

# Climate financing analysis in the EUSBSR

*Summary report*

*8.3.2022*



# Climate financing analysis in the EUSBSR

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**01**

# **Introduction and summary**





# Background and need

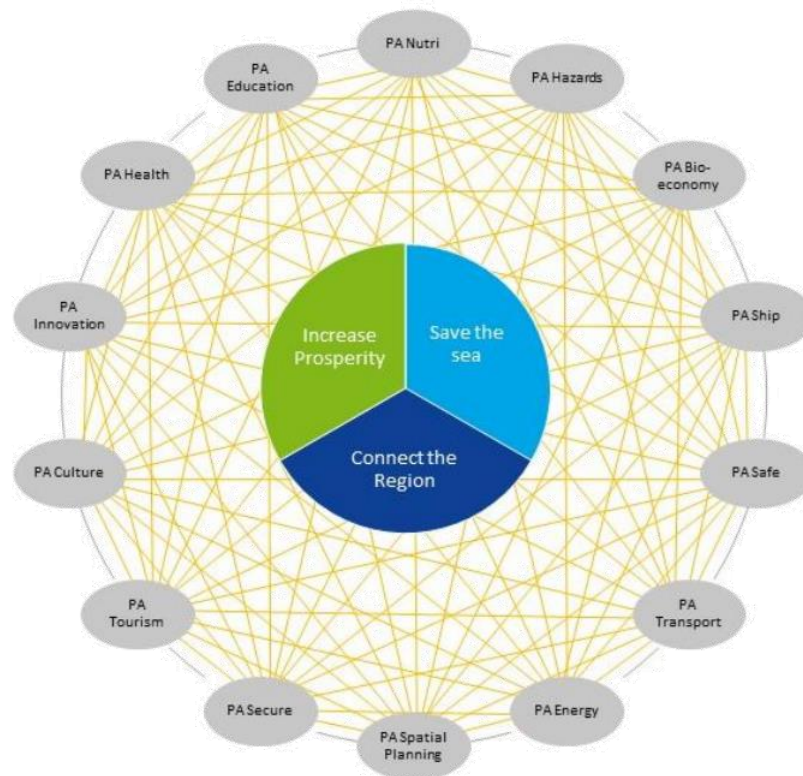


Centrum Balticum Foundation coordinates Baltic Sea region cooperation.

One of the key projects is Let's Communicate! that aims to support the governance and communication of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR), and the implementation of its Action Plan.

One of the related activities is to **support the EUSBSR Policy Areas in contributing on climate change mitigation and adaptation of the European Green Deal and the objective of making the EU climate-neutral** in their respective thematic fields.

Let's Communicate! Project aims to analyse solutions how and in which combinations the various programmes and Policy Areas could cooperate and to assist the Policy Areas in incorporating these solutions in their respective work plans.



Due to their cross-cutting nature and increased importance, **climate change aspects and cooperation with neighbouring non-EU countries** are mainstreamed as essential elements into all 14 policy areas.

**Policy Areas (PA)** are the main entities of implementing the Action Plan of the EUSBSR.

To ensure sufficient support to achievement of EUSBSR objectives, their main tools are cooperating with policy makers, funding instruments, projects, and processes.

**Policy Area Coordinators (PAC)** are the key operational stakeholders of the EUSBSR at the policy area level, ensuring the implementation of the Strategy with support and guidance of their respective Steering Groups (SG).

They facilitate and serve as a strong liaison between their PA groups of actors by offering a platform for exchanging and coordinating initiatives, stakeholders, policy processes and information.



# Objectives of the work

*Let's Communicate!* contracted Finnish Consulting Group (FCG) to conduct the Climate Financing Analysis in the EUSBSR.

The assignment focused on **climate issues and related co-operation of Policy Areas with European Territorial Cooperation programmes, i.e. Interreg and Cross-Border.**

The aim was to provide the Policy Areas with an easy way to identify which of the 20 programmes could be useful for them without having to collect and analyse the programmes by themselves.

In simple terms, the idea was to collect, analyse and package the information into a usable form instead of just sending hundreds of pages of programme documents and priorities.

## MAIN OBJECTIVE:

**To produce concise and to-the-point information which the Policy Areas can use to find relevant funding sources for their climate-relevant activities.**

**FOCUS:**  
Interreg  
Cross-border



## WORKING PROCESS



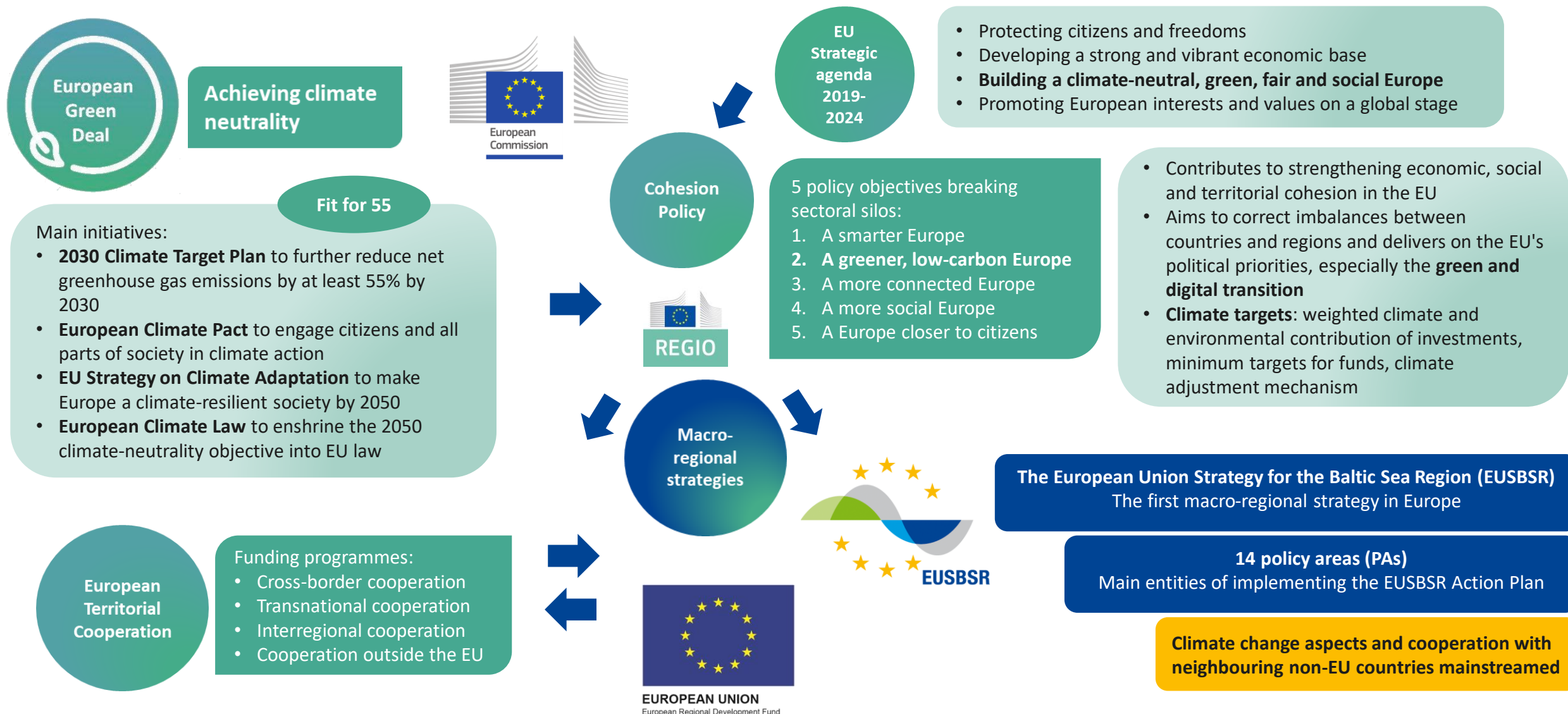


## 02 Strategic framework





# Big picture – the European Green Deal sets the framework





# 03

## Analysis and cross-referencing





# PAAs and programmes addressed

## POLICY AREAS

PA Nutri
PA Hazards
PA Bioeconomy
PA Ship
PA Safe
PA Transport
PA Energy
PA Spatial planning
PA Secure
PA Tourism
PA Culture
PA Innovation
PA Health
PA Education

## PROGRAMMES (20 in focus)

Interreg Aurora
Interreg Central Baltic
Interreg Deutschland-Danmark
Interreg Latvia-Belarus
Interreg Lithuania-Poland
Interreg Sverige-Norge
Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme
Interreg Baltic Sea Region
Interreg Central Europe
Interreg Latvia-Lithuania
Interreg North Sea Region
Interreg Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak
Poland-Belarus-Ukraine CBC
Interreg Brandenburg-Poland
Interreg Czech Republic-Poland (activities)
Interreg Estonia-Latvia
Interreg Latvia-Russia
Interreg South Baltic
Kolarctic CBC
South-East Finland Russia CBC

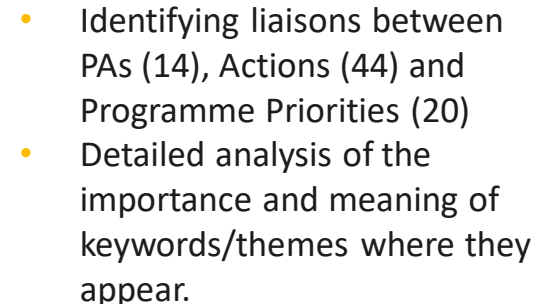
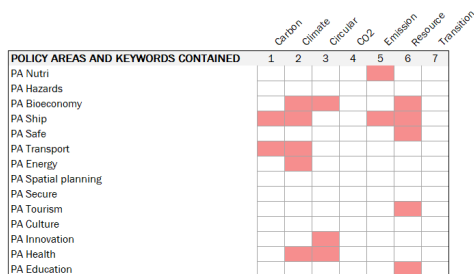
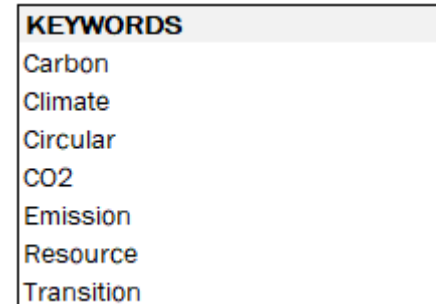
Why 20 and not 28 programmes?

Because when starting the assignment in September 2021, 20 of the programme documents were completely or almost ready.

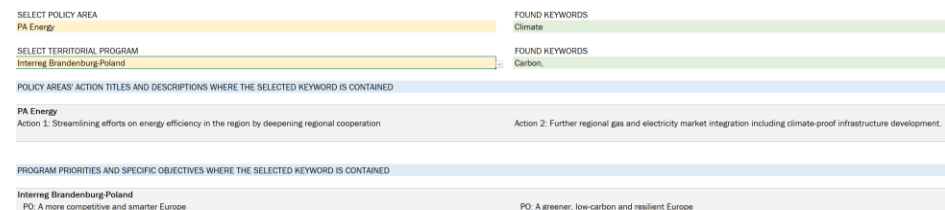
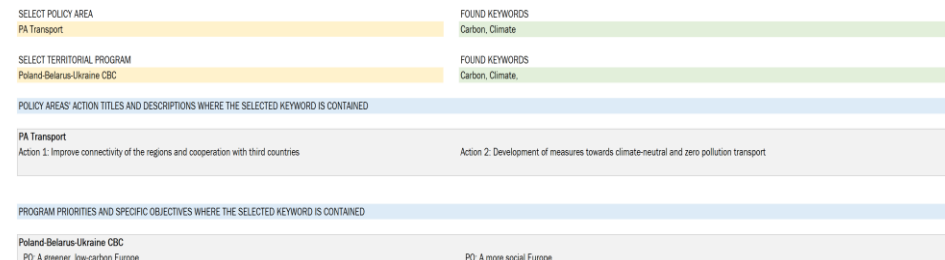
Why not studying other EU funding instruments?

Because the resources are limited, and you must start from somewhere.






- ➡ Presentation of the draft materials and analysis
- ➡ PAC feedback and comments, joint discussion and conclusions





# Cross-referencing process: Starting point

## EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region actions



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Brussels, 15.2.2021  
SWD(2021) 24 final

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

ACTION PLAN [COM(2009) 248 final]

Revised Action Plan replacing the Action Plan of 17 March 2017 - SWD(2017) 118 final

EN

EN



### STEP 1: EUSBSR actions were collected into a master table



<b>NUTRI (FINLAND and POLAND)</b>			
<b>Action 1: Reduce nutrient emissions from agriculture and other diffuse sources</b>	<b>Action 2: Reduce nutrient emissions from urban areas and other point sources</b>	<b>Action 3: Develop and promote safe and sustainable nutrient recycling</b>	<b>Action 4: Address nutrients already accumulated in the Baltic Sea</b>
<p>* Support implementation of the updated HELCOM BSAP. * Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" to address all nutrient inputs at source. * Communication of achievements, needs and results in EUSBSR channels and in Baltic Sea countries. * Organising workshops and other stakeholder events whenever it is necessary.</p>	<p>* Support implementation of the updated HELCOM BSAP. * Communication of achievements, needs and results in EUSBSR channels. * Organising workshops and other stakeholder events whenever it is necessary.</p>	<p>* Support promotion and implementation of the HELCOM Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy. * Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" regarding nutrient recycling in order to reduce the losses of nutrients into the Baltic Sea. * Communication of achievements, needs and results to the Baltic Sea countries. * Organising workshops and other stakeholder events whenever it is necessary (for e.g. workshop in February 2020 with HELCOM as part of the elaboration of the Regional Nutrient Recycling strategy).</p>	<p>* Support development of activities in line with the HELCOM work on regional principles and risk assessment framework for management of internal nutrient reserves. * Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" regarding internal nutrient reserves. * Communication of the needs and methods to the Baltic Sea countries. * Organising workshops and other stakeholder events whenever it is necessary.</p>
<b>HAZARDS (SWEDEN)</b>			
<b>Action 1: Prevent pollution and reduce the use of hazardous substances</b>	<b>Action 2: Mitigate new and remediate historic contamination</b>	<b>Action 3</b>	<b>Action 4</b>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Micropollutants in wastewater, storm water and sludge (ongoing) <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Leadership Programme on highly fluorinated substances in the Baltic Sea Region <input type="checkbox"/> Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" to promote preventive or mitigation measures to reduce chemical pollution to levels no longer harmful for human health and the environment.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Dioxin 2; <input type="checkbox"/> CONTAMINATE: Clustering knowledge, expertise and data from ongoing projects, platforms and networks on contaminated sediments (planned) <input type="checkbox"/> Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" to promote preventive or mitigation measures to reduce chemical pollution to levels no longer harmful for human health and the environment, and to address the issue of hazardous submerged objects in the Baltic Sea</p>	x	x
<b>BIOECONOMY</b>			
<b>Action 1: Strengthen the role and importance of bioeconomy for achieving increased sustainability, productivity and adaptation to climate change as well as resilience, including climate resilience in ecosystems.</b>	<b>Action 2: Improving agricultural practices for sustainability and adaptation (e.g. to climate change) in a sustainable and resilient growing bio-economy.</b>	<b>Action 3: Strengthen multiple use of resources through cross-cutting and cross-sectoral approaches to release potential and accelerate the development of a sustainable circular bio-economy</b>	<b>Action 4</b>
<p>Seminars and workshops, deliver a report describing the macro trends in the region; communication activities such as podcasts and short videos; new flagship process on blue growth; initiating new cooperation projects for sustainable use of biomass, new pilot project on biodiversity in the Baltic Sea region.</p>	<p>- Improved water management in agriculture and forestry, for better adaptation to the increasing floods and droughts hazards. - Activities to improve adaptation of peatlands in the Baltic Sea region. - Energy self-sustainability of farms. - Continuation of the current and earlier nutrient recycling projects. There is a need for further actions in recycling of nutrients contributing to a cleaner Baltic Sea. The activities will be implemented in cooperation and consistency with the new HELCOM strategy for nutrient recycling that is currently under preparation.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Support implementation of the European strategy for a sustainable bio-economy; <input type="checkbox"/> Identify methods and models to extract more value out of limited resources; <input type="checkbox"/> Identify challenges, limitations and opportunities to increase multiple use of resources; <input type="checkbox"/> Visualise the potential of different sectors and actors to enhance multiple use of resources through cross-cutting and cross-sectoral approaches; <input type="checkbox"/> Support knowledge sharing and increase awareness of non-market benefits and added value of multiple use of resources; <input type="checkbox"/> Identify importance of policy instruments and alignment of funding sources; <input type="checkbox"/> Develop management strategies and plans using geographic information system and digital tools.</p>	x
<b>SAFE (FINLAND and DENMARK)</b>			
<b>Action 1: Providing reliable navigational conditions to the Baltic Sea</b>	<b>Action 2: Developing winter navigation to meet future challenges</b>	<b>Action 3: To be a forerunner in digitalisation and automation</b>	<b>Action 4: Ensure accurate preparedness and response for maritime accidents and security issues</b>
<p>The new Flagships can include: i) developing new innovations based on more accurate bathymetry data, ii) training of maritime personnel to use COGIS equipment and promoting the utilisation of more accurate bathymetry data in such equipment, iii) resurveys in shallow waters to provide more accurate data for leisure crafts and fairway planning, iii) facilitation of enriching electronic navigational charts with dynamic data and building a digital model of physical transport infrastructure as well as facilitation of adoption of interfaces developed in the STM project iv) development and utilisation of Baltic Sea as a test bed in transport system level automation pilots.</p>	<p>The future flagships can include: i) developing intelligent transport systems (ITS) solutions for winter navigation, ii) further development of training both for merchant vessels and icebreaker operators and iii) developing more advanced ship simulators and training courses for winter navigation.</p>	<p>The actions can include: i) reinforcement of fundamental functions of vessels; ii) enhancement of communication between vessels as well as vessels and shore facilities; iii) new and improved services that enhance operations both on-board ships and for shore based facilities; iv) development of maritime education curricula to meet future requirements; v) better training of personnel regarding to use of new digital technologies; vi) improved understanding of interaction between human and automatic autonomous system in different conditions; vii) developing robust risk management measures to mitigate cyber threats and viii) establishing a test area to the Baltic Sea for autonomous shipping.</p>	<p>The actions can include: i) improve coordination of crisis management capacities and resources; ii) improved co-operation and sharing of real-time information in order to increase Maritime Situational Awareness among authorities and other stakeholders in order to make SAG-operations more efficient; iii) improved safety of the search and rescue authorities and services; iv) improved availability of ships' cargo information related to oil, HSN and IMDG cargoes on-board; v) advancing the implementation of safety management systems and good safety culture in shipping companies for accident prevention and vi) developing robust risk management measures against security risks.</p>
<b>SHIP (DENMARK)</b>			
<b>Action 1: Support measures including digitalisation in reducing emissions from shipping</b>	<b>Action 2: Support research on emerging thematic challenges related to clean shipping and its impact on the environment and wildlife in the Baltic Sea</b>	<b>Action 3: Support development of shore-side facilities to enhance clean shipping measures including infrastructure for climate-neutral and clean fuels.</b>	<b>Action 4</b>
<p>Strategic priorities in this action include: i) actions to develop or improve technical installations on board ships to clean harmful emissions from ships; ii) issues of enforcement of environmental regulation for ships operating in the Baltic Sea; iii) improved monitoring of ship emissions (better target actions and regulations); iv) improving energy efficiency; v) actions to deploy propulsion systems and bunkering infrastructure for carbon-neutral, clean maritime fuels; vi) development of economic incentive schemes to reduce the environmental impact; vii) improved capacity and competence to address climate neutral and clean shipping.</p>	<p>Strategic priorities in this action include: i) actions to identify the impact of shipping on the environment in the Baltic Sea in line with and beyond relevant developments in the framework of the international maritime organisation; ii) research &amp; development of technical installations on board ships to ensure a less harmful impact on environment and wildlife; iii) development of efficient policy recommendations to address emerging challenges related to shipping; iv) increase scientific knowledge and support research; v) address and possibly reduce pollution by hazardous substances, invasive alien species (IAS) and plastics from maritime activities.</p>	<p>Strategic priorities in this action include: i) contribute to the development of a regional infrastructure related to shore-side and climate-neutral and clean fuels; ii) develop reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and cross border infrastructure; iii) upgrade infrastructure in passenger- and industrial ports and retrofit industries to make them sustainable; iv) increase resource efficiency; v) greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes; vi) improve port reception facilities and their ability to treat and separate waste from ships and marine litter brought to land; vii) support the improvement of waste separation and handling on board ships.</p>	x



# Cross-referencing process: Identifying relevant keywords

## Policy areas and territorial programmes



STEP 2: FCG working group selected relevant keywords linked with climate strategy

Then search tools provided by Microsoft Excel were used to validate whether these keywords were contained within Policy Areas and Actions.

- Conditional Formatting...
- Highlight Cells Rules...
- Text that Contains...

As a result, a keyword list was created.



<b>NUTRI (FINLAND and POLAND)</b> <b>Action 1: Reduce nutrient emissions from agriculture and other diffuse sources</b>  * Support implementation of the updated HELCOM BSAP. * Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" to address all nutrient inputs at source. * Communication of achievements, needs and results in EU/BSR channels and in Baltic Sea countries. * Organising workshops and other stakeholder events whenever it is necessary.			
<b>Action 2: Reduce nutrient emissions from urban areas and other point sources</b>  * Support implementation of the updated HELCOM BSAP. * Communication of achievements, needs and results in EU/BSR channels. * Organising workshops and other stakeholder events whenever it is necessary.		<b>Action 3: Develop and promote safe and sustainable nutrient recycling</b> * Support promotion and implementation of the HELCOM Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy. * Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" regarding nutrient recycling in order to reduce the losses of nutrients into the Baltic Sea. * Communication of achievements, needs and results to the Baltic Sea countries. * Organising workshops and other stakeholder events whenever it is necessary (for e.g. workshop in February 2020 with HELCOM as part of the elaboration of the Regional Nutrient Recycling strategy).	<b>Action 4: Address nutrients already accumulated in the Baltic Sea</b>  * Support development of activities in line with the HELCOM work on regional principles and risk assessment framework for management of internal nutrient reserves. * Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" regarding internal nutrient reserves. * Communication of the needs and methods to the Baltic Sea countries. * Organising workshops and other stakeholder events whenever it is necessary.
<b>HAZROD (SWEDEN)</b> <b>Action 1: Prevent pollution and reduce the use of hazardous substances</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Micropollutants in wastewater, storm water and sludge (ongoing) <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Leadership Programme on highly fluorinated substances in the Baltic Sea Region <input type="checkbox"/> Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" to promote preventive or mitigation measures to reduce chemical pollution to levels no longer harmful for human health and the environment, and to address the issue of hazardous submerged objects in the Baltic Sea			
<b>Action 2: Mitigate new and remediate historic contamination</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Dioxin 2, <input type="checkbox"/> CONTAMINATE: Clustering knowledge, expertise and data from ongoing projects, platforms and networks on contaminated sediments (planned) <input type="checkbox"/> Achievement of commitments from "Our Baltic Declaration" to promote preventive or mitigation measures to reduce chemical pollution to levels no longer harmful for human health and the environment, and to address the issue of hazardous submerged objects in the Baltic Sea		<b>Action 3</b>  x	<b>Action 4</b>  x
<b>BIOECONOMY</b> <b>Action 1: Strengthen the role and importance of bioeconomy for achieving increased sustainability, productivity and adaption to climate change as well as resilience, including climate resilience in ecosystems.</b>			
<b>Action 2: Improving agricultural practices for sustainability and adaptation (e.g. to climate change) in a sustainable and resilient growing bio-economy.</b>  - Improved water management in agriculture and forestry, for better adaptation to the increasing floods and droughts hazards - Activities to improve adaptation of peatlands in the Baltic Sea region - Energy self-sustainability of farms - Continuation of the current and earlier nutrient recycling projects. There is a need for further actions in recycling of nutrients contributing to a cleaner Baltic Sea. The activities will be implemented in cooperation and consistency with the new HELCOM strategy for nutrient recycling that is currently under preparation.		<b>Action 3: Strengthen multiple use of resources through cross-cutting and cross-sectoral approaches to release potential and accelerate the development of a sustainable circular bio-economy</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Support implementation of the European strategy for a sustainable bio-economy; <input type="checkbox"/> Identify methods and models to extract more value out of limited resources; <input type="checkbox"/> Identify challenges, limitations and opportunities to increase multiple use of resources; <input type="checkbox"/> Visualise the potential of different sectors and actors to enhance multiple use of resources through cross-cutting and cross-sectoral approaches; <input type="checkbox"/> Support knowledge sharing and increase awareness of non-market benefits and added value of multiple use of resources; <input type="checkbox"/> Identify importance of policy instruments and alignment of funding sources; <input type="checkbox"/> Develop management strategies and plans using geographic information system and digital tools.	<b>Action 4</b>  x
Seminars and workshops; deliver a report describing the macro trends in the region; communication activities such as podcasts and short videos; new flagship process on blue growth; initiating new cooperation projects for sustainable use of biomass, new pilot project on biodiversity in the Baltic Sea region.			
<b>SAFE (FINLAND and DENMARK)</b> <b>Action 1: Providing reliable navigational conditions to the Baltic Sea</b>			
<b>Action 2: Developing winter navigation to meet future challenges</b>  The future flagships can include: i) developing intelligent transport systems (ITS) solutions for winter navigation, ii) further development of training both for merchant vessels and icebreaker operators and iii) developing more advanced ship simulators and training courses for winter navigation.		<b>Action 3: To be a forerunner in digitalisation and automation</b> The actions can include: i) reinforcement of fundamental functions of vessels; ii) enhancement of communication between vessels as well as vessels and shore facilities; iii) new and improved services that enhance operations both on-board ships and for shore based facilities; iv) development of maritime education curricula to meet future requirements; v) better training of personnel regarding to use of new digital technologies; vi) improved understanding of interaction between human and automatic/autonomous system in different conditions; vii) developing robust risk management measures to mitigate cyber threats and viii) establishing a test area to the Baltic Sea for autonomous shipping.	<b>Action 4: Ensure accurate preparedness and response for maritime accidents and security issues</b>  The actions can include: i) improve coordination of crisis management capacities and resources; ii) improved co-operation and sharing of real-time information in order to increase Maritime Situational Awareness among authorities and other stakeholders in order to make SAR-operations more efficient; iii) improved safety of the search and rescue authorities and services; iv) improved availability of ships' cargo information related to oil, HSN and IMDG cargoes on-board; v) advancing the implementation of safety management systems and good safety culture in shipping companies for accident prevention and vi) developing robust risk management measures against security risks.
The new Flagships can include: i) developing new innovations based on more accurate bathymetry data, ii) training of maritime personnel to use ECDIS equipment and promoting the utilisation of more accurate bathymetry data in such equipment, iii) resurveys in shallow waters to provide more accurate data for leisure crafts and ferryway planning, iv) facilitation of enriching electronic navigational charts with dynamic data and building a digital model of physical transport infrastructure as well as facilitation of adoption of interfaces developed in the STM project.v) development and utilisation of Baltic Sea as a test bed in transport system level automation pilots.			
<b>SHIP (DENMARK)</b> <b>Action 1: Support measures including digitalisation in reducing emissions from shipping</b>			
<b>Action 2: Support research on emerging thematic challenges related to clean shipping and its impact on the environment and wildlife in the Baltic Sea</b>  Strategic priorities in this action include: i) actions to identify the impact of shipping on the environment in the Baltic Sea in line with and beyond relevant developments in the framework of the International maritime organisation; ii) research & development of technical installations on board ships to ensure a less harmful impact on environment and wildlife; iii) development of efficient policy recommendations to address emerging challenges related to shipping; iv) increase scientific knowledge and support research; 5) address and possibly reduce pollution by hazardous substances, invasive alien species (IAS) and plastics from maritime activities.		<b>Action 3: Support development of shore-side facilities to enhance clean shipping measures including infrastructure for climate-neutral and clean fuels.</b>  Strategic priorities in this action include: i) contribute to the development of a regional infrastructure related to shore-side and climate-neutral and clean fuels; ii) develop reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and cross border infrastructure; iii) upgrade infrastructure in passenger- and industrial ports and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, iv) increase resource efficiency; v) greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes; vi) improve port reception facilities and their ability to treat and separate waste from ships and marine litter brought to land; vii) support the improvement of waste separation and handling on board ships.	<b>Action 4</b>  x
Strategic priorities in this action include: i) actions to develop or improve technical installations on board ships to clean harmful emissions from ships; ii) issues of enforcement of environmental regulation for ships operating in the Baltic Sea; iii) improved monitoring of ship emissions (better target actions and regulations); iv) improving energy efficiency; v) actions to deploy propulsion systems and bunkering infrastructure for carbon-neutral, clean maritime fuels; vi) development of economic incentive schemes to reduce the environmental impact; vii) improved capacity and competence to address climate neutral and clean shipping.			

KEYWORDS
Carbon
Climate
Circular
CO2
Emission
Resource
Transition



# Cross-referencing process: Searching for keywords in all documents

## 14 Policy Areas and 20 Territorial Programmes



- Climate related keywords do not show up in 7 PAs: Hazards, Safe, Spatial planning, Secure, Tourism, Culture and Education.
- Climate or related keywords are addressed in all 20 programmes.

POLICY AREAS AND KEYWORDS CONTAINED	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
PA Nutri							
PA Hazards							
PA Bioeconomy							
PA Ship							
PA Safe							
PA Transport							
PA Energy							
PA Spatial planning							
PA Secure							
PA Tourism							
PA Culture							
PA Innovation							
PA Health							
PA Education							

		Carbon	Climate	Circular	CO2	Emission	Resource	Transition
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Interreg Aurora							
2	Interreg Central Baltic							
3	Interreg Deutschland-Danmark							
4	Interreg Latvia-Belarus							
5	Interreg Lithuania-Poland							
6	Interreg Sverige-Norge							
7	Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme							
8	Interreg Baltic Sea Region							
9	Interreg Central Europe							
10	Interreg Latvia-Lithuania							
11	Interreg North Sea Region							
12	Interreg Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak							
13	Poland-Belarus-Ukraine CBC							
14	Interreg Brandenburg-Poland							
15	Interreg Czech Republic-Poland (activities)							
16	Interreg Estonia-Latvia							
17	Interreg Latvia-Russia							
18	Interreg South Baltic							
19	Kolarctic CBC							
20	South-East Finland Russia CBC							



# Cross-referencing results: Climate keywords and actions in PAs

PA Nutri	Emission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1: Reduce <b>nutrient emissions</b> from agriculture and other diffuse sources</li> <li>Action 2: Reduce <b>nutrient emissions</b> from urban areas and other point sources</li> </ul>
PA Energy	Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 2: Further regional gas and electricity market integration including <b>climate-proof infrastructure development</b></li> </ul>
PA Bioeconomy	Climate, circular	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1: Strengthen the role and importance of bioeconomy for achieving increased sustainability, productivity and <b>adaption to climate change</b> as well as resilience, including <b>climate resilience</b> in ecosystems</li> <li>Action 2: Improving agricultural practices for <b>sustainability and adaptation (e.g. to climate change)</b> in a sustainable and resilient growing bio-economy</li> <li>Action 3: Strengthen multiple use of resources through cross-cutting and cross-sectoral approaches to release potential and accelerate the <b>development of a sustainable circular bio-economy</b></li> </ul>
PA Ship	Carbon, climate, emission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1: Support measures including digitalisation in <b>reducing emissions from shipping</b></li> <li>Action 3: Support development of shore-side facilities to enhance clean shipping measures including <b>infrastructure for climate-neutral and clean fuels</b></li> </ul>
PA Transport	Carbon, Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 2: Development of measures towards <b>climate-neutral and zero pollution transport</b></li> </ul>
PA Innovation	Circular	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 1: Challenge-driven innovation</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 2: Digital innovation and transformation</li> </ul>
PA Health	Climate, circular	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action 2: Promoting a Health in All Policies approach with focus on the impact of environmental factors, and especially <b>climate change on human health</b></li> </ul>



# Cross-referencing results: Liaisons between PAs and programmes

## PA actions and programme priorities in two examples

CLIMATE KEYWORDS MENTIONED IN EUROPEAN TERRIOTORIAL COOPERATION PROGRAMMES' ACTIONS			
SELECT POLICY AREA PA Energy	FOUND KEYWORDS Climate		
SELECT TERRITORIAL PROGRAM Interreg Baltic Sea Region	FOUND KEYWORDS Climate, Circular, Transition,		
POLICY AREAS' ACTION TITLES AND DESCRIPTIONS WHERE THE SELECTED KEYWORD IS CONTAINED			
<b>PA Energy</b> Action 1: Streamlining efforts on energy efficiency in the region by deepening regional cooperation	Action 2: Further regional gas and electricity market integration including climate-proof infrastructure development.	Action 3: Baltic synchronisation	Action 4: Increasing the share of renewable energy including marine renewable energy
Baltic Leadership Programme, best practices exchange, regular meetings and reporting, the development of pilot projects	Information can be found: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/infrastructure/high-level-groups/baltic-energy-market-interconnection-plan_en">https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/infrastructure/high-level-groups/baltic-energy-market-interconnection-plan_en</a>	Information can be found: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/infrastructure/high-level-groups/baltic-energy-market-interconnection-plan_en">https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/infrastructure/high-level-groups/baltic-energy-market-interconnection-plan_en</a>	Baltic Innovation in Offshore Wind Baltic Leadership Programme in collaboration with the Swedish Institute BEMIP working groups on renewable energy BEMIP Offshore Wind Cooperation
PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES WHERE THE SELECTED KEYWORD IS CONTAINED			
<b>Interreg Baltic Sea Region</b> PO: Innovative societies	PO: Water-smart societies	PO: Climate-neutral societies	PO
CLIMATE KEYWORDS MENTIONED IN EUROPEAN TERRIOTORIAL COOPERATION PROGRAMMES' ACTIONS			
SELECT POLICY AREA PA Energy	FOUND KEYWORDS Climate		
SELECT TERRITORIAL PROGRAM Interreg Central Europe	FOUND KEYWORDS Carbon, Climate, Circular, Emission, Resource, Transition,		
POLICY AREAS' ACTION TITLES AND DESCRIPTIONS WHERE THE SELECTED KEYWORD IS CONTAINED			
<b>PA Energy</b> Action 1: Streamlining efforts on energy efficiency in the region by deepening regional cooperation	Action 2: Further regional gas and electricity market integration including climate-proof infrastructure development.	Action 3: Baltic synchronisation	Action 4: Increasing the share of renewable energy including marine renewable energy
Baltic Leadership Programme, best practices exchange, regular meetings and reporting, the development of pilot projects	Information can be found: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/infrastructure/high-level-groups/baltic-energy-market-interconnection-plan_en">https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/infrastructure/high-level-groups/baltic-energy-market-interconnection-plan_en</a>	Information can be found: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/infrastructure/high-level-groups/baltic-energy-market-interconnection-plan_en">https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/infrastructure/high-level-groups/baltic-energy-market-interconnection-plan_en</a>	Baltic Innovation in Offshore Wind Baltic Leadership Programme in collaboration with the Swedish Institute BEMIP working groups on renewable energy BEMIP Offshore Wind Cooperation
PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES WHERE THE SELECTED KEYWORD IS CONTAINED			
<b>Interreg Central Europe</b> PO: A more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation	PO: A greener, low-carbon Europe by promoting clean and fair energy transition, green and blue investment, the circular economy, climate adaj	PO: A more connected Europe by enhancing mobility and regional ICT connectivity	PO



# Cross-referencing: Baseline findings



7 PAs (Hazards, Spatial planning, Safe, Secure, Tourism, Culture and Education) ***do not refer directly*** to climate keywords and actions in their documents

➡ Interviews were important for further analysis



7 PAs (Nutri, Bioeconomy, Ship, Transport, Energy, Innovation and Health) ***refer directly*** to climate keywords and actions in their documents

➡ Deeper analysis of documents and interviews were important for further analysis



Climate related keywords are addressed in all 20 programmes

➡ This might indicate to a tendency to use “words of the time” (buzzwords) in documents without more strategic thinking



# 04

## Cross-cutting climate change mitigation in the EUSBSR





# PA Nutri

PA Nutri serves as a cross-border and cross-sectoral policy tool for cooperation in the BSR. The actions are designed to reduce nutrient losses and manage nutrients more efficiently to mitigate eutrophication and to mitigate climate change. PA Nutri will ensure that horizontal aspects, notably addressing climate change including contributions to eutrophication stemming from outside the BSR and cooperation with non-EU neighbouring countries and organisations, are appropriately integrated into the work of the PA.

Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

- Action 1: Reduce nutrient emissions from agriculture and other diffuse sources
- Action 2: Reduce nutrient emissions from urban areas and other point sources
- Action 3: Develop and promote safe and sustainable nutrient recycling
- Action 4: Address nutrients already accumulated in the Baltic Sea

Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate issues were not specifically addressed before the adoption of the new action plan.</li> <li>Climate issues are included as a cross-cutting theme in the actions.</li> <li>Climate change increases the need for basic actions and has a major impact on the overall picture of PA Nutri.</li> <li>It is important to be able to assess how much and how climate change will affect the entire Baltic Sea ecosystem and its consequences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special emphasis is put on the implementation and goals of HELCOM BSAP in terms of nutrients. PA Nutri will support the parties in achieving the goals.</li> <li>In general, projects are expected to produce recommendations. There the novelty value is essential.</li> <li>Agricultural nutrient emissions are the main theme. So far, the desired results have not been achieved with regards to diffuse loading, but better results have been achieved with regards to point source loading. On that basis, diffuse loading is a main issue in projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good condition of the sea prevents also climate change. Several mechanisms are involved in climate change.</li> <li>Concrete recommendations on how to take climate issues into considerations are welcome – so that one could analyse how the climate change aspect is included, even if the projects are not directly linked to the climate objective.</li> <li>There could also be a need for an alternative approach, e.g., a thematic event or other concrete mechanism for taking climate issues onboard.</li> </ul>



# PA Hazards

PA Hazards supports and promotes macro-regional responses to global challenges related to chemicals management, sound chemical management and a better linkage to international policy agendas (such as climate change). Actions concentrate on reducing the use and preventing emissions of hazardous substances by developing and implementing primarily non-regulatory measures and BSR-wide policies, as well as mitigating and remediating historic contamination still causing negative effect on the Baltic ecosystem. Also support to the implementation and compliance with EU regulations and international agreements related to hazardous substances, as well as support to the development of innovative and cost-effective management options are essential.

## Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



## Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

- Action 1: Prevent pollution and reduce the use of hazardous substances  
Action 2: Mitigate new and remediate historic contamination

### Climate views from interviews

- Focus is more on adaptation than mitigation.
- In the revised action plan mainstreaming of climate issues was done as last-minute updates without telling how this is done.
- In the 2022 scope there are no climate issues included. Maybe in the next 2023 plan for 3 years this will be done.
- PA will work on climate issues, but there are a lot of question marks within the steering group consisting of mainly chemists or marine biologists. For them it is a bit tricky to consider the theme or how to monitor it.
- Climate change issues are being discussed with project stakeholders, but not in the steering group.

### Projects and actions highlighted in interviews

- Seed-money co-operation between PA Nutri, Bioeconomy, PA Innovation and PA Health

### Insights and greetings from interviews

- Cocktail effects that are linked with health, climate change, hazards (toxic chemicals), freight and transport are also important.
- We could ask our stakeholders how they are considering climate issues.
- Informal guidance of cross-cutting issues might be useful. Also reasoning for mainstreaming would be welcome.



# PA Bioeconomy

Pa Bioeconomy aims at reinforcing sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries by promoting an integrated approach. The actions concentrate on pursuing the bioeconomy actually and practically for example by improving policy coherence and policy learning and by engaging the private sector. For example, recycling of nutrients in agriculture and finding a common approach for sustainable strategies for wood are seen as essential. In fisheries management emphasis is on improving coordination among MS and stakeholders in the region.

*Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents*



*Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents*

- Action 1: Strengthen the role and importance of bioeconomy for achieving increased sustainability, productivity and adaption to climate change as well as resilience, including climate resilience in ecosystems
- Action 2: Improving agricultural practices for sustainability and adaptation (e.g., to climate change) in a sustainable and resilient growing bioeconomy
- Action 3: Strengthen multiple use of resources through cross-cutting and cross-sectoral approaches to release potential and accelerate the development of a sustainable circular bioeconomy

Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate issues are a top priority.</li> <li>• Climate change aspects have become more prominent during the new period especially within the objectives: sustainable development and agriculture; and environmental and economic viability (incl. social aspects)</li> <li>• Both adaptation and mitigation are considered               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of emissions and nutrient recycling</li> <li>• Management of waters from agriculture</li> <li>• Actions for peatlands</li> <li>• Use of renewable energy on farms</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manure Standard flagship project</li> <li>• Project platform SuMaNu connects environmental projects together, e.g., phosphorus project</li> <li>• Also, technology-oriented projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A template for consideration of climate issues would bring coherence to project evaluations.</li> </ul>



# PA Safe

PA Safe's objective for the Baltic Sea region to become a leading region for maritime safety and security. PA Safe actions focus on many aspects which can improve maritime safety and security including resurveying of shipping routes, improving safety of navigation by means of e-navigation and new technology, emergency preparedness and winter navigation.

Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

- Action 1: Providing reliable navigational conditions to the Baltic Sea
- Action 2: Developing winter navigation to meet future challenges
- Action 3: To be a forerunner in digitalisation and automation
- Action 4: Ensure accurate preparedness and response for maritime accidents and security issues

Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate issues are a top priority, but main focus is on maritime safety in all actions. Climate benefits come as "side-effects".</li> <li>Action 1: aims for producing more accurate information on shipping, which allows ships to take more cargo on board and thereby reduce emissions. This also helps in optimising vessel routes.</li> <li>Action 2: more relevant for Finland. Optimisation of routes in wintertime and icebreaking can make a difference.</li> <li>Action 3: one of the tools to achieve emission reductions. Optimisation in the bigger picture (routes, machine power, etc.) and bigger climate impact. Currently a hot topic. 90 % of the world's goods are transported by ship.</li> <li>Action 4: aims to prevent maritime accidents, which are catastrophic for the environment.</li> <li>Sparring on climate issues is also one key action.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STM validation project, digital data transfer (Action 4), BSR (STM Balt Safe)</li> <li>Project on provision of redundant local systems for vessels</li> <li>Digital risk management tools</li> <li>Autonomous shipping: information flow between ship and others (background work in progress)</li> <li>DiveSMART is an example of a good project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the targets and how to get there? Difficult from a policy point of view and the safety aspects are in danger of being overlooked.</li> </ul>



# PA Ship

PA Ship actions include creating infrastructure for alternative fuels in the Baltic Sea region, as well as supporting measures that reduce emissions from ships, such as technical installations or issues of enforcement of environmental regulation for ships operating in the Baltic Sea.

## Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



## Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

- Action 1: Support measures including digitalisation in reducing emissions from shipping
- Action 2: Support research on emerging thematic challenges related to clean shipping and its impact on the environment and wildlife in the Baltic Sea
- Action 3: Support development of shore-side facilities to enhance clean shipping measures including infrastructure for climate-neutral and clean fuels.

Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate and environment aspects linked with clean shipping are the main elements of the PA. The are also one evaluation criteria of proposals.</li> <li>PA addresses solutions for alternative fuels.</li> <li>Digitalisation is important but creates also risks and climate effects.</li> <li>Avoiding oil spills is an important task, also regarding preventing of environmental and climate crisis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structural work around flagship projects, e.g., decarbonising the industry and preventing emissions etc.</li> <li>Previous projects have concentrated on LNG, but now the focus is on greener alternatives.</li> <li>BAT projects e.g., decreasing the carbon print of maritime operations by digital solutions.</li> <li>Dissemination of information and events bringing together stakeholders (academia, public operators, business life)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expectations on actions and projects:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure, research and development</li> <li>Safety of alternative fuels with PA Safe</li> <li>Innovation</li> <li>Connecting science and business</li> </ol> </li> </ul>



# PA Energy

PA Energy focuses on ensuring competitive, secure and sustainable energy in the BSR. The aim of the PA Energy is to improve the implementation of the EUSBSR Action Plan and Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan (BEMIP). Regional cooperation in the energy sector is conducted within the framework of the BEMIP plan, whose actions are to be implemented mainly in the areas of energy infrastructure, gas and electricity markets, power generation, security of energy supply, energy efficiency and renewable energy. Regarding electricity and gas markets the focus is on achieving open, competitive and fully integrated regional energy market in the BSR.

Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

- Action 1: Streamlining efforts on energy efficiency in the region by deepening regional cooperation
- Action 2: Further regional gas and electricity market integration including climate-proof infrastructure development
- Action 3: Baltic synchronization
- Action 4: Increasing the share of renewable energy including marine renewable energy

Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate issues cross-cut national and regional borders.</li> <li>All energy actions are directly or in-directly linked with climate issues. Therefore, a systemic approach is needed.</li> <li>Currently, renovation of grid infra and acceleration of investments on renewable energy are seen the most effective climate actions.</li> <li>Co-operation and Green Deal for Carbon-Neutral society are essential.</li> <li>For energy security a new working program for offshore wind potential is going to be launched .</li> <li>On-going study: “How to speed up new energy infrastructure projects”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addressing on renovation with energy efficiency with multisectoral approach: “Making renovation great again to decrease the need of energy”.</li> <li>Flagship project (Energy Efficiency action).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interest in larger and deeper co-operation within/between PAs.</li> </ul>



# PA Spatial planning

PA Spatial Planning focuses on encouraging the use of maritime and land-based spatial planning in all MS around the Baltic Sea and developing a common approach for cross-border cooperation. The overall goal is to achieve territorial cohesion perspective in the Baltic Sea Region by 2030, i.e. the Region shall be well-integrated and coherent macro-region, and it has overcome the socio-economic development divides between its individual parts and turned the global challenges into assets.

*Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents*



*Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents*

Action 1: Strengthening territorial cohesion in the BSR through land-based spatial planning  
Action 2: Ensuring coherent maritime spatial plans throughout the Baltic Sea

Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate is one of the top issues being a horizontal theme in long-term plans</li> <li>• Discussions with cities, towns and rural settlements are important when heading for sustainability in living areas.</li> <li>• Connectivity in transport and digitality is also a part of sustainability.</li> <li>• One key aspect is also, how to make cities and communities more adaptive (i.e., resilient).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both the long-term perspective for the territorial development of the Baltic Sea Region (LTP) and the regional Baltic Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) Roadmap documents include climate actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the roadmap has a dedicated objective concerning climate change</li> <li>• action drafting ongoing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow and sectorial thinking around climate issues is a challenge.</li> <li>• Mainstreaming the climate issues is an excellent idea, but the implementation should be followed and monitored too.</li> <li>• Knowledge exchange between PACs how they address climate issues would be welcome.</li> <li>• The big picture related the climate change is maybe missing (global and/or Baltic perspective ). The interaction of PACs is here crucial.</li> </ul>



# PA Secure

PA Secure focuses on protection from land-based emergencies, accidents and cross-border crime. It promotes a comprehensive and coherent approach to reduce trans-boundary vulnerabilities and to build common capacities for societal security in the BSR. PA activities are related to four areas: better risk assessment and crisis management, building up resilience and prevention towards emergencies and threats at the local level, enhancing effective cooperation in protecting human beings against criminal threats and preventing serious crime through developing efficient framework for law enforcement cooperation.

## Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



## Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

Action 1: Build capacities for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery in emergency and crisis management

Action 2: Strengthening mechanisms for joint strategic and operational actions protecting human beings and societies from criminal threats

Action 3: A common societal security culture in the Baltic Sea region

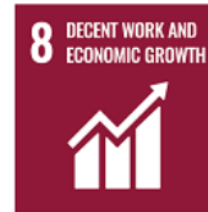
Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change is a clear risk for the region e.g., rise of sea level, forest fires and floods.</li> <li>Assessment of risks as climate risk adaptation is also a strategic risk. Significant efforts are therefore needed both on EU and member state level.</li> <li>Macroregional co-operation is a good way to contribute.</li> <li>Working with risk assessment is a necessity (DG Echo). The preparedness and prevention should both be in focus. Civil protection work is based on risks.</li> <li>Broad formulation of climate issues is preferred.</li> <li>It is important that all climate-related activities in the area are seen as important.</li> <li>All actions and work that decreases risks are included.</li> <li>Demand and gaps are determined by national agencies.</li> <li>Joint efforts on-going with PA Climate and Safe.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CASCADE flagship is the main tool in working with climate change issues: 1) working on macroregional level to contribute on policies and 2) policy dialogue on civil protection mechanism (PCM).</li> <li>Next steps after CASCADE under planning: strategic programme Baltic Excellence</li> <li>Making cities resilient co-operation, e.g., pilot course to train the trainers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change is a broad issue and requires also lot of efforts and funding ("not only structural funds)</li> <li>Structure of funding is complicated. There is also heavy administrative burden to manage the projects.</li> <li>It would be important to determine, what kind of projects are regarded as Flagships in all PAs.</li> <li>In addition to mapping of funding, it is important to work on strategic and cross-sectorial issues where PAs can work together.</li> <li>General platform for dissemination of project results would be ideal.</li> <li>Important to continue the work started with the horizontal action climate.</li> <li>Climate specialists are deeded for pointing out climate issues. Policy areas vary - for PA Secure its natural to approach climate via risk assessment, others might need more support and expertise.</li> </ul>



# PA Culture

PA Culture actions include promoting the Baltic Sea region cultural and creative industries by encouraging creative entrepreneurship, as well as promoting and presenting Baltic Sea region culture using the innovative force of culture for societal development. PA Culture also focuses on preservation and presentation the Baltic Sea region cultural heritage and strengthening the cultural identity of the region, as well as developing an efficient framework for Baltic Sea region cultural cooperation.

## Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



## Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

Action 1: Promoting the Baltic Sea region cultural and creative industries, encouraging creative entrepreneurship

Action 2: Promoting Baltic Sea region culture, cultural diversity and European values, promoting culture as a driver for sustainable development

Action 3: Preserving the Baltic Sea region cultural heritage, strengthening regional identity

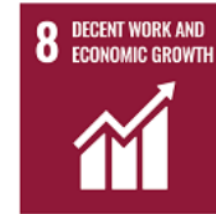
Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate issues are started to be included in PA Culture, although they are not so obviously to be separated. The possible ways are education in co-operation with PA Education.</li> <li>• Cultural heritage vs. climate change is also a huge issue (Unesco and other UN): In 2020 they organised a workshop on wooden architecture - a sensible building material. Formation of recommendations during the session, distribution to ministries etc. in the region in order to “poke” them and show that there is a need for help</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flagship project Culture4Climate started two years ago.</li> <li>• One of the main stakeholders is Ars Baltica</li> <li>• Interreg Seed Money for larger project development of the project and finding stakeholders.</li> <li>• A platform generated to introduce climate issues and how to deal with them within culture area.</li> <li>• Urban planning as one of the issues, e.g., Bauhaus. Commission addresses "living in a good architecture" - a subject that is interesting for most cities in the region.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mainstreaming climate is a huge challenge but also a great thing.</li> <li>• Collecting different PAs together on those not so obvious issues would be welcome.</li> <li>• Interaction with other PAs will provide a possibility to meet new people and to find new ways to attract new stakeholders." How to go further not only by organising workshops."</li> </ul>



# PA Innovation

PA Innovation aims at promoting global competitiveness and growth of the Baltic Sea region through support for entrepreneurship, business development, science and increased innovation capacity. The goals can be achieved by exploiting the full potential of the Baltic Sea region in the fields of research and innovation, as well as in the case of medium sized enterprises (SMEs), and by attracting talents and investments utilising the Digital Single Market as a source. PA Innovation actions contribute to building an ecosystem for innovation and entrepreneurship in the Baltic Sea region based on smart specialisation and sustainable growth.

## *Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents*



## *Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents*

Action 1: Challenge (mission)-driven innovation

Action 2: Digital innovation and transformation

Action 3: Co-creative innovation

Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PA aims to promote sustainable development in a broad sense, rather than being too narrowly focused on a single theme. As it is an EU wide strategy, climate issues are linked to actions, e.g., via the Green Deal.</li><li>• Climate issues are already widely taken into account in e.g., Interreg programmes.</li><li>• "We do not want to choose a single winning theme."</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Projects related to smart specialisation and e.g., the SUBMARINER network</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New actors are welcome, cities especially (regions are already well involved)</li><li>• Through smart specialisation it is possible to develop larger projects involving cities and companies from different countries.</li></ul>



# PA Health

PA Health contributes to the objective of increasing prosperity in the region by aiming to improve the health and well-being of people in the BSR. It strives to raise awareness among other policy areas for the impact of their domain on health and for the need to implement a Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach. PA Health has an established structure of thematic experts and a network of stakeholders in the region. In addition to the NDPHS Partner Organisations, several stakeholders from civil society, academia, as well as national, regional and local authorities are involved in the implementation of PA Health activities and projects. In the future, PA Health will work on further broadening its stakeholder outreach and engagement, in particular to NGOs working on health-related issues in the Baltic Sea Region and beyond. A strategy on stakeholder relations will be part of the future increased communication activities of PA Health.

## Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



## Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

Action 1: Promoting active and healthy ageing to address the challenges of demographic change

Action 2: Promoting Health in All Policies approach with focus on the impact of environmental factors, and especially climate change on human health

Action 3: Increasing stakeholder and institutional capacity to tackle regional health challenges

Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate is mainstreamed and specially addressed in action 2.</li> <li>Climate change has a clear impact on human health.</li> <li>Health care sector produces a lot of negative impacts (negative spiral).</li> <li>Climate issues have been in the agenda for last two years, starting from circular economy, energy, air quality etc.</li> <li>Understanding of planetary health is becoming more and more prominent and the trend is going in this direction. Yet, changing things takes time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The climate topic has been discussed a lot. Yet, the main work is as of now is on the aging flagship. Action 2 is still on very early stage.</li> <li>Climate indicators are a difficult topic. Mainly working with process indicators. Could it be number of activities with climate issues (but might be difficult and not relevant)?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mainstreaming of climate make sense, if it does not turn to very regulative and bureaucratic (no punishments!) It would have been useful to have more time for preparation and wider participation in the strategy elaboration.</li> <li>New ways to co-operate with stakeholders and PAs would be needed. PAs differ in terms of available resources, institutional setups and in climate approaches.</li> <li>Climate-mainstreaming within the EUSBSR can be done in a similar manner than gender-mainstreaming. This means activities are committed to assess the potential harm to the environment. For reporting mitigating measures and indicators could then be developed.</li> </ul>



# PA Education

PA Education contributes to strengthening the social dimension of the EU Strategy for the BSR. It covers four areas: education, science, employability and integration of migrants. PA EDU contributes to an increased prosperity that presupposes access to quality education and training for all, an effective and inclusive welfare system and a well-functioning labour market supporting geographical, professional and socio-economic mobility.

*Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents*



*Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents*

- Action 1: Preventing early school leaving and improving transition from school to work
- Action 2: International excellence and wider participation in science and research
- Action 3: A labour market for all, using resources of longer lives
- Action 4: Recognising potential – easing the way for migrants

Climate views from interviews	Projects and actions highlighted in interviews	Insights and greetings from interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the area of sustainable and healthy working life, there is a joint flagship with PA Health and PA Energy, mainly covering indoor climate issues in schools and educational buildings.</li> <li>• Ongoing dialogue with PA Transport, PA Safe, and PA Ship for sea and land. Climate issues are also included here.</li> <li>• There are no specific goals on climate and climate has not been a priority. When the revision was made, the focus was on sustainable development goals, and links to SDGs, not in particular to climate. Climate was not considered when drafting the action plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flagships are in operation all the time</li> <li>• PA Education is working with European Social Fund, Erasmus+ (larger project under preparations), and Interreg programs.</li> <li>• Several successful projects, e.g., Baltic science network; Interreg transnational program and School to work (a European level example, national projects in 4 countries implemented).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders can be motivated and activated on climate issues via seminars and workshops. For example, in Sweden a seminar Considering European green deal was organized. After the seminar, workshops were organised for stakeholders. This is the way to motivate people to get involved! It is important to start with stakeholders’ own interests.</li> </ul>



(not interviewed)

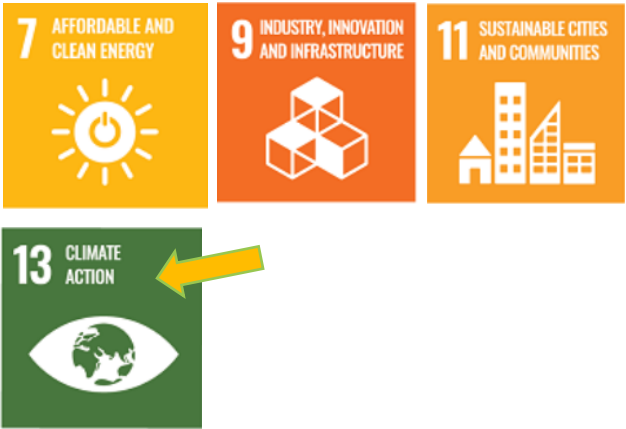
# PA Transport

PA Transport aims at improving internal and external transport links, which are prerequisites for the competitive region. Improvements can be achieved by facilitating a sustainable and efficient transport system in the BSR. PA Transport actions include capitalising European-level (TEN-T core network corridors) and other transnational corridors for better connectivity, accessibility and cohesion. PA Transport also focuses on Improvements in transport cooperation with the third countries and macro-regional transfer of sustainable solutions in passenger and freight transport.

# PA Tourism

PA Tourism provides a strong platform to reinforce sustainable tourism development in the Baltic Sea region; creates networks and strengthens the dialogue with stakeholders of the tourism industry and tourism education institutions to ensure competence development in the tourism sector across the Baltic Sea region. It develops synergies by linking projects, initiatives and organisations with tourism activities; facilitates and strengthens the cooperation in the area to find solutions for common challenges; and enhances the profile, visibility and attractiveness of the Baltic Sea region as a preferred partner for tourism cooperation within the region.

## Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



## Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

- Action 1: Support measures including digitalisation in reducing emissions from shipping
- Action 2: Support research on emerging thematic challenges related to clean shipping and its impact on the environment and wildlife in the Baltic Sea
- Action 3: Support development of shore-side facilities to enhance clean shipping measures including infrastructure for climate-neutral and clean fuels.

## Sustainable development goals (SDGs) referred in the PA documents



## Sustainable development goals referred in the PA documents

- Action 1: Transnational tourism development in remote and rural area
- Action 2: Investing in people, skills and technology in the tourism industry
- Action 3: Protection and sustainable utilisation of cultural heritage and natural resources in tourism destinations: Implementation of seminars and workshops



# Greetings from PACs in terms of collaboration and resourcing



- Bringing different PAs together to address climate questions and grasp the big picture
- Common practices and guidance for follow-up and monitoring of climate issues without excess bureaucracy
- Support from climate specialists in pointing out climate approaches



- More interaction and sharing of practices between PAs
- Work on strategic points, cross-sectorial issues where PAs can work together
- Determining a joint view on what kind of projects the PAs see as flagships
- Platform for dissemination of project results
- Joint calendar to reach out with other PAs
- More communication with the funding programmes



- Utilisation of all funding in EU, not only structural funds
- Lack of knowledge and experience of working with funding programmes
- Unlocking the funding gap in work with regions outside the EU
- Diversification of data sources to set basis for systematic monitoring of change



- New ways to raise interest of stakeholders
- Organisation of thematic events
- Asking the stakeholders how they are taking into account climate issues



# Recommendations for grasping the mainstreamed climate challenge in the EUSBSR

We recommend to organise - at least but not limited to...

1

...more regular interaction and mutual discussion occasions between the PAS

2

...expert support and thematic events for the PAs (together) and PA stakeholders (PA-specific) on the climate topics

3

...activities for wider understanding and utilisation of the overall funding scheme of the EU (and beyond?)





# 05 Conclusions and recommendations





# Approaches to mainstreaming climate issues can vary



Climate is not an exactly defined concept and can be approached in many ways. Therefore, the relative position and importance of climate themes change case by case.



Based on the interviews, the perspective on climate themes seem to depend on the nature and characteristics of the PA.



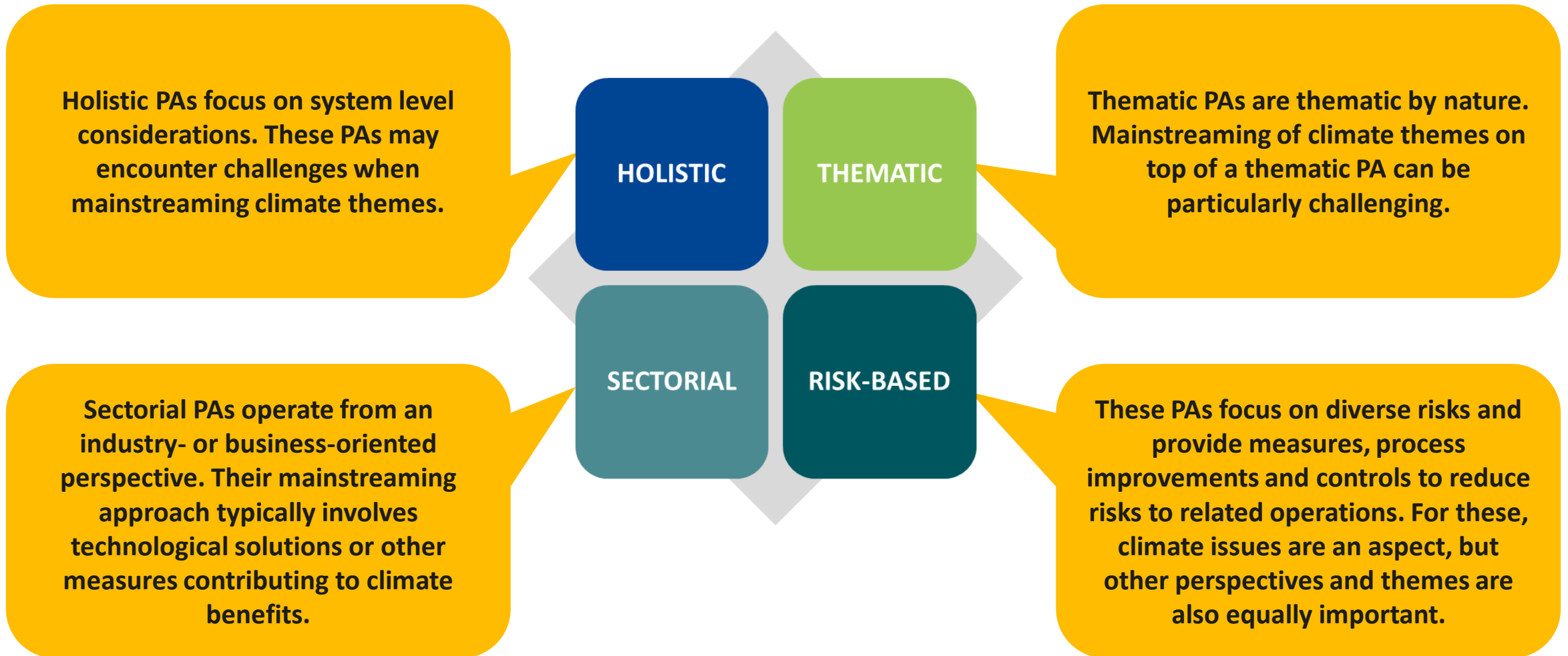
Through this summary and synthesis four different PA types have been identified based on their approach to mainstream climate issues. These approaches seem to depend on the PA characteristics.

## DIFFERENT APPROACHES



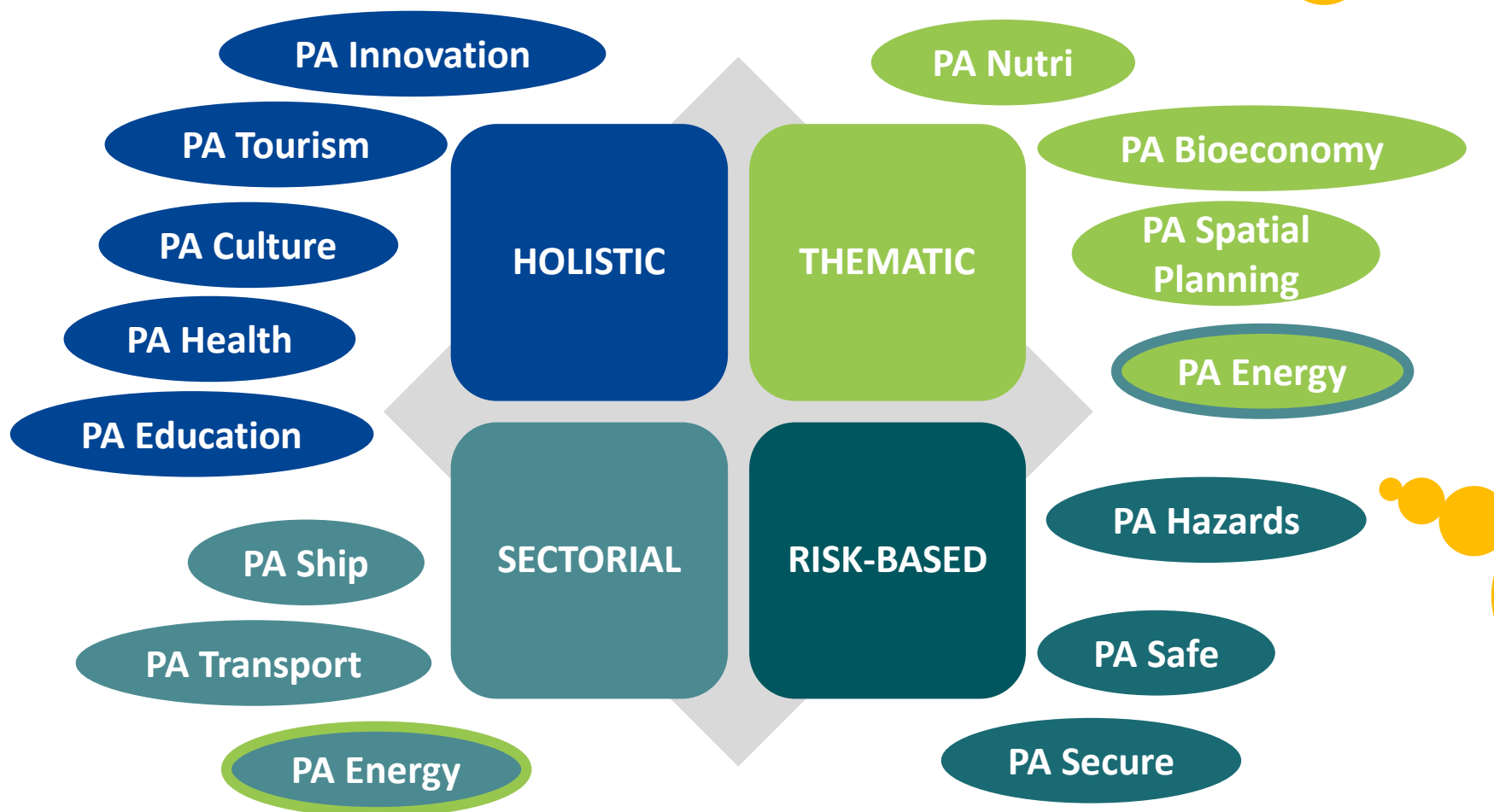


# Four approaches identified





# Possible grouping of PAs



One way of ideating and solving similar mainstreaming challenges in smaller groups?

The idea is not to create silos – this approach is meant for further discussion!



# 06 Framework for addressing climate issues





# Framework for assessing climate issues

1

## ASSESS THE PA FOCUS & SIGNIFICANCE OF CLIMATE QUESTIONS

Think about the objectives and nature of your PA and potential programme. It's not desirable if climate issues start to shift or confuse the actual focus.

Assess significance of climate questions:

- Are the actions harmful, neutral or positive on the climate point of view?
- Are the possible climate impacts indirect or direct?

2

## ASSESS THE GENERAL APPROACH TO CLIMATE CHANGE

A)

- Mitigation - avoiding and reducing emissions **OR**
- Adaptation - altering our behaviour, systems or ways of life in order to adapt to the changes we can no longer avoid

B)

- Carbon footprint approach – decreasing the footprint **OR**
- Carbon handprint approach – increasing the handprint

3

## WHERE NECESSARY; ASSESS THE GENERAL CLIMATE IMPACT OF PROJECTS/ACTIONS

- Quality
  - Positive/negative?
  - Linkage with climate policy targets?
- Time span
  - When will the effects take place (short-term/long-term)?
- Permanence
  - Is the impact temporary or permanent?
- Targeting
  - Is the impact targeted, for example, regionally /by population group /age group /by gender /industry?
  - Does the desired change have a parallel effect, or can the change be positive for some and negative for others?
- Extent and distribution
  - To what extent does the action/project affect mitigation or adaptation?
  - Does it affect wide groups or only certain industries?
  - Does it affect on carbon footprint or handprint?
  - How big is the impact?



**Carbon footprint:** The sum of GHG emissions and removals in a product system expressed as CO2 eq. and based on an LCA using the single impact category of climate change. (ISO 14067: 2018)



**Carbon handprint:** An indicator of climate change mitigation potential. Describes the GHG\* emission reduction in a customer's activities that occurs when the customer replaces a baseline solution with a handprint solution. (Pajula, T., Vatanen, S., Pihkola, H., Grönman, K., Kasurinen, H., & Soukka, R. (2018). Carbon Handprint Guide. VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland.)

The idea behind the carbon handprint is that the company develops products and services that allow its customers to reduce their carbon footprint. (Business Finland)

\*GHG = Greenhouse Gas



A young boy with light brown hair is shown from the chest up, facing slightly to the right. He has his mouth wide open in a shout or yell, with his tongue sticking out. His eyes are closed, and his expression is one of intense emotion. He is outdoors, and it is raining heavily, with many raindrops visible in the air around him. The background is a blurred green, suggesting foliage. The overall color palette is dominated by teal and green tones.

**“Climate is what you expect, weather is what you get”**  
[https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/weather\\_climate.html](https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/weather_climate.html)

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