



# SUBMARINER Conference

## Gdańsk, Poland, 5- 6 September 2013

### Session C:

## Unlocking investments for bio-based economy

**Introductory statement and chair of the Session:** Joanna Przedrzymirska

**Perspectives of financial support for investments in bio-economy:**

- Ulrike Klose Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007–2013
- Ann Häger Swedish

**How to unlock investments – practitioners' points of view:**

- Odd Lindahl The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
- Kārlis Maulics Environmental Development Association, Latvia

# Introductory statement: Unlocking investments for a bio-based economy

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## WEAKNESSES

- Lack of experience on commercial implementation as there are only few commercial operations in place throughout the BSR;
- Limited and unreliable knowledge / evidence on economic efficiency, especially of use of marine resource as energy resource due to lack of empirical evidence;
- Relatively high transportation costs of energy produced from marine resources (relevance limited to coastal areas due to transportation costs);
- Long process for new products to achieve market appeal;
- Currently insufficient solutions of environmentally friendly and cost-effective technology;
- Lack of technology developments for BSR specific conditions in certain fields;
- Low technology transfer.

## THREATS

- Lack of willingness/incentives for public-private collaboration;
- Challenging framework for creation of new companies in this field;
- Limited duration and institutional discontinuity of public research projects;
- Lack of financial support due to current economic and financial crisis;
- Lack of political support at national level ensuring a stable level of energy prices from renewable sources;
- Competition from other countries (sea-basins) producing cheaper products;
- Lack of public support for sea-based products due to low awareness;
- Limited willingness of pharmaceutical industry to invest at early stage of product development;
- Lack of venture capital.

## Roadmap for the development of Polish coastal areas based on innovative uses of Baltic marine resources:

- companies' inability to invest in research and development;
- lack of funding for the various stages of the research, especially after conducting the basic research firms find it difficult to decide on the expensive continuation;
- lack of a comprehensive financing: too short public programs/projects cycles and the uncertainty about the continuation of these programs
- legal barriers: difficulties associated with setting up the own business and the problems with public-private partnership;
- need for appropriate policies at the national, regional and local levels;
- no (or insufficient) dialogue/cooperation of research institutions and companies with authorities of different levels. Some respondents drew a special attention to the barrier.

# SUBMARINER Actors & funding opportunities

## Baltic Sea actors and activities (Actors)

- **Objective:** Public and private actors involved in new marine uses know of each other and their activities and thus achieve better and faster results with less resources
- **Actors:** All stakeholders



## Unlock financing for innovative uses of marine resources (Finance)

- **Objective:** Improve access to finance for collaborative projects involving private and public stakeholders
- **Actors:** Private companies, maritime clusters, funding / financing bodies



## Pilot Sites for Empirical Research (Pilot sites)

- **Objective:** Create pilot sites around BSR for empirical research
- **Network Coordinator:** Environmental Development Association (LV) and KTH Royal Institute of Technology (SE)
- **Actors:** Regional and National funding organisations with research and industry, Local and regional business development parks, private companies, maritime clusters, municipalities, etc.



## ACTORS



- BSR-wide database on relevant actors,
- Identify linkages between natural and socioeconomic research and introduce research results of both disciplines to each other,
- Support actions for information and contact exchange among new marine use stakeholders,
- Integrate marine sectors into research and technology development projects.

## FINANCE



- Collaborate with investment funds, venture capital organisations, etc.,
- Improve relationship between public and private companies,
- Develop target and output oriented applications to both public and private funding programmes.

## PILOT SITES



- Foster communication, collaboration and technology transfer in and between BSR countries,
- Scout for pilot installations and technology providers,
- Enhance information exchange between technology providers and users,
- Foster technology developments.