



Report

Project	LIFE+ project "Baltic actions for reduction of pollution of the Baltic Sea from priority hazardous substances" (acronym BaltActHaz) Reference number LIFE07 ENV/EE/000122
Subject	Meeting/training on Hazardous Substances Screening in practice
Place	Vilnius, Lithuania, Centrum Uniquestay Hotel, Vytenio str. 9/25
Date	16-17 April, 2009
Participants	<i>List of participants attached in the annex.</i>
Rapporteur	Goda Kuliesyte

Goal of the meeting:

- To raise the competency of the project team and national stakeholders implementing action 3 of the project (Screening and source analysis);
- To select the substances of concern for Estonia and Latvia and make planning of sampling.

Content of the meeting

1. Introduction (Ms. Zita Dudutyté)

Presenting the *BaltActHaz* project activities, discussion issues foreseen for the training.



Figure 1. Introduction by Ms. Zita Dudutyté

2. **Hazardous substances screening exercise in Lithuania** (Ms. Zita Dudutyté)

Presenting a finalized project about hazardous substances screening in Lithuania:

- goals of the project;
- substances screened, screening sites and their selection methods;
- tests applied (ecotoxicity and chemical analysis);
- hazardous substances evaluation principles;
- project budget;
- major results and conclusions.

Questions:

Q: Was there a linkage between ecotoxicological and chemical analysis in this project?

A: It was foreseen from the very beginning that it would be great to compare the results and find correlation, however as a result we have not succeeded with it, there was no obvious linkage identified (Ms. Zita Dudutyté).

Q: How did you set EQS for bottom sediments?

A: We have used substances' data sheets for elaboration of EQS under WFD. They can be found from the next link: <http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/env/wfd/home> (enter "EQS" and press "go") (Ms. Zita Dudutyté).

Q: Do you have limit values for TBTs in sediments in Lithuania? And what is the situation regarding TBTs in Finland?

A1: No, we do not have limit values for TBTs in sediments in Lithuania (Ms. Zita Dudutyté).

A2: TBTs, being stored in the sediments for a longer time do not have that much PBT characteristics. In Finland, there are big amounts of TBTs found, so it is unlikely that TBTs had come from antifouling paints only. This must also be historic paper mills discharges as well as other potential sources (Ms. Susan Londesborough).

Q: Have you measured TBT impact on fauna?

A: Vilnius University is doing some job with PCBs and TBT impact on aquatic fauna (Ms. Nijolė Štriupkuvienė).

3. **Choice of sampling sites, substances and matrixes** (Ms. Zita Dudutyté).

Presenting:

- goals of screening procedures,
- criteria for selecting criteria for selection of 1) hazardous substances, 2) sites, 3) matrixes,
- ecotoxicity testing.

Discussions points and questions:

- It was discussed about choosing hazardous substances and where they could be used in Estonia and Latvia. The best way would be to identify use of hazardous substances in the industry, but it is unlikely to get all information what hazardous substances industry is using due to: 1) industry does not provide full information; 2) industrial enterprises are not aware that they use hazardous substances and discharge them to the environment or WWTP. On another hand there is a lack of resources to make a screening densely covering all the country, therefore the screening exercise should be very well planned, starting from the setting clear goal for the screening.

- It was discussed about choosing fish as matrixes. It was clarified that in Finland fish are tested with regard to POPs and chloroorganic pesticides.
- It was discussed on choosing the matrixes and substances for samplings. It was recommended to focus on substances and matrixes where countries do not have data.
- For sediment analysis, it is relevant to understand the hazardous substances accumulation properties. It would be rational to take samples in clay, instead of sand for many of the hazardous substances which are persistent and accumulate in clay sediments.

Questions:

Q: In the Lithuanian pilot project, were there general parameters – temperature, BOD, COD also considered in line with hazardous substances and ecotoxicological analysis? This would be of use to have comparable results. (It is also important that some additional information is required for toxicological samples).

A1: In Lithuanian pilot project some additional parameters were also considered, because the samples were taken by regional environmental boards, who are obliged to measure also additional parameters. But the additional parameters were not taken into account when compiling the final results (Ms. Nijolė Štriupkuvienė).

A2: Supporting element can be taken into account, but the project goal was not a comprehensive analysis, but general evaluation if and in what concentrations hazardous substances occur in the chosen matrixes (Ms. Zita Dudutyté).

A3: In Finland, for metals pH as a supporting parameter is taken, but not for others. This should be decided case by case (Ms. Susan Londesborough).



Figure 2. Participants of the event

4. Hazardous Substances screening exercises in Finland (Ms. Susan Londesborough)

The presentation encompassed the following issues:

- overview on screening of hazardous substances;
- choice of substances, sites and matrixes;
- findings;

- further use of the results of screening.



Figure 3. Ms. Susan Londesborough

5. **Findings and use of the results of the project “Proposal for measures and actions for the reduction of pollution from hazardous substances for the Baltic Sea Action Plan” for planning of screening and source mapping** (Ms. Kitty Kislenko)

The project was presented:

- 11 Helcom hazardous substances analysed;
- Products and sectors analysed;
- Statistics gathered: socio-economic, manufacturing statistics;
- Other project findings in each Baltic state presented, based on product register information, permit screening and interviews with companies.

6. **Working group task Planning of Hazardous Substances screening in Estonia and Latvia** (Ms. Zita Dudutyte).

Goal:

- to come up with the idea of preliminary list of hazardous substances, sites, matrixes for hazardous substances screening in Estonia and Latvia;
- plan the screening exercise from management point of view.

Things to discuss: scope of screening, management plan, budget issues.



Figure 4. Estonian working group



Figure 5. Latvian working group

7. Latvian Working Group presentation (Mr. Valters Toropovs)

List of substances to be screened, site matrixes, management plan were presented.

- Provisional list of substances:
 - Chlororganic pesticides (only for screening transboundary pollution form BY)
 - Brominated diphenylethers (+octa + deca)
 - Cadmium and its compounds
 - Organotin compounds
 - C10-13 - chloroalkanes; C14-17- chloroalkanes
 - Phenols

- Brominated antipyrenes (not all places - only those of suspicions from priority industry branches impacts)
- Sites – matrixes:
 - WWTP – 10-11 sites – waste water/sludge
 - Rivers: 10 sites –water; 15 sites – water/sediment (exact substance groups to be analysed in each case will be clarified in the national meeting)
- Plan of management:
 - LIAE will collect info on potential sub-contracting laboratories;
 - In total approximately 50 000 EUR will be spent for screening actions first round, 25 000 EUR for secondary round/ suspicious spots and 15 000 EUR left for source tracking;
 - National meeting will be organized by BEF at the BEF Office in the last week of May.

Discussions:

- Many of the laboratories analyse many BDPE isomers (e.g. Galab laboratory). Therefore this point should be considered when choosing laboratory rather than excluding pentabromdiphenylethers from screening (considering that EQS is set for this substance). (Ms. Zita Dudutyté).
- It is planned in Latvia to analyse SCCP but taking into account the 5th presentation, it was noted that there is no big concern regarding SCCP in Latvia, but rather MCCP used in sealant production (Ms. Zita Dudutyté).

9. Estonian Working Group results (Mr. Ott Roots)

List of substances to be screened, site matrixes, management plan were presented.

- List of hazardous substances:
 - Metals (3 substances)
 - Phenols and their ethoxylates (21)
 - Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) (8)
 - Volatile organic compounds (VOC) (7)
 - Organotin compounds (11)
 - Phtalates and their ethoxylates (18)
 - Brominated diphenylethers (18)
 - Chloroorganic pesticides (13)
 - Other substances/ groups of substances (4)
- Sites – matrixes:
 - WWTP: 6 sites – waste water/sludge (all substances except Chloroorganic pesticides);
 - Rivers: 3 sites – water/sediments (all substances except Chloroorganic pesticides); 10 sites – water (all substances except Chloroorganic pesticides); 3 sites – water (only Chloroorganic pesticides).
- Plan of management:
 - In total 40 00 EUR of sub-contracting resources would be used for screening action, 10 000 EUR will be left for source identification;
 - National meeting will be held in May in Tallinn;
 - National meeting will be organised by Estonian Environmental Research Centre;
 - Preparations for national meeting: EERC will make overview on previous screening results/databases (assistance from Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Social Affairs), EERC will analyse their capacity to perform testing

of substances in their own lab, participants will collect info on potential sub-contracting laboratories.

Discussions:

- For example Galab laboratory analyses many isomers, also of brominated diphenylethers. That should be considered when choosing laboratory.

10. Hazardous substances monitoring in Estonia (Mr. Ott Roots)

Estonian monitoring programme, sites and substances monitored were reviewed.

11. Quality assurance aspects (Ms. Zita Dudutyte)

Important things for screening activities were presented:

- sampling standards and guidance;
- important aspects for sampling (upcoming directives, dishes, handling of samples, etc).

12. Tracking of Hazardous Source in Finland (Ms. Susan Londesborough)

The presentation was dealing about:

- chemical questionnaires;
- hazardous substances screening projects;
- hazardous substances in environmental permitting and chemicals registers.

Discussions:

- There are also permits for smaller companies, not only IPPC in Finland.
- The chemical register is available, but in Finish only.

13. Tracking Hazardous Substances in Lithuania (Ms. Nijolė Štriupkuvienė)

Presenting the ways, methodologies tried out in Lithuania and findings, learning's, recommendations.

Discussions:

- In Estonia there is a pollution reduction measure for phenols only. In Lithuania there are pollution reduction measures for more substances, but it does not work in reality.



Figure 6. Technical preparation for Ms. Nijolė Štriupkuvienė presentation

Feedback of the meeting

Participants were giving feedback to the meeting based on 3 points:

1. Open questions (Table 1);
2. Proposals for future trainings (Table 2);
3. Training/meeting evaluation (Table 3).

Table 1. Open questions

Open questions from participants
<p>Q: Will the project results be published? A: Yes, in the project web page - http://baltacthaz.bef.ee</p>
<p>Q: How to create data base comparable with LV, LT and EE data? A: It might be possible only in the frame of this project and if there is such wish then concrete formats must be discussed to compile the information.</p>
<p>Q: How strong will be the connection between COHIBA (“Control of hazardous substances in the Baltic Sea region”) and BaltActHaz projects? A: There is quite a difference in these projects. In BaltActHaz countries can choose substances and sites themselves, while in COHIBA, the list of substances (11 Helcom substances) and sampling site matrixes are already defined for all partner countries. It is important not to double the analysis.</p>
<p>Q: About supporting parameters. How free partners are to take them into account? A: It depends on each country needs/ priorities and screening goals, as well as budget.</p>
<p>Q: If Susan is able to provide also assistance in case of questions? A: Yes, via e-mail.</p>

Table 2. Proposals for future trainings

Participants' proposals for future trainings
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is necessary to compare permitting systems in the Baltic's;• Nordic experience on issuing IPPC permits regard hazardous substances;• It would be useful to invite experts from other Baltic Sea region countries to share their experience in source tracking;• To give to participants a homework with very concrete questions to be ready for discussions;• Continue to collaborate with national stakeholders (state authorities). Involve more stakeholders to get more hints for the future;• To organise working group – to put together all authority representatives in one group for common points in reduction of hazardous substances in the Baltic's;• It was interesting and useful;• Keep up the good work.

Table 3. Training/meeting evaluation results

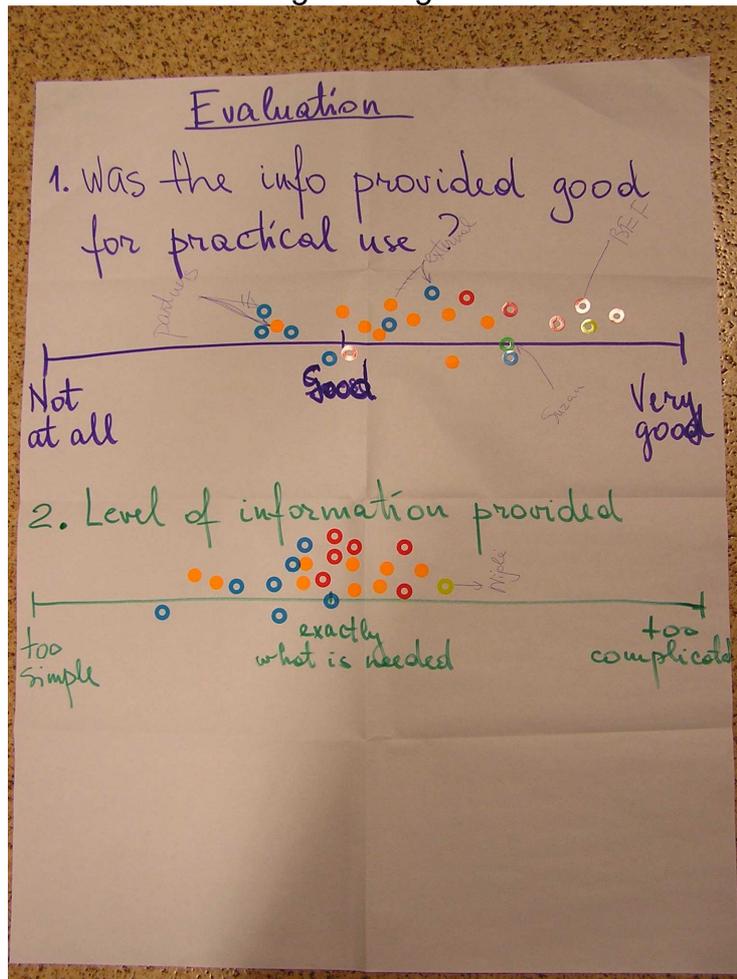


Figure 7. Training evaluation by participants. Colour explanation: 1) project partners – orange and yellow, 2) BEF members – red, 3) extra stakeholders – blue, green.

ANNEX

Participants list

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