



SENIOR OFFICIALS GROUP BUREAU
Twenty-fourth Meeting
Riga, Latvia
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SOG Bureau 24/3.2/Info 3

Item 3.2

LHP Consultant's progress report for 24 May to 24 August 2006

Submitted by: LHP Consultant
Requested action: for information

Note by the Secretariat:

The following progress report has been submitted by the LHP Consultant and covers the period from 24 May to 24 August 2006.

The Meeting is invited to **take note** of the progress report.

LHP Consultant Progress Report for the period from 24 May 2006 (after the Baltic 21 SOG 24) until 24 August 2006

Based on the Terms of Reference of her contract signed in July 2006 concerning her part-time employment to Baltic 21, the LHP Consultant has carried out the following activities within the framework of this contract within the period starting after the Baltic 21 SOG 24 up until 24th August 2006.

The main focus of the LHP Consultant work lied on the development of the response of Baltic 21 to the JPC within the public consultation process for the new INTERREG BSR Programme (2007-2013), which will be submitted not later than by 15th September 2006. For this purpose she has carried out the following tasks:

1. Revision / commenting of the first response of Baltic 21 prepared by the Baltic 21 Secretariat and submitted to the JPC by 26th May 2006 announcing the input of Baltic 21 as regards strategic project proposals to be submitted by 15th September 2006 to the JPC.

⇒ It should be noted that this response has already initiated a further consultation process going beyond the mere written procedure: on 21st September 2006 the JPC has invited Baltic 21 to present its strategic project proposals to the JPC within a meeting scheduled in Kiel.

2. Analysis of 'best practice' examples on how strategic projects have already been included into other programmes in other areas.

⇒ Consultation of Programming Teams for INTERREG NorthSea and CADSES region on their approaches to strategic projects (June).

3. Preparation of initial strategic project proposals covering potential partner structures, project activities and their fit into the given priority lines as spelled out in the current 2nd Draft Programme version and presentation and discussion thereof during the first WGLHPT meeting, which took place in Stockholm 11th July 2006.

=> please see Overhead Files distributed via the Baltic 21 web and the respective WGLHPT 1 minutes.

4. Analysis of relevant framework policies, existing projects, organisational structures and major action lines within the given four priority themes (i.e. analysis of ETAP, EU Biomass Action Plan, EU SDS, UN Decade, UNECE structures, ESD policy papers, BASREC policy papers, Green Procurement Programmes, activities of ICLEI, etc.).

5. Identification, approach and – where necessary or deemed useful - further discussions on given priority themes with selected experts: Baltic 21 Institute (Uwe Fortkamp, Östen Ekengren), BLA21F (Bjarne Rasmussen, Tyge Kjalve), BASREC (Per Hogstrom), German UNESCO Commission (Alexander Leicht, Gabriele Schack), BASREC joint implementation working group (Mr. Forth), Agriculture Sector (Ewald Schnug), Forest Sector (Lars Andersson), UBC (Stella Aaltonen), Russian Industry Sector (Mikhail Artamonov), German Ministry of Environment (Lena Ruthner).

6. Preparation of the following documents submitted on preliminary ground for discussion to a variety people and on a final basis to Baltic 21 (as of 24th August 2006):

⇒ Separate Project Fiches on each of the four identified Strategic Projects.

⇒ Commented Version of 2nd Draft programme.

⇒ Revised Chapter 6.3. on Strategic Projects.

⇒ Cover Note for submission to JPC.

7. In addition, the LHP Consultant has offered her assistance to the Baltic 21 Secretariat in developing a possible project proposal to be submitted on 16th October 2006 in the framework of the 9th call for INTERREG BSR NP projects to be financed from the Tacis Programme to receive finance for a Baltic 21 Eco-Region Campaign in the range of EUR 600,000 – 900,000.