



LIFE + Environment Policy and Governance

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Baltic Actions for Reduction of Pollution of the Baltic Sea from Priority Hazardous Substances (BaltActHaz)

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From 01/01/09 to 31/12/11



BaltActHaz project

Main motivation for the project - the problem of hazardous substances in the aquatic environment has reached alarming dimension since longer time and it seems not yet to be solved:

- Information and data on uses and releases of these substances are still scattered - the information currently available in the target countries does not allow to measure the progress made so far towards ceasing releases and to target measures accordingly.
- The main existing information instrument to communicate about environmentally hazardous substances in products supplied to industrial manufacturers does not work in practice.
- In practice, hazardous substances are not addressed in IPPC and water permitting systems. This is largely due to the lack of training and guidance. The primary legal basis exists, but lack of by-laws, orders, guidelines is significant
- The hazardous substance issue is not well known and understood in its consequences for the practical life in the public. Thus there is no public debate and hence no reason for industry and authorities to allocate resources.



BaltActHaz project

- Main idea of the project – **reduction of priority hazardous substances discharged from industrial and municipal point sources** in Baltic States
- Implementation in 3 Baltic States by 19 partners
- Main goal: To support Baltic States in implementing the EU Water Framework Directive, the IPPC Directive as well as the new HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan with regard to reduction of hazardous substances



Aims of BaltActHaz project

- To **investigate on the occurrence of selected priority substances** and some pollutants in wastewater, sewage water and the receiving environment and **propose relevant monitoring measures**
- To **improve the current permit quality** with regard to measures for reduction of hazardous substances at enterprises
- To **enhance better chemicals management at pilot enterprises**
- To **build up capacity at stakeholders** in order to make best use of the REACH mechanism by systematically generating and disseminating information related to environmental hazardousness of substances and conditions of safe use
- To **enhance the dialogue among authorities, industry, scientists and NGOs/society** representatives on the cooperation needs for improving hazardous substances management
- To **facilitate the network of Baltic stakeholders with international experts** on new legislative developments regarding hazardous substances control and reduction
- To **develop a concept for raising awareness of the general public** on hazardous substances



Target groups to be addressed....

- Competent authorities
 - Ministries
 - Environmental Agencies
 - Environmental permitting institutions
 - Environmental inspections
- Industry - enterprises performing production processes using or producing products which are potentially containing the target hazardous substances
 - electroplating and other metal surface treatment
 - industrial and institutional cleaners production
 - leather finishing
 - textile finishing
 - paper finishing
 - plastic and rubber production
 - construction chemicals production
- Waste Water Treatment plants (WWTP)
- Environmental experts - consultants or researchers or academic teachers in the field of water and chemicals
- General public





Partners

Applicant: Baltic Environmental Forum Estonia

Partners (18 partners)

- **BEFs:** BEF-LV, BEF-LT
- **Research institutions:** Estonian Environmental Research Centre, Latvian Institute for Aquatic Environment
- **Consultant companies:** Hendrikson & Ko
- **Competent authorities:** Lithuanian Environmental Protection Agency
- **Inspectorates and environmental departments:** Latvian State Environmental Services, Vilnius/Klaipeda/Šiauliai Regional Environmental Protection Department
- **Industrial companies:** Tarkon, Estko, Eskaro, Tenax, REBIR, Vienybė, Panevėžio Aurida
- **Waste Water Treatment plant:** Vilniaus vandenys





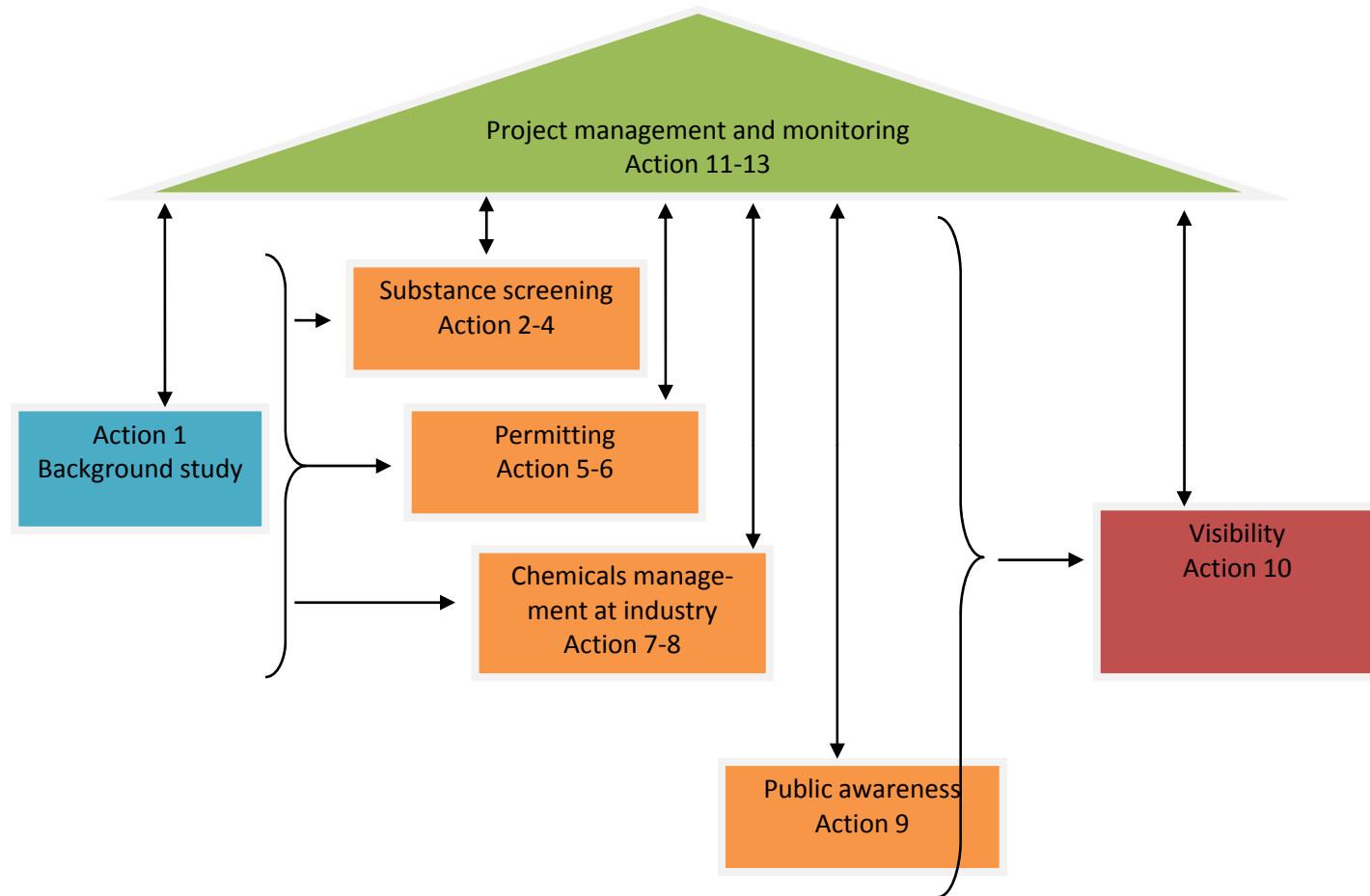
Budget

- Total project budget: 1 715 632 €
- EC LIFE+ financial contribution: 851 816 € (50%)
- Co-financers contribution: 443 317 € (26%):
 - EST KIK: 234 685 €
 - Lat MoE: 127 842 €
 - Lit MoE: 80 790 €
- Partners contribution: 420 499 € (24%)





BaltActHaz implementation – linkage of actions





BaltActHaz implementation - actions

- **Background information study - Action 1 (BEF-EE)**
 - Compilation of background information and setting the frame for a common understanding of the EU Hazard Concept
- **Investigation on the occurrence of selected substances and relevant reduction and monitoring measures – Action 2- 4 (BEF-LT)**
 - Preparatory action for Screening of substance occurrence
 - Screening and source analysis
 - Overall substance reduction strategy, optimising information source uses and elaboration of proposals for future state monitoring programme
- **Improvement of the current permitting – Action 5-6 (Hendrikson&Co)**
 - Permit guideline elaboration and stakeholders' capacity building for increased quality of permits
 - Pilot permit elaboration
- **Enhancing better chemicals management at enterprises – Action 7-8 (BEF-LV)**
 - Preparatory action at industry: substance screening at plant level
 - Pilot industry action for substitution
- **Concept for raising awareness of the general public and visibility of project – Action 9-10 (BEF-LV and BEF-EE)**
 - Strategy for raising public attention & awareness on hazardous substances
 - Project visibility and dissemination
- **Management of the project – Action 11-13 (BEF-EE)**
 - Project monitoring
 - Project management and administration
 - After-LIFE communication plan



Expected results

- Background materials on countries' legal frameworks, available information on the target substances, BAT implementation are available
- Selected substances are screened and analyzed
- Hazardous substances sources are investigated
- Substance reduction strategies are elaborated
- Proposals for improving state monitoring programs are developed
- Technical guideline on how to carry out a site specific assessment on integrated pollution prevention and control with regard to substances of particular environmental concern is developed
- Pilot permitting process is implemented and new permits are issued
- Substances substitution possibilities are evaluated and disseminated
- Pilot substitution scenarios are worked out for pilot industries
- Strategy for public information and awareness is elaborated
- Target group awareness is raised on environmentally hazardous substances and appropriate management