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Report on promotion activities of the Baltic Sea CCS Network



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Technical Research Centre of Finland CCSP WP 5.1.2

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Abstract

Work package is focused on international collaboration in the Baltic Sea region primarily related to potential of CO₂ storage in the region but also on promotion of overall CCS chain. Baltic Sea is surrounded by 9 countries each having own territorial waters and many of the potential storage sites are controlled by more than only one Baltic Sea country. An additional challenge is the fact that Kaliningrad area belongs to Russia, which is not an EU member country. In practice, possible implementation of CO₂ storage in Baltic Sea region requires collaboration of several countries.

The original target was to establish a Baltic Sea CCS Network by CCSP program. However, simultaneously very similar plans were presented by other actors and therefore it was decided to collaborate with other organisations and establish only one CCS Network.



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Summary of activities

Establishment of the Baltic Sea CCS Network is aimed to create a discussion and information exchange platform in Baltic Sea region in order to enhance open discussion on implementation of CCS especially in the Baltic Sea region.

The original plan was to establish a Baltic Sea Network by CCSP program in order to promote CCS related discussion between experts and CCS stake holders of Baltic Sea countries. Contacts were established to several Baltic Sea countries (Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Sweden, Denmark and Russia) in order to promote Baltic Sea CCS Network. Same time Baltic Sea Region Energy Cooperation (BASREC) focused activities on establishing Baltic Sea Network on CCS and especially storage of CO2 and logistics. Target was very similar than the target of CCSP and therefore efforts were combined. One common network was seen significantly better alternative than two parallel networks.

The first actual activity to establish the network was a consultative workshop in February 2014. Participants of the workshop were invited from Finland (Matti Nieminen), Seden, Estonia, Germany and Norway. In addition, representative of Global CCS Institute was invited. The objective of the workshop was to discuss and formulate network objectives. The workshop stressed the need for a clear purpose and compelling yet realistic objectives, to stimulate active contribution to the network. Joining individuals and organizations must embrace the network's objectives, which must be formulated such that they become good enough glue to capture people's commitment.

The network establishment is led by BASREC CCS project but CCSP is cooperating with the BASREC project. This is done by having tight contacts to leader of the BASREC CCS project Per Arne Nilsson.

Network has specific task forces focusing on storage, transport and logistics but funding for these task force works is very limited. In practice, only task force leaders have some funding from BASREC project, which restrict significantly efficiency of the task force work.

The first larger networking activity was organisation of the 2nd Baltic Sea Conference on CCS. This was organised in Tallinn in April 2015. CCSP program took part in organisation for example by presenting CCSP programme activities to the audience. More than 30 participants from most of the Baltic Sea countries participated the conference. Most of the participants were CCS experts but some representatives of governmental organisations as well as NGOs were present. The conference was continuation to previous BASREC CCS Conference organised in Warzaw in 2012.

The BASREC CCS project is primarily focusing on storage and logistics of CO₂. However, whole CCS is also included in discussions and thus the cooperation with

BASREC CCS network is seen as useful way to implement Baltic Sea networking objectives of CCSP programme. BASREC CCS project has own budget, which is significantly larger than budget of Baltic Sea networking of CCSP programme enabling significantly more powerful networking activities.

Cooperation work will be continued further with BASREC CCS project. The activities will focus on organisation of Baltic Sea Carbon Forum conferences but also on seeking financing especially on storage and logistics related Baltic Sea projects. In addition, one of the most essential objectives is to try to find a way to continue Baltic Sea CCS Network activity in some form also after BASCREC project and CCSP Program. Already now some countries, especially Latvia, Lithuania and Poland have had very limited funding available on any CCS activities and thus representatives of these countries have not had always chance to participate network meetings.



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1 References

Conference report on the 2nd Baltic Sea Carbon Forum conference, http://basrec.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/BCF-2015-REPORT-27.pdf