

# Legal Regulatory Conditions: New Uses and EU Directives

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Ministry of Environmental Protection and  
Regional Development of Latvia,  
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# Scope of the Session

- Which legal and regulatory barriers are hindering the further development of marine uses in the Baltic Sea Region and which incentives should be established?
- How can the uncertainty about the legal and regulatory framework be reduced?
- Do we need a common policy approach throughout the Baltic Sea Region?

# Agenda

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- 15:30-15:45 **Introductory statement and chair of the session**  
*Māris Vītiņš, Academy of Agricultural and Forestry  
Sciences of Latvia*
- 15:45-16:05 **Water quality and aquaculture: legislative challenges  
in the Åland islands**  
*Petra Granholm, Government of Åland*
- 16:05-16:25 **Marine aquaculture in Latvia – experience and  
perspectives**  
*Ilze Rutkovska, Ministry of Agriculture, Latvia*
- 16:25-16:45 **Legal barriers and uncertainties when harvesting  
reed**  
*Arvo Iital, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia*
- 16:45-17:05 **Spatial planning for mariculture – SUBMARINER  
experience**  
*Jacek Zaucha, Maritime Institute in Gdańsk, Poland*
- 17:05-17:30 **Discussion, closing of session**
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## Which legal and regulatory barriers are hindering the further development of marine uses in the Baltic Sea Region and which incentives should be established?

*Spatial conflicts with other uses (including traditional uses) in coastal areas could lead to insufficient availability of marine space*

- elaboration of effective spatial plans
- introduction of IMTA systems in mariculture
- combined use of marine space (wind parks, wave energy installations, mariculture systems)
- EU initiatives, corresponding legislation on national and local level



**Which legal and regulatory barriers are hindering the further development of marine uses in the Baltic Sea Region and which incentives should be established?**

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*Nutrients trading. Nutrients removal from marine environment by macroalgae and reed harvesting, macroalgae cultivation, mussel farming. Low profitability of new activities.*

No regulations on incentives for ecosystem services

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## Which legal and regulatory barriers are hindering the further development of marine uses in the Baltic Sea Region and which incentives should be established?

*Limited tradition for mariculture and their products throughout BSR – and correspondingly lack of detailed legal regulatory*

- EU initiatives in relation to decreasing the unnecessary regulatory burden in aquaculture, simplifying the licensing and permission procedures by coastal states
- Mariculture has to be included in national strategies of aquaculture development in 2014-2020



## Do we need a common policy approach throughout the Baltic Sea Region?

*Large-Scale microalgae cultivation for biofuel, Blue Biotechnology, wave energy and sustainable fish aquaculture are among the new marine uses for which enormous growth and market potential is anticipated not only at European, but even global scale*

While these sectors may be significantly fostered by specific sub-regional approaches (i.e. cluster building), their development would greatly benefit from a higher level, Baltic Sea Region wide, cooperation. Therefore we need Baltic Sea wide strategy for the implementation of Blue Biotechnology around the Baltic Sea, which is aligned with EU level developments, we need establishment of the “Baltic Sea Region Blue Biotechnology Network”



# SUBMARINER Network Action Plan

## SUBMARINER Roadmap - 5.10 Create better legal and regulatory conditions (Regulation)

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Reduce vagueness in current legislation and regulations in view of innovative uses of marine resources;

### **NETWORK COORDINATOR:**

Maritime Institute in Gdańsk (PL) and Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SE);

### **ACTORS:**

Responsible national and regional authorities, relevant research institutions;



# SUBMARINER Network actions

- Assess the existing integration of innovative uses of marine resources in relevant EU Directives;
- Establish a dialogue with relevant national authorities and respective EU COM Directorates;
- Foster a joint interpretation on how to reach targets set by the relevant EU Directives (e.g. Natura 2000, WFD, MSFD) with regard to “harvesting” marine resources (e.g. macroalgae, reed);
- Consider how new uses of marine resources shall be taken into account in Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans (i.e. develop pilot plans in various regions, develop criteria for “suitable sites”);
- Draw recommendations for BSR policy development on Baltic Sea resources uses;



# SUBMARINER Network actions

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More opinions on legal and regulatory  
barriers?

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