

From Policy to Action!



CBSS Action Plan 2021 – 2025



A CBSS contribution to the implementation of “A Vision for the Baltic Sea Region by 2030” (Vilnius II Declaration) adopted by silent procedure on 21 May 2021.

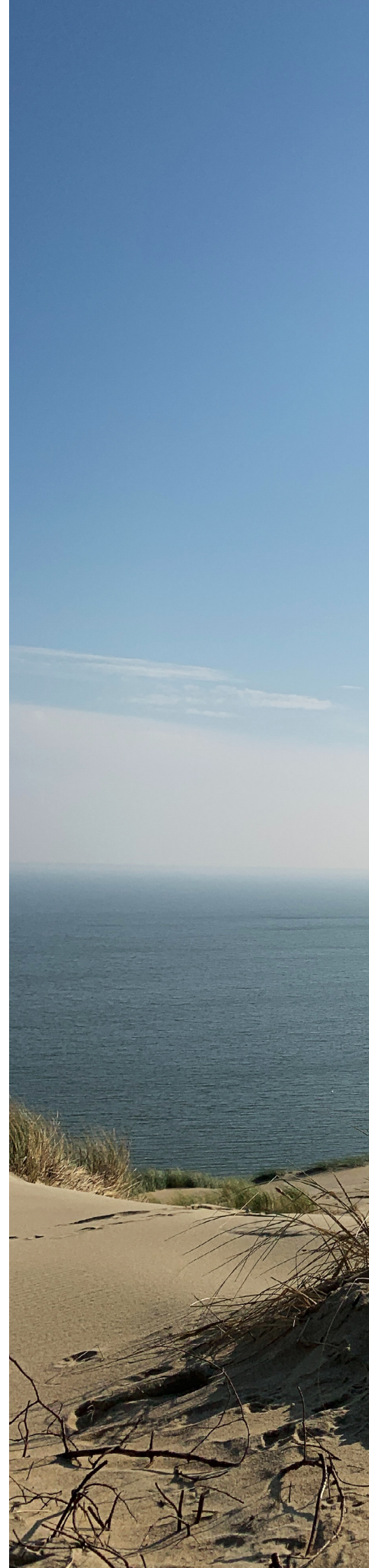
Introduction

In accordance with the CBSS Reforms agreed in the 2020 [Bornholm Declaration](#), and the three CBSS long-term priorities – Regional Identity, Safe & Secure Region and Sustainable & Prosperous Region¹ – CBSS will focus on delivering concrete results in areas in which CBSS cooperation is uniquely suited to add value, including in a reinforced cooperation with other international fora and formats active in the Baltic Sea region.

The actions covered by this Action Plan will contribute to the realization of objectives of the Vilnius II Declaration and the CBSS goals and objectives as decided by the Council on 20 June 2014. The Action Plan will cover activities during the period 2021-2025.

The list of actions included in this Plan will be reviewed by the CSO on a regular basis and, if necessary, updated with new actions deemed necessary to fulfil objectives of the Action Plan. A report on the implementation of the Action Plan will be presented in 2025.

¹Decision by the Council of the Baltic Sea States on a review of the CBSS long term priorities (adopted through silent procedure on 20 June 2014)





Regional Identity

Actions will focus on fostering active and meaningful participation by young people nurturing a shared regional identity and an enhanced sense of belonging to the Baltic Sea region.

Regional Identity of the Baltic Sea Region should be built on close collaboration and complementarity between regional actors and networks, inter alia among the 4 sister Councils of the North (CBSS, Arctic Council, Barents Euro-Arctic Council, Nordic Council of Ministers), and the Northern Dimension and its four partnerships.

Action	CBSS Actors	Other Actors	Timeline
<p>Baltic Sea Youth Platform (BSYP): creation of sustainable format for the platform, continued utilisation of BSYP for effective engagement of youth in the work of the CBSS and other regional organisations</p>	<p>CSO, line ministries, agencies, CBSS Secretariat</p>	<p>Universities, Baltic Sea Science Network, other education partners and NGOs, EUSBSR, BSPC, BSSSC, etc.</p>	<p>2021–2025</p>
<p>Creation of a virtual Information Point to improve the availability of information regarding regional cooperation within the Baltic Sea region</p>	<p>CBSS Secretariat</p>	<p>In collaboration with NCM, AC, BEAC, ND, subregional and other relevant regional partners</p>	<p>2021–2022</p>
<p>Support for Annual Baltic Sea NGO Forum</p>	<p>CBSS Secretariat</p>	<p>Baltic Sea NGO Network</p>	<p>2021–2022</p>
<p>Promoting cooperation in higher education, including CBSS Summer University</p>	<p>CSO, line ministries, agencies, CBSS Secretariat</p>	<p>Baltic Science Network (BSN), Baltic Sea Region University Network (BSRUN), other relevant high education partners in the BSR</p>	<p>2021–2022</p>
<p>Maintaining CBSS ties with relevant stakeholders active in the BSR cultural sphere via information sharing and synergies (e.g. Baltic Sea Cultural Cities)</p>	<p>CSO, line ministries, agencies, CBSS Secretariat</p>	<p>Consultations with other relevant regional partners (i.a. NDPC, EUSBSR PA Culture, BRHC, Ars Baltica)</p>	<p>2021–2022</p>



Safe & Secure Region

Actions will focus on building further on the successful cooperation regarding the protection of children and the fight against human trafficking, on developing further cooperation in civil security and on achieving closer links to regional efforts to fight cross-border organised crime.

Action	CBSS Actors	Other Actors	Timeline
Promoting cooperation among civil protection stakeholders , including strengthened capacity in regional prevention, preparedness and response against emergencies ²	CBSS Civil Protection Networks CBSS Secretariat	Relevant subregional and local stakeholders, other relevant regional formats i.a. EUSBSR PA Secure Research, training and education partners, NGOs	2021-2025
Promoting cooperation against trafficking in human beings ³	CBSS TF-THB CBSS Secretariat	Member states line ministries/agencies Academia, NGOs	2021-2025
Promoting cooperation aimed at protecting children and youth at risk ⁴	CBSS EG-CAR, CBSS Secretariat	Member states line ministries/agencies Academia, NGOs	2021-2025
Strengthening collaboration of the CBSS with BSRBCC, BSTF-OC and Baltic Sea States Networks of Prosecutors General and Prosecutors on Environmental Crime (ENPRO).	CSO, CBSS Secretariat in cooperation with CBSS line ministries/agencies	BSRBCC BSTF-OC BSN of Prosecutors General ENPRO	2021-2025

² In line with the Joint Position on Enhancing Cooperation in Civil Protection Area

³ In line with the CBSS TF-THB Strategic Plan 2020-2025

⁴ In line with the CBSS CAR Regional Strategy 2020-2025



Sustainable & Prosperous Region⁵

Actions will focus on building further on the successful cooperation on sustainable maritime economy, updating cooperation on sustainable development, promoting opportunities for young researchers, and building further on lessons learned regarding collaboration in relation to labour markets.

⁵In line with the CBSS Baltic 2030 Action Plan

Action	CBSS Actors	Other Actors	Timeline
<p>Promoting cooperation on i.a. clean shipping and sustainable tourism, interaction among cruising companies and bigger ports' infrastructures, cooperation among smaller local actors as harbours and marinas.</p>	<p>EGSME, line ministries, agencies, CSO, CBSS Secretariat</p>	<p>EGSME strategic partners, consultations with academia, business and other regional actors and stakeholders (esp. HELCOM, VASAB, NDPTL, EC DG Mare, CPMR-BSC), EUSBSR PA Ship</p>	<p>2021-2022</p>
<p>Sustainable Development, and review/extension of the mandate of the Expert Group on Sustainable Development based on accumulated experience and aligned with the CBSS reform decision.</p>	<p>EGSD, line ministries, agencies, CSO, CBSS Secretariat</p>	<p>Pan-Baltic organisations and cooperation platforms, academia, business and other regional and local actors and stakeholders, Eurostat, BSYP</p>	<p>2021-2022</p>
<p>Promoting cooperation in science, innovation, academic mobility – especially of young researchers⁶ by: maintaining outcomes of the implemented scientific projects as BSN and Baltic TRAM, creation of the informal cooperation platform on science and research, support for Annual BS Science Day and Award for young scientists</p>	<p>EGSD, line ministries, agencies, CSO, CBSS Secretariat.</p>	<p>Baltic Science Network members, EUSBSR PA Education, Northern Dimension Institute</p>	<p>2021-2022</p>
<p>Promoting labour collaboration in the BSR, especially creation of BSR labour mobility, addressing demographic changes, youth employment and building an inclusive labour market by inter alia: strengthening the BSLF, engaging social partners, maintaining the outcomes of the ESF-supported project Sustainable Working Life</p>	<p>EGSD, line ministries, agencies, CSO, Secretariat</p>	<p>Baltic Sea Labour Forum members and strategic partners, NDPHS, academia (i.a. Max Planck/Population Europe)</p>	<p>2021-2022</p>

⁶In accordance with the CBSS Science, Research and Innovation Agenda

Key Abbreviations Used in this Action Plan

AC – Arctic Council

BEAC – Barents Euro-Arctic Council

BRHC – Baltic Region Heritage Committee

BSLF – Baltic Sea Labour Forum

BSN – Baltic Science Network

BSPC – Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference

BSR – Baltic Sea Region

BSRUN – Baltic Sea Region University Network

BSSSC – Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation

BSYP – Baltic Sea Youth Platform

BSYD – Baltic Sea Youth Dialogue

CBSS – Council of the Baltic Sea States

CSO – Committee of Senior Officials (CBSS)

CPMR-BSC – Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions – Baltic Sea Commission

EUSBSR – European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

HELCOM – Helsinki Commission (Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission)

NCM – Nordic Council of Ministers

ND – Northern Dimension (NDPC – Northern Dimension Partnership on Culture, NDPTL – Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics,

NDPHS – Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being).

UBC – Union of Baltic Cities

VASAB – Vision and Strategies for the Baltic Sea Region (spatial planning)

