

INTERREG Central Baltic - Coast4us project

Status: In progress

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INTERREG

Project name: Coast4us

The project aims to develop a new, innovative, comprehensive and local needs-based planning approach for the development of marine and coastal areas in Finland, Latvia, Sweden and Estonia.

The project involves municipalities, universities, public authorities from Finland, Latvia, Sweden and Estonia. The leading partner of the project is the Regional Council of Östergötland in Sweden, while partners from Latvia are Carnikava, Saulkrasti and Salacgrīva Municipalities, Riga Technical University (RTU) and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (MEPRD).

Within the framework of the project, through practical and educational activities, it is intended to develop a high-quality dialogue and cooperation between the actors involved in the development planning process, in particular focusing on the level of the local community, thereby contributing to a development planning approach based on local needs. The main activities are planned in pilot sites of Carnikava, Saulkrasti and Salacgrīva, where planned solutions will be implemented as well as mapping of existing and potential values preformed will take place.

Within the framework of this project, a new Geographic Information System (GIS) and Information Technology (IT) tool will be developed and evaluated by RTU. Whereas MEPRD will prepare an educational material for development planning at community level including activities for public involvement and participation based on existing experience and knowledge. Using the educational material, MEPRD will organize a series of interactive workshops on community level development planning involving local communities, various stakeholders, development planners and politicians. As well as MEPRD will gather examples of good practice by assessing the results achieved by local government pilot sites and including them in methodological material on community level development planning, ensuring linkage with local development planning documents and disseminating best practices, including the organization of an international conference to ensure the linkage of community planning with local government development planning documents.

On the basis of the results of the project, proposals will be made for regional policy settings after 2020, for amendments to the regulatory enactments regulating territorial development and for improvement of methodological materials, to improve the involvement of the public in the planning and implementation process of territorial development.

Project implementation period: January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2020

Total project costs: 146 180 EUR (including 122 791.20 ERDF funding, 23 388.80 own funding)

Target groups.

- Primary target groups are the Latvian coastal municipalities and local communities.
- Secondary target groups are Latvian state institutions, local government politicians, territorial development planners and other legal and natural persons.

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The first partner meeting of the project Coast4us in Linköping and Arko Island, Sweden (14.03.2018.)

<https://www.varam.gov.lv/en/projects/interreg-central-baltic-coast4us-project>