to another within Baltic Sea Region (WP3). Preliminary version of toolbox was opened and at least six different tools are preliminary selected for further utilisation. A lot of co-operation within tool development has started together with other on going projects (CYCLEAU, Trabant, Entracop) to enhance information exchange and to organise common workshop for larger audience.

Results of project were disseminated via flyers, posters and webpage (www.watersketch.net), where document store of all relevant project documents and power point presentations was available for larger audience (WP4). As an example, during 3rd project period altogether 2 transnational and 12 national informative and co-operative seminars/workshops with different stakeholders were organised. Furthermore results were disseminated in 13 national or trans/international seminars and workshops and 9 publications or articles in publications and 2 newspaper articles were published or submitted.

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Are there any changes on the general project conditions/project set-up? (e.g. partnership, key persons, schedules ...)

The official name and contact information of the partner no 15 have been changed.

Partner no 15:

Title of the institution in original language: Kainuun maakunta –kuntayhtymä

Title of the institution in official English translation: Joint authority of Kainuu Region

Address: P.O.Box 400

Postal code: FI-87070

Town: Kainuu

Phone (office): +358 8 6155 4220

Phone (fax): +358 8 6155 4260

Other information of the partner no 15 have remained the same.

Please describe the main co-ordination activities that have taken place during the reporting period. (e.g. partnership contracts, organisational arrangements, meetings...)

The management group of the project had one meeting during the 3rd project period. It was held on 4-November 2005 in Hamburg (Germany). There were 11 participants representing 7 partners in the meeting.

Second steering group meeting took place in Hamburg (Germany) on 2-November 2005. There were 15 member representing 11 partners. Two external members (B. Löwendahl, J. Janning) representing recently selected advisory board were not able to attend.

In addition, a joint work package meeting was organized on 3-November 2005 in Hamburg (Germany). The main goal of the meeting was to plan the practical work in the project in coordination with different work packages. There were 26 participants representing 11 partners in the meeting.

Finnish Watersketch partners had a national meeting on 20-21-October in Yli-Ii (Finland). The goal of the meeting was to coordinate and plan the work and forthcoming activities in Finland. There were 16 participants representing 6 partners in the meeting.

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Title of WP1	Directives and conventions affecting the integrated planning and management of river basins	
Strategic focus of WP1	Evaluating common EU directives and national legislation concerning waters. Composing main spatial planning processes in different countries	MILE-STONE
Planned results of WP1	Improved knowledge of different factors affecting on water course status and use. Transfer of knowledge between different BSR countries of common and national factors.	3

<u>Planned activities and outputs</u>	<u>Main activities that have taken place during the reporting period</u>	<u>Outputs produced during the reporting period and related output indicators</u>
<p>The Aarhus Convention emphasises the role of public participation in environmental planning. According to article 14 of the WFD, the Member States shall encourage the active involvement of all interested parties in the implementation of this Directive, in particular in the production, review and updating of the river basin management plans. The WFD requires three rounds of written consultation of which the first one will be finalised before the end of the current project. Based on a close co-operation between researchers and practical planners, methods and tools for the involvement of citizens in river basin management will be identified and described. The difficult problem of transferring expert language in river basin management to non-specialist citizens will also be addressed. Transnational information exchange regarding public participation is emphasized. Pros and cons of "western" and "eastern" style of public participation will be gathered and utilized in recommendations.</p>	<p>The work of this milestone was initiated by a joint WP1&3 meeting in Aalborg on 14-16 September 2006 arranged by North Jutland County. The first day of the seminar was dedicated to presentations from Watersketch partners as well to planning the practical work in WP1 for the following project period. The following two days were allocated to demonstrating and discussing practical implementations of Public Participation in North Jutland County. On last day, the participants were informed of a lake restoration project and the public consultation related to it.</p> <p>Work Group 1 has been working on writing guidelines for Public Participation related to the River basin management plans of the Water Framework Directive. Here we also address the contrasts between the new and old Member States concerning Public Participation.</p> <p>An initial survey on Public Participation theories and practises was carried out and a draft report will be available during spring 2006. As a part of this, a questionnaire was distributed among actively involved citizens in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A training event on setting up and managing public opinions by a database – Draft chapters to the report on guidelines in public participation were written. The guidelines will be finalised during the 4th milestone. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 15 participants representing 6 partner organisations present at the WP1&3 meeting in Aalborg – Two conference papers were submitted to the 25th Urban Data Management Symposium organised in Aalborg, May 2006 (in press) – One scientific article was submitted to the series "Lecture Notes in Computer Science"

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Progress Report – Activity Report (activities and outputs)**

<u>Planned activities and outputs</u>	<u>Main activities that have taken place during the reporting period</u>	<u>Outputs produced during the reporting period and related output indicators</u>
	<p>North Jutland County in order to identify their background and preferences. The result of this survey is accepted for publication at the next Urban Data Management Symposium in Aalborg, May 2006.</p> <p>At the mid-term workshop held in Hamburg November 2005, the WP1 work group presented the work carried out on EU legislation related to the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>Output of the milestone 2, draft version of the report on directives and other legislation related to the Water Framework Directive, was further revised and prepared for publication in 2006.</p>	

<u>Deviation from the planned activities and outputs as well as their reasons/justifications</u>
No major deviations

BSR INTERREG III B Progress Report – Activity Report (activities and outputs)

Title of WP2	The major challenges of river basin planning in Baltic Sea Region (BSR)	
Strategic focus of WP2	Demonstrating alternatives of river basin planning by case studies. Analyzing conflicts between different directives and use of watercourses	MILE-STONE
Planned results of WP2	Wide set of case studies ranging from conflicting interest of hydropower, fishery, peat production, nature protection, scattered settlement, tourism, urban centers and agriculture. Comprehensive analysis of conflicts related to them and planning.	3

<u>Planned activities and outputs</u>	<u>Main activities that have taken place during the reporting period</u>	<u>Outputs produced during the reporting period and related output indicators</u>
<p>Different case studies will report their findings in separate report for WP3. General directives and conventions and national circumstances in legislation collected in WP1 will be used in case study reports. Public participation principles from WP1 are used in case studies to reach a wider view of different interests and uses of river basins. Conflicts between uses are described and prepared for WP3 and handbook of WP4. Transnational information exchange is promoted by collecting similarities and differences of different cases into common planning matrices.</p>	<p>Collection of basic data from all case study areas was finalised during the 3rd milestone. The main efforts were concentrated on reporting the findings. All seven case studies put a lot of efforts on practical work related to environmental pressure analysis and its effects on ecological status of water courses. Scale of the case studies varied a lot and in fact Oulujoki case study included four full scale sub-case studies.</p> <p>All the reports contain analysis of conflicts between uses of water courses which could be directly utilised in WP3. In addition, all the reports show conflicts on a background of legal directives on national level and elements of public participation. Final structure of full case study report for the handbook preparation in WP4 was fixed.</p> <p>It should be noted, that spatial planners, NGO:s and other stakeholders representing industry and other polluters were largely involved in case studies. Detailed view of organised meetings and seminars are presented in WP4 dissemination part of this report and separate <u>case study reports</u>.</p>	<p>Case study reports from the 1st phase of the work were finalised. The report of Lodz Jeziorsko was used as a template for the other case study reports.</p> <p>All 7 case studies were elaborated, presented and discussed in the project's mid-term workshop on 2-November in Hamburg.</p> <p>Main results of the Oulujoki hydropower substudy "Defining reference conditions and environmental objectives for the heavily modified watercourses in Northern Finland" were presented in the workshop "WFD and Hydromorphology" held in Prague on 17-19 October 2005.</p> <p>A poster and proceeding paper of Oulujoki sub-case study Protected areas (main author Ville Hokka) was submitted and accepted in the 3rd Harmoni-CA Forum & Conference, 5-7 April 2006, Osnabrück.</p> <p>A poster and proceeding paper of Oulujoki sub-case study Forestry "Suitability of historical aerial photographs and short core aquatic macrofossil analyses for detecting vegetation changes in small boreal lakes</p>

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<u>Planned activities and outputs</u>	<u>Main activities that have taken place during the reporting period</u>	<u>Outputs produced during the reporting period and related output indicators</u>
	<p>As an example of the close link between Watersketch project and practical implementation of Water framework directive the leader of Oulujoki hydropower subcase (S.Hellsten) was an expert member of Finnish committee writing new legislation of heavily modified water bodies. Experiences gathered in case study of determination of environmental goals were directly transferred to appendix of Finnish legislation. Results from another subcase study protected areas of Oulujoki, were also utilized by Metsähallitus, which is in charge of management plans of Natura-sites.</p>	<p>(authors Janne Alahuhta, Seppo Hellsten and Sari Partanen) was submitted to the International symposium on aquatic vascular plants: 25 years after. Brussels, 11-14 January 2006.</p> <hr/> <p>Full versions of case study reports from the 1st phase of the work.</p> <p>Case study reports are available in http://www.watersketch.net/new/?e=12&page=e7a9e77b06137f3b488973748471a958&dir=%2F%2FProject+management%2FMiles+3.</p>

<u>Deviation from the planned activities and outputs as well as their reasons/justifications</u>
<p>No major deviations, some case studies had problems to keep very tight reporting schedule due to on-going and time demanding official reporting work of Water framework directive.</p>

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Title of WP3	Tools and principles for sustainable water course master plan	
Strategic focus of WP3	Providing tools, which take into account sustainable use of water. Analyzing contradictions and mutual interests of different stakeholders.	MILE- STONE
Planned results of WP3	Planner's Toolbox will be provided for all partners. Multicriteria decision support system will be provided for different case studies. Principles and systems to create sustainable water master plan will be published and demonstrated in workshop.	3

<u>Planned activities and outputs</u>	<u>Main activities that have taken place during the reporting period</u>	<u>Outputs produced during the reporting period and related output indicators</u>
<p>First versions of tools are presented in internal mid-term workshop. Conflicts and other important aspects are collected from WP2. Technical development work of conflict analysis tool will start. It will be based on case studies ranging of main uses of river basins. Active participation of regional planning authorities (environmental centres, local councils, municipalities) on development of model will start by circulating information letter of work among different water district areas. Setting up goals and wishes needed for further work.</p>	<p>The work of this milestone was started by a joint WP1&3 meeting in Aalborg on 14-16 September 2006 (see more details in WP1).</p> <p>Conflicts and other important aspects related to river basin planning have been identified and collected in different case studies in WP2. Basing on this work, many needs for river basin planning tools have been provisionally identified. Current tools are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RL-GIS: GIS for analysing land-use distribution and nutrient loading in the drainage basins - Public Hearing Database: database for handling the feedback gathered from wide public in planning processes - Priority Game: tool for structuring people's own opinions - REGCEL: water level analysis tool - DHRAM: flow analysis tool - WebHipre: decision analysis tool for analysing opinions of different stakeholder groups in complex planning problems. <p>The plans for toolbox structure and its contents were specified. Technical preparations for the tools in different case studies were started in cooperation with all</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The toolbox structure was reformed and can be seen at toolbox.watersketch.net (preliminary version) • The plan for applying and testing the tools in case studies in WP2 was prepared • The administration tools for constructing the toolbox web-site were prepared and are ready for use. • The training plan for regional planning authorities was prepared in cooperation with WP4 (see http://www.watersketch.net/new/?page=1d200f13e7826ca034dffe40e46e005c&e=8) • Presentation "Use of water level fluctuation analysis tool (REGCEL) in Finland" was held by Anne Tarvainen in the conference "Water level fluctuation in lacustrine systems – ecological impacts and prospects of future climate change (Konstanz 11-13 December 2005). <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 special tools which can be utilised in river basin planning identified so far

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	<p>partners.</p> <p>All above-mentioned tools were presented in the internal mid-term workshop in Hamburg, 3-November 2005. Tools will become a part of the project's final outcome, Planner's Toolbox.</p> <p>The administration tools for constructing the toolbox web-site were planned and prepared by an external consultancy company, HN-Soft.</p> <p>The active participation of regional planning authorities in planning and preparation work of the Planner's Toolbox will be secured by inviting them to informative and cooperative seminars. The first such seminar with regional planning authorities was held in Hamburg (Germany) on 14-December 2005. Similar workshops are planned to be organised in Finland and Lithuania in spring 2006. The information of the workshops and invitations have been/will be secured by sending invitation letters or e-mails to planning authorities as well as water district areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 participants representing 6 partner organisations present at the WP1&3 meeting in Aalborg

<u>Deviation from the planned activities and outputs as well as their reasons/justifications</u>
<p>No major deviations.</p>

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Title of WP4	Dissemination of results	
Strategic focus of WP4	Promoting sustainable development of river basins by an information exchange platform, training workshops and handbook.	MILE- STONE
Planned results of WP4	Existing information exchange platform in web, training component including workshops at river basins of member states and Russia, a handbook of applying water master plan for stakeholders and regional planners.	3

Planned activities and outputs	Main activities that have taken place during the reporting period	Outputs produced during the reporting period and related output indicators
<p>The process of preparation of the "Baltic Rivers Management Handbook" will be started. A schedule and programme of training workshops, seminars and courses lasting between 1 and 3 days will be formulated. To yield maximum benefits, training will be held in the languages of the participant countries (i.e. Finnish, German) while a few events may be held in English. The thematic focus of the training sessions are: "Sustainable Rivers Management" and "The EU Water Framework Directive and Efficient Water Resources Use". These themes have been selected based on their relevance to the environment/economies of the participant countries and based on their regional dimension and relevance. Conflicts in river basin management are emphasized by collecting experiences from case studies. The locations of the training events will be agreed upon, based on rotation principles. Internal workshop will be organised together with other WP:s. Transnational similarities and differences are especially highlighted in workshop.</p>	<p>The project's mid-term workshop "Human pressures on watercourses of Baltic Sea Region – how to couple spatial planning and sustainable development" was organised on 2-November in Hamburg (Germany). Workshop was open for wide public. National, regional and local stakeholders, like public authorities, NGOs, scientific Institutes and Universities were informed and invited to the mid-term Workshop. The invitation was done by e-mail.</p> <p>The dissemination of the project and its results were fostered by creating new structure for the project's website in October-December. New structure can be seen at http://www.watersketch.net/. Website should now better respond to the public needs.</p> <p>A short article presenting Watersketch was prepared and published in the 3rd issue of a leaflet "The Baltic Sea Region INTERREG IIIB Neighbourhood Programme – Projects in progress 2004-07". Watersketch was also presented in "TransCoop 05 Report" compiled by Bundesmat für Bauwesen und Raumordnung (BBR).</p>	<p>- General outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • handbook preparations have started • a schedule and programme of training workshops on WFD and sustainable river basin management (SRBM) have been prepared (see the link in WP3) • Internal workshop with other WPs was organised and took place in Hamburg (2.-4.November 2005) <p>- Project organised/co-organised following transnational workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.11. Watersketch mid-term workshop "Human pressures on watercourses of Baltic Sea Region – how to couple spatial planning and sustainable development", Hamburg (Germany) • 24.11. Environmental decision-making applied to dockyard waters - International workshop of the Interreg Project "Green North Sea Docks", supported by the Watersketch Project, Hamburg (Germany) <p>- Project organised/co-organised following</p>

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	<p>Web forum on the project's website was improved. A closed access for Watersketch partners was developed. This is used for disseminating draft reports and documents under progress among project partners. Partners were trained for using the forum in the WP meeting on 3 November 2005.</p> <p>Transnational 2nd project newsletter was published and distributed via website and 1000 copies were printed. Newsletter is available at: http://www.watersketch.net/new/?e=9&page=0d225449a386c9cc16910ba0fa861293</p> <p>A draft of the second project brochure outlining the goals of the case studies has been prepared (November-December). This brochure will be finished in January and available on the website. It will be distributed among the partners in February 2006 (2000 copies).</p>	<p>national informative and co-operative seminars/workshops or other events with different stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July-August: 3 RLGIS tool training sessions, Oulu and Kajaani, Finland • 20.9. and 28.11. 2 workshops with regional stakeholders of forestry and its environmental effects on watercourses, Kajaani (Finland) • 6.9. National workshop of definition of environmental objectives, expert meeting with hydropower companies and institutes in charge of WFD, Espoo (Finland). • 25.11. Workshop on exchanging experiences in water resource management, Kaunas (Lithuania) • 14.12. National training workshop on WFD and sustainable river basin management (SRBM) for involved stakeholders, Hamburg (Germany) (presentations, brochures, roll-up) • November-December: 4 workshops with local stakeholders on sustainable land-use planning scenarios of River Kokemäenjoki Delta, Pori, Turku, Parkano and Kullaa (Finland) <p>- In addition: project was presented and promoted at following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22-23.8. Water week, Stockholm (Sweden): brochures • 22.-23.9. Cycleau Conference, Falmouth (UK): presentation, brochures, network with related projects

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<u>Planned</u> activities and outputs	Main <u>activities that have taken place</u> during the reporting period	<u>Outputs produced</u> during the reporting period and <u>related output indicators</u>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17.-19.10. European workshop "WFD and Hydromorphology", Prague (Czech Republic): presentation. • 18.-19.10. National workshop on water protection in peat mining, Oulu (Finland): presentation • 19.-22.10. National scientific conference ECOPOLE 2005, Duszniki-Zdroj (Poland): presentation • 24.10. GeoSatakunta Symposium, Pori (Finland): project partner participated panel discussion • 27.-29.10. Baltic 21 symposium on sustainable development in the Baltic Sea region "Realizing a Common Vision for a Baltic Sea Eco-region: Research Symposium on Sustainable Development Patterns", Kaliningrad (Russia): presentation at the round-table discussions • 8.-10.11. Seminar on Sustainable River Basin Management, Leipzig (Germany): poster, brochures and presentation • 24.11. Seminar on environmental decision making, Hamburg (Germany): brochures, roll-up • 24-25.11. Interreg-communication seminar, Berlin (Germany): brochures • 7.-9.12. National training session of WFD, Lodz (Poland): presentation and poster • 16.12. Annual meeting of the Baltic University Programme, Kaunas (Lithuania): presentation, brochures • 20.12. Workshop on "INTERREG III experience as a principle for

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<u>Planned</u> activities and outputs	Main <u>activities that have taken place</u> during the reporting period	<u>Outputs produced</u> during the reporting period and <u>related output indicators</u>
		<p>European Transnational Cooperation", Warsaw (Poland): brochures</p> <p>- Following publications and articles were prepared under the umbrella of Watersketch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hansen, H.S & Reinau, K.H.: Who are the citizens in public participation GIS?. In: Proceedings 25. Urban Data Management Symposium,(in press) • Hansen, H.S & Norskov, P. Applying Internet -based 3D visualisation and priority games in public consultation. In: Proceedings 25. Urban Data Management Symposium, (in press) • Hansen, H.S & Reinau, K.H.: The citizens in e-participation. Lecture Notes in Computer Science", (submitted) • Holda, A.: An analysis of the environmental management elements of the WFD and its implementation components", MSc Thesis, Technical University of Hamburg-Harburg • Quereshi, A.: Sensitivity Study of different land use changes and Integrated river basin management in the Elbe river catchment", MSc Thesis, Technical University of Hamburg-Harburg • Leal, W.: Watersketch: Trends in sustainable river monitoring and management in the Baltic. In: Delakowitz, B., Greif, D., Leal, W.: Sustainable Chemistry and Biotechnology, Peter Lang Verlag, Frankfurt (in press).

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<u>Planned activities and outputs</u>	<u>Main activities that have taken place during the reporting period</u>	<u>Outputs produced during the reporting period and related output indicators</u>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skrzypski, J., Imbierowicz, M., Zbicinski, I. Proceedings of National Conference "Water Framework Directive Implementation. Evaluation of the Ecological Status of Waterbodies in Poland (in press). • Skrzypski, J., Imbierowicz, M., Jach-Szakiel, E. Proceedings of International Conference ECOPOLE 2005 (in press). • Heikkinen, K., Rintala, J., Karjalainen, S.M., Lauri, H. & Kløve, B. Possibilities To Decrease The Non-Point Source Loading With Wetlands Constructed On Peatlands In A River Basin In Northern Finland (submitted to Nordic Water: Nordic Hydrological conference, Vingsted Denmark 6-9 August 2006) <p>- Following newspaper articles were published:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public opinion on paper Satakunnan Kansa on 23.10.2005: Should the governing committee established into Yyteri area? • Expert opinion on paper Satakunnan Kansa on 31.10.2005: The realization of conservation in Preiviikinlahti. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 transnational seminars organised/co-organised • 12 national informative and co-operative seminars/workshops with different stakeholders organised

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<u>Planned activities and outputs</u>	<u>Main activities that have taken place during the reporting period</u>	<u>Outputs produced during the reporting period and related output indicators</u>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plans and results of the project were promoted and disseminated in 13 national or trans/international seminars and workshops • 9 publications or articles in publications were published or submitted • 2 newspaper articles (public and expert opinion) published • Altogether 54 persons from different partner organisations have been straightly involved in the work and activities in the project during the 3rd milestone

<u>Deviation from the planned activities and outputs as well as their reasons/justifications</u>
No major deviations.

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Title of WP5	.	
Strategic focus of WP5	.	MILE- STONE
Planned results of WP5	.	3

<u>Planned activities and outputs</u>	<u>Main activities that have taken place during the reporting period</u>	<u>Outputs produced during the reporting period and related output indicators</u>
.		<p><i>(Outputs are the immediate products of project activities. They are tangible goods and services that the activities produce, e.g. reports, written concepts, policy tools, strategies, new products, websites, databases, seminars, training sessions.)</i></p> <hr/> <p><i>(Output indicators measure the achievement of the outputs of project activities. In case some output indicators are named and quantified in the WP plan, please list and quantify the ones related to the achieved outputs. Please see the indicative list given, but you can also report additional ones.)</i></p>

<u>Deviation from the planned activities and outputs as well as their reasons/justifications</u>

BSR INTERREG III B Progress Report – Activity Report (project implementation status)

Please describe the accumulated results of the project from the start of the project until now. If you have defined result indicators, please use them in this description.

WaterSketch consortium including water resource civil engineers (Poland, Lithuania), Water framework directive (WFD) specialist (Finland), spatial planners (Denmark) and dissemination professionals (Germany) continued work to merge spatial planning and implementation of WFD.

Different directives and conventions related to river basin planning were collected and national implementation phase among the Baltic sea countries was analysed by questionnaire and special workshop held in Vilnius April 2005. Results were collected in draft report at the end of second milestone. Key principles of Public participation in WFD were collected to draft report and common international workshop with other ongoing projects were planned.

Ten different case studies were finalising their first phase covering main uses of river basins of BSR. Case studies have collected a large number of stakeholders, spatial planners and research institutes to numerous smaller work shops and meetings. Case studies produced detailed reports for further utilisation. Several tools of sustainable river basin planning were found under case studies.

Sophisticated tools and best practices used in river basin planning problems were actively transferred from one partner country to another within Baltic Sea Region. Participation of Watersketch project in CYCLEAU conference created a good possibilities for information exchange between two Interreg regions, Baltic Sea and North Sea. Dealing with similar topics, people and projects from the North Sea region showed a high interest on Watersketch project. Especially the topic public participation in the fields of WFD implementation and Sustainable River Basin Management is a common interest. A wider network was established and the exchange of results is envisaged.

Results of project were disseminated via flyers, posters and webpage (www.watersketch.net), where document store of all relevant project documents and power point presentations was available for larger audience. Second newsletter was also printed and delivered. As an example during 3rd project period altogether 2 transnational seminars were organised/co-organised, 12 national informative and co-operative seminars/workshops with different stakeholders organised, results were disseminated in 13 national or trans/international seminars and workshops, 9 publications or articles in publications were published or submitted and 2 newspaper articles (public and expert opinion) published.

Is there anything else you would like to report (problems, highlights etc.)?

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Progress Report – Activity Report (project implementation status)

Highlights

The participation of Watersketch project in CYCLEAU conference made a good exchange of information between two regions possible. Dealing with similar topics, people and projects from the North Sea region showed a high interest on Watersketch project. Especially the topic public participation in the fields of WFD implementation and Sustainable River Basin Management is a common interest for both North Sea and Baltic region. A wider network was established and the exchange of results is envisaged.

Public participation aspects related to implementation of Water framework directive are one key issue of the project. A solid partnership together with a new BSR Interreg IIIB project Trabant was established with common information exchange. Watersketch was also contacted by "The EU Leonardo da Vinci Project Enhancing Training of Collaborative Planning in Natural Resource Management (EnTraCoP)" and after negotiations it was decided to organize a common (Watersketch, Trabant, EnTraCoP) international workshop of public participation in Helsinki September 2006.

Problems

The website forum was originally planned to be open for public. Thus, the login and password was eliminated to allow an open access to everyone who visits the project website. A project internal space within the forum was developed for internal discussions and documents. In December 2005, a hacker attack destroyed the forum of another Interreg North Sea Project ("Making waste work"), where Watersketch partner TuTech Innovation GmbH is also responsible for the web-forum. Website administrators decided to save all other project forums by an additional login and password. The partners were informed about login and password to get into the forum. But still, due to this security reasons, the open access for public is not possible until a technical solution has been found.

BSR INTERREG III B
Progress report – activity report (CEEC/NIS activities)

Please describe the activities that have been carried out in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland (1st – 4th round projects with the exception of upgraded projects), and in Russia and Belarus.