

## **EUSBSR Report 2011**

### **Priority Area 9 To reinforce sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries**

Coordinator: State Secretary Minna-Mari Kaila, Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Coordinator for Fisheries: Sweden

Coordinator for Rural Development: Lithuania

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## **1. General progress**

### **1.1. Status:**

Priority 9 covers a wide range of different themes and activities within agriculture, forestry, fisheries and rural development. The number and variety of flagship projects (10 in total) is considerable, too, especially taking into account that one of the flagship projects ("*Sustainable forest management in the Baltic sea Region - EFINORD*") is an umbrella that includes seven independent international projects (one of them with two sub-projects).

At the moment, most of the flagship projects under priority 9 have started to implement their planned activities. One of the new projects "*Recycling of phosphorus*" as well as two sub-projects of *EFINORD* are still at the planning phase. In autumn 2010, one of the original flagship projects in priority 9 ("*Create a network on the implementation of EU food and feed legislation*") was removed from the EUSBSR Action Plan due to the fact that no common interest for it could be found among the member states.

In general, the outcomes and results of the flagship projects are only to be achieved in a longer term and, consequently, they can only be evaluated at a later stage. It takes a minimum of one year to organise the structures for international cooperation in order to get the activities running smoothly. In addition, identifying of a potential funding source and to prepare an application for funding are also lengthy processes for the flagship projects. Considering these challenges, the work has started remarkably well.

### **1.2. Overall results:**

As a result of the EUSBSR, the cooperation forum BaltFish was established. The primary goal of Baltfish is to improve and strengthen coordination and cooperation of fisheries administration among Baltic Sea member states, but also among the administrations and other key stakeholders relevant for the Baltic Sea fisheries. It is a forum for exchanging ideas, views and information and a forum that can facilitate joint forces in various concrete projects aiming at achieving sustainable fisheries in the Baltic.

The flagship project Baltic MANURE has started only recently but the project has already formed a cluster that includes four agri-environmental projects – BalticDEAL (from Priority 1), Baltic COMPASS and Beras Implementation. All the four projects have a common goal

– to reduce leaching of nutrients from agriculture to the Baltic Sea. They work together, although in different fields, to reach this objective. This is also an example of cooperation between the priorities of the EUSBSR.

The organisations involved in the *Sustainable forest management in the Baltic Sea Region – EFINORD* Flagship coordination – Priority Area Coordinator Finland, EFINORD, and the Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee (SNS) – have agreed to join in cooperation under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU presents a vision for the EFINORD Flagship, and outlines the modus operandi of cooperation, including the criteria to accept new projects to the EFINORD Flagship. The MoU will help keeping the cooperation focused on bringing added value to the BSR. Out of the seven flagship projects five are getting started or are already ongoing. Several of these projects are interested in finding Russian partners.

The flagship project “Sustainable Rural Development” has been financed by National Rural Networks of the Rural Development Programmes and, thus, introduced cooperation between EAFRD programmes and the EUSBSR. The earlier established Nordic-Baltic cooperation of the National Rural Networks has now been extended to cover the whole Baltic Sea Region. The cooperation between EAFRD programmes will also continue through the common action coordinated by Lithuania.

In general, the flagship projects in priority 9 have succeeded quite well in identifying and using several different funding sources for their activities and/ or start-up phase. Several funding possibilities were also presented at the third joint seminar of Priority 9 that took place on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010, in Helsinki. Nevertheless, financing is still one of the main challenges in the priority as some of the projects only have funding for the start-up phase.

### **1.3. Process:**

Several flagship projects under priority 9 were agreed on jointly between the member states and stakeholders at the second joint seminar in January 2010. The joint agreement had a positive influence on commitment to the projects and their objectives. The EUSBSR has also contributed to the reinforcement of many already existing networks, e.g. at the Nordic - Baltic level as well as their extension to cover the whole Baltic Sea Region. Nevertheless, the commitment to the EUSBSR activities varies considerably between the member states. This is one of the challenges that should be looked upon during the coming year.

Although many flagship projects have already found funding, there is still considerable need to develop and align the funding instruments to respond to the needs set by the EUSBSR. Many of the projects have only received "seed money" and more substantial funding will be needed in the future.

### **1.4. Organisation:**

Coordination and organisation of the work as well as smooth information flow are among the main challenges, especially as priority 9 covers several different themes and a number of flagship projects. In addition, the priority is coordinated by three member states. The recently launched technical assistance is expected to facilitate the coordination of the priority, e.g. by funding joint seminars and by enabling the priority coordinators to arrange joint meetings.

Some general guidance would be needed e.g. regarding the criteria to include new flagship projects into the EUSBSR, due to the many requests coming from potential projects.

### **1.5. Next steps:**

The fourth joint seminar of priority 9 will be arranged in autumn 2011. The seminar will focus on the future of the priority, e.g. discussion on general targets at the priority level as these are now missing. The communication and information flow within the priority and within the whole strategy and better inclusion of regional actors into the cooperation are central among challenges to be targeted during 2011. Flagship project progress will also be reviewed.

Back to back with the fourth priority 9 seminar, there will be a joint seminar of the Baltic Sea Strategy and the Rural Development Programmes. This will be arranged in cooperation with EU Commission, DG-AGRI and the National Rural Networks.

## **2. Progress for each action**

### **Strategic actions**

*“Continue the adaptation of the Baltic fishing fleet capacity to the available resources”:*

*“Improve the control and stop illegal fishing”:*

The cooperation in the fisheries section has been established within the four flagship projects (9.1, 9.2, 9.4 and 9.5)

### **Cooperative actions**

*“Develop sustainable strategies for wood”:*

The development takes place at various levels independently but in close cooperation with the EUSBSR. Activities are supported and facilitated by the Nordic Council of Ministers, and more concretely, through the cooperation structures of the Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee (SNS). Potentially, the development of sustainable strategies for wood is one of the main directions in the establishment of new Centres of Advanced Research (CAR) under the SNS. In the long run, the strategies developed would be placed in the broader context of national forest programmes or similar and / or national renewable energy plans, balancing supply of wood raw material to the forest-based industries, renewable energy development, nature conservation strategies and wood mobilisation.

- *“Enhance the combined effects of the Rural Development Programmes”:*

The coordinator is Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania. The principal participants of this common action are EU member state representatives from managing authorities (ministries) together with social, economic and institutional partners. A system

of joint learning and training will be addressed to public officers working with the Rural Development Programme (RDP) implementation. Final beneficiaries in the member states should be involved as well as they can identify the most urgent issues to be solved, Rural Networks and Managing Authorities will be invited to discuss together possible ways of simplification of implementation i.e. application processes, payments and funding etc.

State of play: Lithuania, as the coordinator of this common action, prepared a *Questionnaire on common action "CAP after 2013 - joint learning and training in implementation of the RDP"* in accordance with the coordinating area and sent it to the member states seeking to identify their concrete demands. The questionnaire was orientated to member state representatives from the managing authorities, their social and economic partners seeking to identify commonly actual questions, cooperation model, frequency of the meetings, etc.

Problems encountered and solutions found: all member states in the Baltic Sea Region have their own national or federal (regional) Rural Development Programmes. As the Member States elaborated their own National Strategic Plans and consequently Rural Development Programmes addressing their specific needs, the selections of measures and allocations of funds differ from Program to Program. The administrative systems for implementation also reflect a variation of possible solutions. Despite of existing flexibility within the RDPs, effective spending of the public money and achievement of the programme goals remain key challenge for all Member States. Moreover the common European framework leads to numerous similarities during the implementation of RDP, including both limitations and opportunities. According to this the decision to organise and implement this common action was taken.

The answers, prepared by member states, were generalised and the results presented during the meeting in Helsinki (the 17-18<sup>th</sup> of November 2010). The decision was taken once a year to organise the meeting for the representatives of the member states' managing authorities, dealing with the issues of the coordination and implementation of the rural development programmes. Hopefully it would help to implement rural development initiatives under the Baltic Sea region more effectively and to form more unanimous regional position according CAP and rural development issues.

Next steps: To identify the demand, possibilities (place (country) for the organisation of the first meeting of the officials from the managing authorities, responsible for the implementation and coordination of national rural development programmes for the period of 2007–2013.

Expected finalisation: the common action related to the future of Common Agricultural Policy after 2013 will concentrate on joint learning and training how to implement the Rural Development Programmes. Those activities will aim at both a better implementation of the on-going programme and collecting good ideas for a better rural development policy after 2013. The aim of the common action regarding the Common Agricultural Policy after 2013 is to advance improvement and better functioning RDPs in the Common Agricultural Policy after 2013. The joint learning about the state –of –the –art and new concept is the measure to achieve it.

- ***“Develop strategies for a sustainable use of and breeding with forest-, animal- and plant genetic resources”:***

Project "Management and conservation of forest tree genetic resources in the Baltic Sea" under the EFINORD flagship directly support this goal. The project consists of two sub-projects: evolutionary genetic pockets for broadleaved tree species and Cooperation in breeding of Norway spruce.

- ***“Animal health and disease control”***:

Activities in this field take place within the flagship project 9.11. *“Reinforcement of animal health and disease control”*.

- ***“Enhance the combined effects of the European Fisheries Fund (EFF) programmes”***:

The activities regarding fisheries take place within the flagship projects 9.1, 9.2, 9.4 and 9.5.

### **3. Progress for each flagship project**

Priority 9 includes the following flagship projects (the numbering in accordance with the EUSBSR Action Plan):

***9.1. “Develop and improve coordination and cooperation among Member States and stakeholders”***:

To develop and improve coordination and cooperation among Baltic Sea Member States and with stakeholders a fisheries forum within EU strategy for the Baltic Sea region is being developed. The forum is called BALTFISH. More specifically it aims at improving and strengthening coordination and cooperation of fisheries administrators among Baltic Sea member states, but also among the administrations and other key stakeholders relevant for the Baltic Sea fisheries. It is a forum with a regional perspective for exchanging ideas, views and information and a forum that can facilitate joint forces in various concrete projects aiming at achieving sustainable fisheries in the Baltic Sea.

The idea is to facilitate ongoing processes by enhanced information and communication, but also to find synergies between ongoing work within these bodies and the member states. This could be one way of avoiding duplication of work as well as avert potential misunderstandings and misinterpretations. The core of BALTFISH is a high level group (HLG) consisting of the fisheries directors of the Baltic Sea member states as well as the director of Baltic Sea fisheries at the Commission.

The high level group will meet on a regular basis to discuss issues of common interest. The high-level group may invite other stakeholders that are deemed relevant for the discussions in the group. This includes BSRAC, Helcom and ICES that are all key organisations in the management of fisheries in the Baltic Sea. A larger meeting is expected to be organised on a regional basis (e.g. once a year). Leader of this flagship project is the Swedish Ministry of

Agriculture. However, the chairmanship of Baltfish will change each year. The chairmanship of Baltfish HLG will change each year (i.e. 12 month period) starting with Sweden 2010/2011 then following in an agreed order among the member states. Sweden has the chair until 1 July 2011. Sweden proposes a clockwise order of the chair meaning SE, FIN (2011/12), EE 2012/13), LV (2013/14), LT (2014/15), PL (2015/16), DE (2016/17) and DK (2017/18).

The project is expected to continue without a pre-determined endpoint.

- The first BALTFISH-meeting was held in Stockholm 7-8 June, 2010. In addition to fisheries administrators, and abovementioned organisations, stakeholders including NGO:s and the industry as well as the scientific community participated.

- A second BALTFISH with the HLG was held in Ghent during in september 2010. The BALFISH organisation was discussed.

-The third BALTFISH-meeting was held at the second joint meeting for Priority Area 9 in Helsinki 21-22.1.2010. At the meeting the Commission (DG Mare) presented a draft paper for a roadmap for the eradication of cod discards in the Baltic Sea fisheries. The BALTFISH Forum welcomed the draft road map, and there was a preliminary discussion on the different issues and elements to be included in the road map. An open consultation on the draft ended 31 December 2010, and several contributions have been sent to the Commission. See more information Flag ship project 9.2

- A fourth BALTFISH meeting/workshop will be held during the summer 2011. A programme with issues on developing flag ship projects and current topics within the CFP will be finalized during spring 2011.

Small financial contributions have been mobilised from the Nordic Council of Ministers for workshops within the project.

## **9.2. “Eradicating discards”:**

The aim of eradicating discards in the Baltic Sea is to contribute to more healthy stocks and marine eco-systems, secure full economic potential of the goods provided by the sea, satisfy growing consumer demands for sustainable fisheries products and to gain a more reliable picture of the stock situation and thus strengthen the biological advice. There is a broad consensus in the EU that discards should be eradicated. Abolishing discards is also an important horizontal issue within the context of the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy.

The issue of discards in the Baltic Sea cod fishery was addressed at a workshop in Copenhagen, June 2009, and became a flagship project within the Baltic Sea Strategy in the autumn of 2009. The Baltic Sea Member States and the EU Commission decided in October 2009 to establish a technical working group to assess different measures and develop a roadmap to eradicate discards inter alia through the adoption of a discard ban as appropriate.

At the joint EUSBSR Priority 9 seminar and BALTFISH Forum meeting 18 November 2010, the Commission (DG Mare) presented a draft paper for a roadmap for the eradication

of cod discards in the Baltic Sea fisheries building among others on the conclusions from the technical working group. The road map contains an overview of issues such as scope and management relating to discarding in the Baltic Sea, and includes a timeline for the implementation of a combination of measures 2011 – 2013, by which year a discard ban in the cod fishery could be introduced following the stepwise approach laid down in the road map.

The BALTFISH Forum welcomed the draft road map, and there was a preliminary discussion on the different issues and elements to be included in the road map. An open consultation on the draft ended 31 December 2010, and several contributions have been sent to the Commission. Following this consultation process the Commission is expected to finalize the road map.

In addition, the Baltic Sea Regional Advisory Council held a technical workshop on bycatch management and the reductions of discards 9-10 February. The workshop focused on selectivity and challenges in the cod fishery, and brought together a mix of Baltic Sea participants from the industry and NGO's, scientists, netmakers, engineers and administrators. The meeting resulted in a list of recommendations for investigating and further improving the trawls used in the Baltic.

Project leader is the Danish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries. Depending on when the road map is in place to govern a process towards a discard ban in the Baltic Sea, flagship project 9.2 is expected to finish as appropriate by 2011.

### ***9.3. "Sustainable Rural Development"***

The project is aiming at an increased youth involvement in rural societies and a better innovation climate in rural areas. Connecting local, national and transnational projects within the Rural Development Program and mainly Leader, promoting the good practice and benchmarking in the member states while seeking for common solutions will help to make rural areas in Baltic Sea region more youth oriented and innovation- friendly.

The Baltic Sea Region is to be presented as a forerunner regarding youth in rural areas and innovation at a European conference at the end of 2012 or in the beginning of 2013.

During 2010 and the beginning of 2011 there have been three meetings to form the project idea and to select the participating local projects. The first meeting - Nordic/Baltic Rural Networks meeting was held in Latvia Apšuciems 28–30 April. A steering committee, "The captains crew", was formed and criteria for the local projects were decided.

In Warsaw 26-27 of Oct 2010 a second meeting was held with many project presentations and also two researchers giving their views of youth and rurality. A draft road map was decided including: arranging a workshop at the Priority 9 meeting in Helsinki in November, selection of at least two local/national projects per member state to be members in the flagship, a meeting with the selected projects in January 2011, common activities during 2011 and a Baltic Sea conference in the end of 2011 with the flagship themes.

The third meeting was held in Warsaw 25-26 January 2011 where 12 projects were represented forming the start group of the Flagship.

A problem encountered is that we have not managed to get participation from Germany. We are still trying to find relevant contacts in the Bundesländer touched by the EUSBSR

For the local activities the funding is secured but for the common actions such as planned conferences and workshops the funding is still not solved. We are investigating several possible solutions including Interreg and Youth in Action and other sources.

The next steps are the common activities performed individually by each member project followed by the general conference in the end of 2011 where decisions will be made for future common activities in 2012 and a final European Conference. During the whole period 2011-2012 new local projects are welcome to join and contribute to the Flagship by signing a letter of agreement where the terms of reference for participation are stated. By signing the agreement and implementing the stated common activities in the local project they become members of the Flagship.

#### **9.4. “Ensure sustainable fishing”:**

##### 9.4.1 The aim

The action plan for salmon management in the Baltic Sea has expired in 2010 and a new long term management plan (LTMP) will soon become focus for debate and negotiations. For a LTMP to ensure a sustainable fishing it has to adopt an ecosystem approach. The case of salmon characterizes of high diversity in terms of genetics, life cycle and habitats, fishing modalities and users affecting the salmon and the habitats essential for its survival. These are dimensions of high relevance to an ecosystem based LTMP.

This flagship project aims at contributing to the LTMP so that salmon populations are not driven into unsustainable situations and remain above the thresholds needed for long-term viability.

##### 9.4.2 Results so far

A planning process was run 2010. Different ideas were tested and discussed 2010. A concept paper on the rationale behind the case of Salmon was distributed and used as a base for discussion. Views have been gather from officers and experts working with salmon at DG-Mare, BALTFISH, ICES-WG-BAST, BS-RAC, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Coalition Clean Baltic, the HELCOM-SALAR project and the BALTGENE project.

A regional workshop will be held with salmon scientist and the SALAR HELCOM project in Helsinki 6-7 of October. Sida contribution will be used to cover the participation costs of participants from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Russia.

The workshop identified issues putting at risk the biological diversity of wild salmon populations and supporting unsustainable situations in the salmon fisheries.

<i>Emerging issues</i>
1. Risks involved in the stocking of salmon
2. Risks involved in mix salmon fisheries at sea
3. Lack of local fishery management in river mouths and coast
4. Illegal, un reported, unregulated fisheries

5.	Lack of genetic and migration patterns monitoring
6.	Lack of specific management targets for the individual rivers
7.	Lack of environmentally labeled common rules in the market

The preliminary results from the regional workshop were presented to the authorities and support was found to continue working on the impact assessment of discontinuing stocking.

#### 9.4.3 Problems encountered

The first problem found was the delays with the LTMP. The draft Baltic Salmon LTMP has not yet been public by the EU Commission and several actors have expressed the concern. This has delayed the work. Due to this, the flagship project was decided to work on the development of knowledge base around issues that are expected to be addressed by the LTMP. A second problem found is the absence of salmon national data collecting program in Russia. The third is the lack of time to prepare applications for funding. Finally, reorganization within the Swedish authority involved has delayed the process.

#### 9.4.4 Financing matters

Small contributions have been mobilised from the Swedish International Development Agency, Sida and the Nordic Council of Ministers.

#### 9.4.5 Next step and expected finalisation

The flagship is planning activities on impact assessments of discontinuing stocking.

### ***9.5. “Encourage sustainable aquaculture production methods”:***

Following the discussions at the second joint meeting for Priority Area 9 in Helsinki 21-22.1.2010 the planning of the aquaculture flagship project continued. The idea developed to have a project for preparing a “Code of Best Practices for Sustainable Aquaculture in the Baltic Region”. The group of experts would prepare a Draft Code to be presented at the Baltfish meeting in June 2011. The objective is to have a Code that is widely accepted and implemented in decisions that affect Baltic aquaculture.

The Code would set Baltic specific recommendations or standards for relevant aquaculture issues such as:

- Development of novel environmental policy enabling and facilitating recycling of phosphorus in the Baltic Sea Region by using feed made of pelagics or other fish caught in the Baltic Sea and development of the feed technology.
- Endorsement of large-scale and harmonized use of spatial planning tools for more favourable siting of cage farms. The objective of this is to reach economically viable farm sites with less local conflicts and environmental harms.
- Feasibility and implementation of robust cage farm technology for the more exposed off-shore sites, especially in the northern and western parts of the Baltic Sea.
- Feasibility and implementation of novel and moderate cost open-air recirculation systems for on-land farming, especially in the southern and eastern parts of the Baltic Sea.

- Development of the legal regulatory framework of the aquaculture, especially environmental licensing models on ecosystem approach, considering the net impacts on the sea and including economic incentives for concentration and relocation of units and use of environmentally sustainable feeds and technologies.

When the 4<sup>th</sup> call of the Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013 was opened the first December 2010, the flagship project started preparation of application to be submitted to the Programme. The main objective of the planned project is to provide operative tools to the implementation of the strategic goals defined in the Codes of Conduct and Codes on Practice.

The lead partner of the applied project is the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute and totally 11 partners from 7 BSR States are committed to participate the planned project.

### ***9.7. "Sustainable forest management in the Baltic Sea Region - EFINORD":***

The Flagship project of Sustainable forest management in the Baltic Sea Region was established under the newly founded EFINORD, the regional centre of the European Forest Institute (EFI). EFINORD interacts with EU especially in policy related issues and integrates forest research of the Nordic region into Europe. The network should focus on sustainable forest management, reflecting regional issues; primarily biomass production and ecosystem services, which are high on the agenda for forest owners, industry, and society at large. In this sense, EFINORD is well suited to facilitate cooperation and strengthen synergies between the forest projects under the EUSBSR including reporting and information exchange between the projects. EFINORD flagship consists of several independently implemented activities, or projects.

At a meeting for the projects within the EFINORD flagship in Helsinki November 18<sup>th</sup> 2010, the organisations involved in the Flagship coordination agreed to join in cooperation under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU presents a vision for the EFINORD Flagship, and outlines the modus operandi of cooperation, including the criteria to accept new projects to the EFINORD Flagship. The MoU is made between the Priority Area 9 Coordinator Finland, EFINORD, represented by EFI and the Nordic Council of Ministers, represented by the Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee (SNS).

At the beginning of 2011, there were seven projects (one with two subprojects) under the flagship. The projects are at various stages of project cycle. Project "**Hardwoods are good**" has received funding (1.2 million € from the South Baltic Programme) and implementation is underway. Four projects/activities ("**Improving market communication of wood products' environmental values**", "**Evolutionary genetic pockets for broadleaved tree species**", "**Cooperation in breeding of Norway spruce**" and "**Creating a Nordic-Baltic information service for forests and forestry**") have received seed-money from the Nordic Council of Ministers. The goal of the seed money granted to launch start-up phase and to further develop project activities. A pilot study of the project "**Forest management in Kaliningrad**" has been conducted. Of the remaining two projects "**Baltic landscape**" is seeking funding and "**Forestry and water protection**" is still at planning phase.

The main challenge for 2011 will be to ensure funding for the projects that are still in the phase of application or have only received seed money.

### **9.8. “Network of institutions for management and conservation of plant genetic resources (PRG) in the BSR under changing climate conditions”**

The project is lead by NordGen. The first workshop on network of institutions for conservation was arranged on 30<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 in Tallinn. One of the concrete outcomes was a joint Aegis application on conservation issues on rye. The next workshop on user stakeholders in the Baltic Sea Region has been decided to be postponed until spring 2012. This is due to obtain as much synergy as possible to a new PGR-Secure project, to the current Vavilov collaboration as well as to the new upcoming public-private partnership for pre-breeding.

More information on the progress and activities of this project will be provided later.

### **9.9. “Establish a Forum for Inventive and Sustainable Manure Processing – Baltic Manure”:**

Increased animal production has resulted in environmental problems such as algal bloom caused by manure based nutrient surplus and leaching to the Baltic Sea. Baltic Manure project will turn the perception of manure as an environmental problem into an opportunity for business innovation. The project develops and utilizes the high potential and know-how for innovative solutions for manure management, such as production of renewable energy, organic fertilizers and other added value products.

The project “Baltic Forum for Innovative Technologies for Sustainable Manure Management” (Baltic Manure) has received 3.7 million euro funding from the Baltic Sea Region Programme. The project is led by MTT Agrifood Research Finland with a total of 18 partners from 8 BSR countries. The project will be implemented 2010-2013.

Key messages from the project are:

- Baltic Manure is turning manure problems into business opportunities
- Baltic Manure is the Forum to bring together all stakeholders to improve manure handling and use in the Baltic Sea Region
- Baltic Manure improves knowledge, stimulates technology development and marketing and gives policy recommendations

Baltic Manure organized a workshop and a forum meeting on the theme “Agriculture” in the Third Priority 9 joint seminar, November 2010. The project’s kick-off meeting took place in Helsinki on 7-8 of February, 2011. Research activities have been set in motion and during the first phase they will include soil and manure sampling and farm surveys in all countries as well as technology overview and drawing scenarios for life cycle assessment of different manure handling chains. First business-to-business activities will be organized at Poleko Fair in 2011.

### **9.10. “Recycling of Phosphorus”:**

Recycling of Phosphorus became a Flagship project in 2010 and the aim is to start the actual work during 2011. Recycling of Phosphorus is an urgent challenge as it is estimated that the world's easily and economically usable phosphorus resources will last only for 50-150 years. At the same time, the phosphorus load on waters caused by agriculture is a cause for eutrophication. New practices on using an integrated approach should be developed to

minimize the leakage of nutrients/phosphorus and to maximise the recycling of all kind phosphorus resources in addition to manure.

The project will cover relevant aspects, which are not integral parts of the “Baltic MANURE” project. The leaders of the project are Julius Kühn-Institut Germany and Agrifood Research Finland (MTT). The next step of the project will be organisation of a workshop in June 2011 in Helsinki with potential experts and partners in the project; definition of assignments, operation charts and deliverables of each work package and partner as well as submission of project proposal and applying for funding. The expected finalisation of the project will be in 2013/2014.

#### **9.11. *“Reinforcement of animal health and disease control”***

The project is led by Nordic Council of Ministers. More information will be provided later.