

The Baltic Sea Action Plan Fund

Concrete actions for a healthy Baltic Sea

The Baltic Sea Action Plan Fund (BSAP Fund) is an early-stage financing mechanism dedicated to expediting the implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP). The primary objective of the BSAP Fund is to facilitate and accelerate the preparation and implementation of projects addressing the key challenges facing the Baltic Sea.

Early-stage financial support

Given the transboundary nature of many of these challenges, projects often need early-stage financial support for initiation and assessment of potential solutions. The support of the BSAP Fund enables project testing and evaluation of replicability and scalability, as well as assessment of financial viability. Funding is accessible through funding rounds for project activities concentrated within the Baltic Sea catchment area. The BSAP Fund, initiated by Sweden and Finland, collaborates with public and private entities based throughout the Baltic Sea catchment area.

Accelerating the implementation of the Baltic Sea Action Plan

Although 97% of the Baltic Sea is impacted by eutrophication, significant environmental improvements have been achieved through various initiatives within the catchment area, following the roadmap of the BSAP. Leveraging over a decade of expertise in project funding, the BSAP Fund plays a key role in implementing the actions outlined in the BSAP.

Catalytic grants across the Baltic Sea region

Funding is available for projects aligned with the objectives and activities outlined in the BSAP. The requirement for co-financing helps projects attract other sources of investment.

The BSAP Fund provides grants for:

- demonstration purposes
- project development and preparation
- technical assistance
- project implementation

2010

establishment of the BSAP Fund by Sweden and Finland

74

projects financed as of the end of 2023

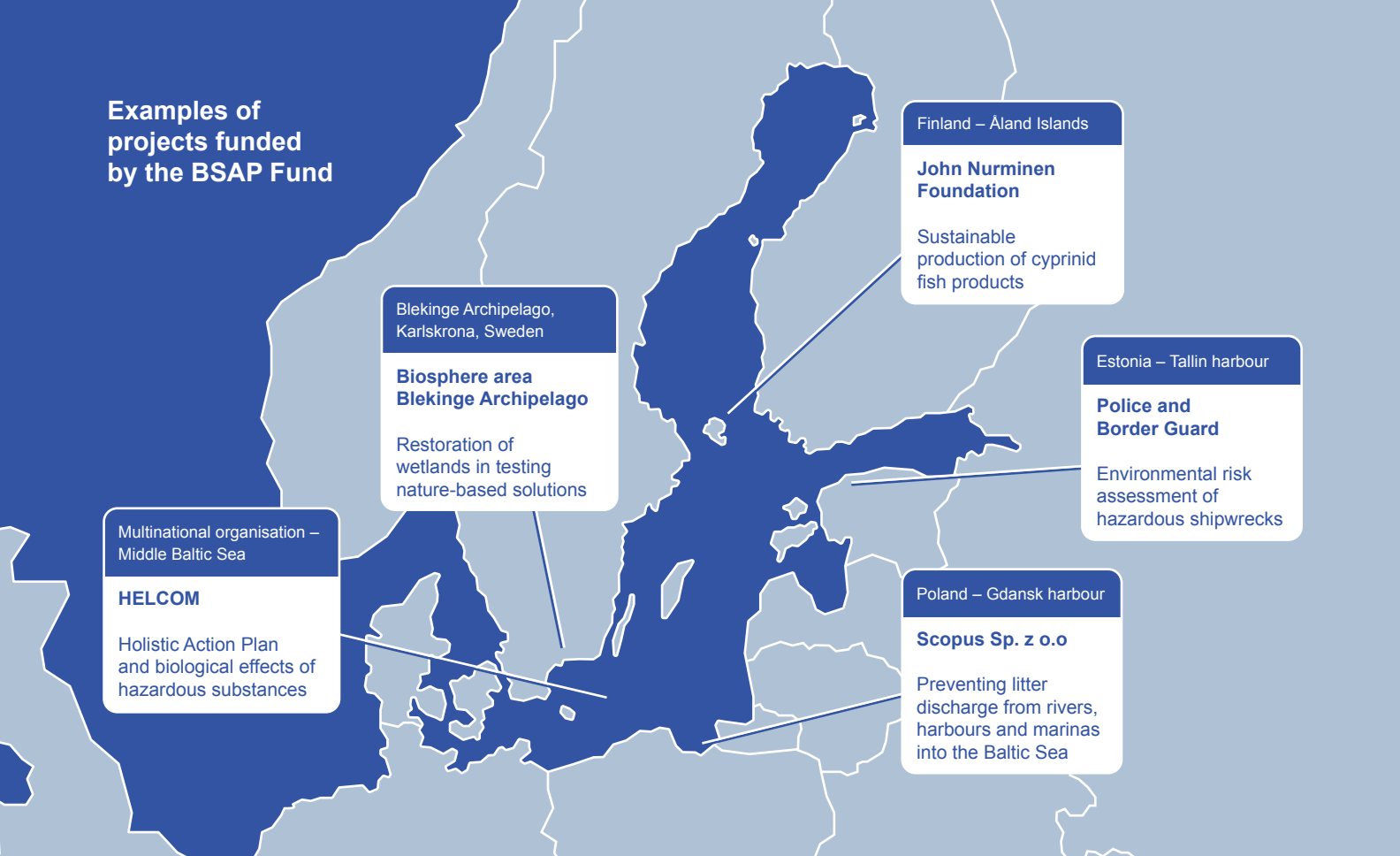
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additional investments generated by financing from the BSAP Fund

8

Baltic Sea countries where funding is available (Excluding Russia)

Examples of projects funded by the BSAP Fund



Funding for biodiversity conservation and pollution prevention

The BSAP Fund has made significant contributions towards fostering a healthy and resilient Baltic Sea ecosystem. About 80% of funded projects address biodiversity conservation and pollution prevention. For example, the BSAP Fund has financed project preparation for several wastewater treatment plants across the Baltic Sea area.

Supporting global and local marine environmental goals

The BSAP Fund is a tool to accelerate concrete actions on marine biodiversity and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as the environmental political agenda of the countries in the Baltic Sea catchment area. The fund serves as a mechanism for its contributors to take concrete actions to achieve the BSAP goals for 2030, a commitment shared by all HELCOM countries.

Fund managers

The BSAP fund is co-managed by Nefco and the Nordic Investment Bank (NIB).

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