Baltic Earth lauched at the 7th Study Conference on BALTEX, Borgholm, Öland, Sweden, 10-14 June 2013

Baltic Earth

Earth System Science for the Baltic Sea Region

Vision of the programme

To achieve an improved Earth System understanding of the Baltic Sea region

- **Interdisciplinary** and **international** collaboration (conferences, workshops, joint projects etc.)
- **Holistic view** on the Earth system of the Baltic Sea region, encompassing processes in the **atmosphere**, on **land** and in the **sea** and also in the **anthroposphere**
- "**Service to society**" in the respect that **thematic assessments** provide an overview over knowledge gaps which need to be filled (e.g. by funded projects)
- **Education** (summer schools)
- Inherits the BALTEX network of scientists and infrastructure

Baltic Earth Infrastructure

- **International Baltic Earth Secretariat** at Helmholtz Zentrum Geesthacht
- **Baltic Earth Science Steering Group (BESSG)** Excellent, active "young" scientists; country balance, gender balance, discipline balance, institutional balance, currently 19 members
- **Working Groups** installed for each GC plus
  - WG on Outreach and Communication
  - WG on Education
  - WG on the Utility of Regional Climate Models
  - WG on the Assessment of Scenario Simulations for the Baltic Sea 1960-2100
  - WG on Regional Seas
- **Senior Advisory Board**

BESSG chairs

Markus Meier, Head of Physical Oceanography, Baltic Sea Research Institute, Germany

Anna Rutgersson, Professor of Meteorology, Uppsala University, Sweden.

Both have been active in BALTEX for many years

Members of the Baltic Earth Science Steering Group, as of January 2017

Juris Aigars
Latvia

Franz Berger
Germany

Inga Dailidienė
Lithuania

Jari Haapala
Finland

Karol Kulinski
Poland

Andreas Lehmann
Germany

Markus Meier
Germany

Kai Myrberg
Finland

Anders Omstedt
Sweden

Irina Partasenok
Belarus

Piia Post
Estonia

Marcus Reckermann
Germany

Gregor Rehder
Germany

Anna Rutgersson
Sweden

Corinna Schrum
Germany

Ben Smith
Sweden

Martin Stendel
Denmark

Ralf Weisse
Germany

Sergey Zhuravlev
Russia

Grand Challenges and Science Plan

- Flexible **science plan** with a continuously on-going definition of core research questions which are identified to be key scientific issues, so-called "**Grand Challenges**" (GCs)
- New Grand Challenges will be identified at conferences and by using **assessments** of existing research by dedicated working groups. Grand Challenges are envisaged to be research foci for periods of about 3-4 years (then terminated or updated)
- **Communication** with stakeholders and research funding agencies to promote funding relevant for the Grand Challenges
- Contributing to **GEWEX/WCRP**

Grand Challenges

- GC1: Salinity dynamics
- GC2: Land-Sea biogeochemical linkages
- GC3: Natural hazards and extreme events
- GC4: Sea level and coastal dynamics dynamics
- GC5: Regional variability of water and energy exchanges
- GC6: Multiple drivers of regional Earth system changes

- The **human impact** will be assessed at all levels, wherever possible and rational

- Website www.baltic.earth
- facebook.com/BalticEarth
- twitter.com/BalticEarth
- thebaccblog.blogspot.de

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