

Applications sessions summary 1

- Range of capabilities to provide EO based information demonstrated over all Baltic countries:
 - Marine environment information/maritime surveillance
 - Land cover mapping/change detection
 - Land surface motion
 - Rapid mapping/emergency response
 - Atmospheric chemistry
- Advanced modelling capabilities:
 - Metocean/ocean processes
 - Atmospheric dynamics
 - Biogeochemical processes
- Wide range of capabilities to handle diverse data sources
- Complementary elements of supply chain are present but not comprehensive (data processing, information extraction, custom product generation, etc)
- Several portals/data access/processing infrastructures available
- No clear connection between capabilities developed/under development and operational uptake
- No clear understanding among EO communities of emerging priorities coming from public sector entities (eg Helcom, env policies, national priorities etc)
- Limited systematic supply side cooperation to establish consistent/inter-comparable/inter-operable information layers over entire Baltic region
- Main advances are related to systematic availability of Copernicus data free of charge. This ignores other potential advances using more experimental datasets

Applications summary 2 Baltic context

- Several initiatives underway giving rise to needs for enhanced or innovative information layers:
 - MSP, MFSD, WFD plus ecosystem based approach
 - Baltic Sea Basin Regional Strategy
- Major gaps in information availability and access to information were repeatedly identified – in many cases:
 - information that should have been collected is not
 - Information that has been collected is difficult to access in a structured format
- Several networks addressing different aspects of Baltic regional development but there is no overall effort within the EO community to work with these groups in a systematic way. Particular groups have an important role in the sustainable growth of the Baltic region (eg the Baltic cities) but so far do not appear to have been addressed in any way
- Awareness/acceptance/understanding of potential capabilities, utility and benefits from EO among public and private sector operators appears to be very low. Is this structural or due to current interactions with the EO community not being structured optimally?
- Who pays for any eventual routine capability is a major constraint – funds are limited and stakeholders are conscious of the implications of being saddled with long term commitments
- No framework within which groups of stakeholders can agree to use particular EO capabilities

Seed questions 1- context

- What are the challenges/opportunities for the Baltic region over the next 10 years and what gaps prevent effecting addressing these?
- There are many networks in the Baltic region (eg HELCOM, Baltic Earth, Union of Baltic Cities, Baltic Sea Basin Regional Strategy, SUCBAS, BONUS etc). How can we use these to build state of the art

Seed questions 2 - stakeholders

- Awareness and acceptance of EO capabilities among government stakeholders and Earth scientists has been highlighted as a strong limitation – how should this be addressed in such a way as to progressively insert EO as a routine analysis tool?
- Sustainable growth in the Baltic is being built upon regional Earth science priorities (Baltic Earth) as well as a range of regional initiatives (MSP, Territorial Planning, MFSD/WFD). Can these go ahead by themselves with no dedicated EO developments and if not, what would be your priority wish list?

Seed questions 3 – Data & information

- Are the currently available capabilities in Earth Observation in the region sufficient to support addressing the identified opportunities and if not, what would be your priority interests?
- Satellites are not the only data source for the region – are other capabilities (aircraft/UAVs, drifters, citizen science etc) sufficiently well exploited and if not, what would be your interests in expanding joint use of satellites and other data collection systems?

Seed questions 4 – regional approaches

- If a dedicated regional approach for better use of EO is needed for the Baltic, how could/should this be structured to ensure opportunities are addressed and that potential links between regional Earth Science, regional management and regional development are effective?
- Is there scope to engage the general public more strongly in regional Earth Science, environmental protection and regional management? If so, how can this be achieved?