

Principles of

BACC II

**Göteborg, Sverige
23 November 2010**





The term “assessment” in this context refers to a review of the available knowledge about climate change and related issues, and not to an evaluation of climate change itself. The assessment is the synthesis of material drawn comprehensively from the available scientifically legitimate literature (e.g. peer reviewed literature, conference proceedings, reports of scientific institutes) and should encompass the knowledge about what scientists agree on but also identify cases of disagreement or knowledge gaps.



BACC II adopts the BACC definition of **the term “climate change”**: “BACC has decided to essentially follow the IPCC definition and to add explicitly “anthropogenic” to the term “climate change” when human causes are attributable, and to refer to “climate variability” when referring to variations not related to anthropogenic influences” (BACC 2008, Section 1.1).

Principles

- **BACC assesses** NOT the state of the climate, its change and impact in the Baltic Sea Catchment, BUT the **scientific knowledge about the climate, its change and impact in the Baltic Sea Catchment.**
- For doing so, **questions** from political, economic or ideological groups are welcome.
- The **assessment** considers only legitimately scientific material, i.e. material available from libraries.
- Scientific contributions are welcomed only from scientifically accepted institutions, not from groups with a political, economic or ideological agenda.

Principles

- The opinion of the lead authors, and their institutions, shall not have a greater weight than other contributors to the body of knowledge.
- Purpose is the presentation of **consensus about knowledge and lack thereof**.
- The assessment will be evaluated by **independent scientific reviewers**. The review process will be organized by the Scientific Steering Committee of BACC-2
- No financing by third parties.
- The Scientific Steering Committee has no influence on the substance of the assessment report (other than supervising the review process).

Principles

- BACC-2 represents an **update** of BACC-1.
- In doing so, the lead authors should concentrate on scientific legitimate publications for the **period mid 2006 until mid 2012**.
- Two key questions are to be answered:
 - To what extent is the assessment provided by BACC-1 still valid in view of the newly generated knowledge?
 - Which additional knowledge, beyond the knowledge available for BACC-1, has been published since BACC-1?
- In doing so, the chapters should begin with a summary of the knowledge described by BACC-1, and an analysis if parts of this knowledge has been falsified or contested since.

Principles

- It is the choice of the lead authors to invite **contributing authors**, which will be listed in a footnote of the final report.
- The sole **responsibility** for the different chapters is exclusively with the lead authors, and not with the contributing authors.