



ACADEMY OF FINLAND  
RESEARCH FUNDING AND EXPERTISE

## **BONUS Day – Learning Café**

Theme 2: Stakeholder values of the Baltic Sea –  
Synthesis of group discussions  
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## What values of the Baltic Sea Region should be given priority?

- Values have been defined in different documents but not shared by everyone
- Priorities should be made understandable, transparent
- What kind of a Baltic Sea do we want?
- Different value drivers on many levels
  - Individual values
  - Economic values vs. others
  - Cultural differences between the countries
- Create a common maritime spatial planning process
  - Include the whole ecosystem

## Conflicting values

- Requirement on objectivity in science – personal values also involved
- Conflicts to be solved by political decision makers, not scientists
  - Aspects of power
- The "educational" and awareness raising role of science
- Mismatch between benefits from maritime transport and costs of reducing risks
  - Strong economic interest for some countries
  - Risks concentrated to a few countries with long coast-lines
- Increased traffic
  - Erosion in coastal areas
- Also increased offshore use: windmills, cables, pipes, etc.

## Is it possible to make values more commensurable?

- Complementarity between natural and social sciences
  - Wider set of indicators and measures
- Increase awareness in business
- Big or small commitments can create a common value base
- Governance through common business structures
  - Classification of vessels
  - Good governance but also economic benefits through lower insurance costs

## What specific research should be carried out or outputs delivered in the Baltic Sea area in the context of stakeholder values?

- Societal differences and values and time perspective
- Data ownership and cost of services
- Basic scientific research to support political decision making
  - Physical sciences provide basis for the research
  - High economic interests create also research
- Political and social aspects are less well understood
  - Integration of the whole process
  - Look for new visualization technics of the data to make it understandable
- Combined effects of chemical pollution and eutrophication
- Making knowledge available and use it and benefit of it cross-sectorally and from country to country