



The Baltic University Programme

NEWSLETTER

N:o 1/2008

April

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Next Newsletter

The next issue of the BUP Newsletter will be published in May

We are always interested in articles or announcements, that can be included in the newsletter. Authors of accepted contributions will be rewarded a BUP t-shirt. Please send material to:

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Dear BUP Friends,

I have some good news! BUP will be present at the coming United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development 16 Meeting to be held in New York in the beginning of May. Our Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture project has been accepted as a UN Partnership for Sustainable Development, see <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/partnerships/partnerships.htm>

I, together with a group of colleagues, will hold a presentation at the Partnership Fair on May 6th. We will also participate in a Baltic 21 Side-event "Reaching a Landmark – Ten years of sub-regional

cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region and East Africa" on May 7th.

Since the previous BUP Newsletter in November 2007 we have been very busy. The two meetings that we hosted for Baltic 21, the workshop on Rural Development and the Baltic 21 Senior Officials Group Meeting SOG 27 were successful. Both had many participants and I hope put sustainability forward to some extent in the Baltic Sea region. We visited Mats Leijon's group at the Ångström Laboratory (world leading on renewable energy research) at Uppsala University. Torbjörn Lembke was our guide and we were shown among other things a wave generator and a wind generator and interesting discussions took place.

In November I visited Kharkiv and Kiev, Ukraine in connection with a contact seminar arranged by the Swedish Institute. It was a really interesting experience which I hope will mark the start of increased cooperation and projects with the Ukraine.

On December 6-7 2007, the Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture (EHSA) project was presented at a conference on Agri-environmental Extension Service (Advisory service with an environmental outlook for farmers) in Riga. This conference was resulting from the Saltsjöbaden high-level meeting for Agriculture and Environment. The Riga conference ended in concrete proposals on future international activities. One of these proposals was a further development of the EHSA project together with the Swedish Farmers Federation, WWF and Keep Baltic Tidy to export a programme on agri-environmental extension service to other countries in the Baltic Sea region. We are currently trying to finance a continuation along this track and the near future will show if we are successful.

Lots of time and efforts have been spent in the Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture project, as I have held three seminars with a group of expert lecturers on Sustainable Agriculture in St. Petersburg on December 12-14, Kaliningrad on January 14-16 and Tartu on February 6-8. Ingrid Karlsson and her group has also held their seminars on Land Use and Rural Development in February, 11-12 in St. Petersburg, 14-15 in Kaliningrad and 19-20 in Kaunas. Leif Norrgren and his group have started their round with a seminar on Ecology and Animal Health in St. Petersburg in March.

In January we held the first Centre Directors Meeting since Lars Rydén retired. This time it was held in Lviv, Ukraine, an interesting old city characterized by many banks and lovely old buildings with wrought-iron balconies.

For the first time ever, we have applied for financing for a full set of activities for all our interest groups for a two year period at the Swedish Institute. We have put focus on teachers training and hope to be able to offer two teachers trainings per year and also two student conferences per year, on top of other activities. New interest groups that now are included that we previously have not arranged activities for are PhD students and Seniors (retired members).

On the basis of several BUP projects on sustainable urban development Lars Rydén started a new activity at the Uppsala CSD (Centre for Sustainable Development), which now houses the BUP Secretariat. This is called Urban Studies and Sustainability Science (U3S). It is so far mostly a seminar series in Uppsala announced on the BUP homepage. But in the near future there will be workshops in Lithuania, Poland and Latvia and new publications. We are, as time goes, forming a small network of interested "clusters" of urbanists. All BUPpers are welcome to join.

Christine



NEWSLETTER

2008

Events Calendar

2008

April

Students' Conference
16-20 April 2008
Rogow, Poland

SAIL Teachers Meeting
19 April 2008
2nd meeting of the teachers
on the Erasmus IP course
SAIL on board STS Fryderyk
Chopin

SWM Teachers Training
21-23 April 2008
Warszaw, Poland

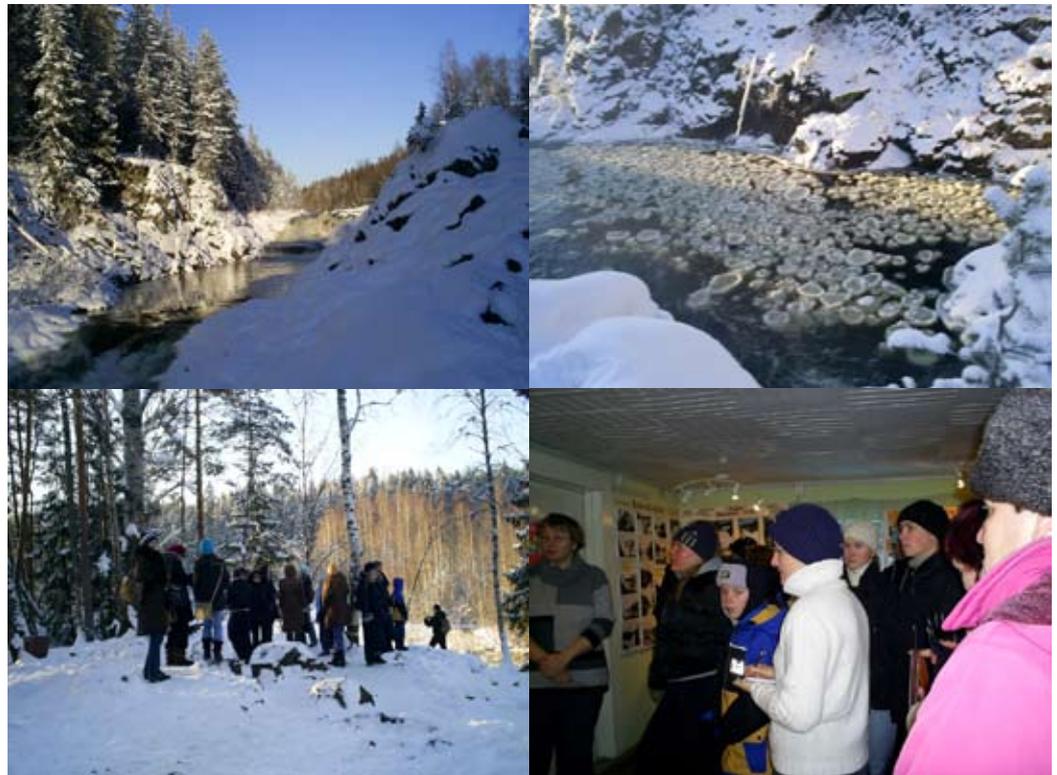
May

BUP Teachers Training
Intercultural communication
and didactic methods.
12-15 May 2008
Molo, Poland

United Nations 16th Session
of Commission for Sustainable
Development (CSD-16)
6-7 May 2008
New York, USA

June

BUP board meeting
2 June 2008
Uppsala, Sweden



Have You Ever Been in Karelia?

by PhD Tatyana Regerand

Northern Water Problems Institute, Kaliningrad

There are a lot of interesting natural places in Karelia. One of them is the waterfall Kivach. The waterfall is the most beautiful place of the river Suna – one of the two tributaries coming to Lake Onega (the second largest lakes in Europe). The second tributary is the river Vodla. The river Suna is 232 km long. Kivach is the most famous waterfall in Karelia and the second largest plain waterfall in Europe. It is 10.7 meters high. Kivach is a tiered waterfall which means that water comes down along the ledges as if in steps. There is a hypothesis of the origin of the name Kivach that it comes from two words: the Finish word "kivi" that means "stone" or from the Karelian word "kivas" – "a snow mountain". The river bed is formed from dark diabase rocks. It is beautiful in any time and gives a strong impression.

A group from the BUP courses "Water resources of Karelia and methods of their investigation" conducted by the Educational-Scientific Centre of Northern Water Problems Institute visited this place in the beginning of 2008. This waterfall belongs to the State zapovednik "Kivach" (nature reserve) which was protected in 1931. This reserve has the typical Karelian landscape: pine forests and bogs.

The excursion was conducted as the field practical expedition on the "Baltic Sea Environment" and "Sustainable Water Management" courses. The courses participants, students of the geographical, biological and chemistry departments of the State Pedagogical University and Petrozavodsk State University and also some teachers from secondary schools visited also the museum of the "Kivach zapovednik". In the reserve occur nearly 60% of all Karelian plants and animals. Nowadays this place is much used for nature protection and scientific investigations.



The Baltic University Programme

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June

EHSA Authors Meeting
9-10 June 2008
Uppsala, Sweden

EHSA Authors Meeting
25-26 June 2008
Klaipeda, Lithuania

July

SAIL Student sailing seminar
29 June-16 July 2008
STS Fryderyk Chopin,
the Baltic Sea & North Sea

August

Mazury Lakes Sailing seminar
1-15 August
Mazury lakes, Poland

Water Environment And
Spatial Natural Complexes:
Study, Use And Protection
26-28 August
Petrozavodsk, Karelia, Russia

September

BUP Centres & mentors
meeting
10-13 September 2008
Curonian Spit, Lithuania

3rd Engineering Education
in Sustainable Development
conference (EESD 08)
22-24 September
Graz, Austria



Tampere University of Applied Science
visited the BUP Secretariat on a R&D visit to Uppsala, Sweden

TAMK Tampere University of Applied Sciences is very active nationally and internationally in research & development, especially in the field of environmental and sustainable development. TAMK was planning to join the Baltic University Programme (BUP) and therefore the R&D group lead by Dr. Perttu Heino (Research director) visited Uppsala University located at Villavägen 16, 75236 Uppsala on 9th of January 2008.

The R&D group was welcomed by the BUP Director, Christine Jakobsson who introduced during her presentation the Baltic University Programme and the project Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Development. This was followed by two interesting presentations: the first one was made by the former Director of BUP Professor Emeritus Lars Rydén who introduced Sustainable Community Development. The second presentation was about The Centre of Sustainable Development in Uppsala by Director Eva Friman.

After lunch the visit continued at the Swedish Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Engineering (JTI) located on Ultuna. Mr. Ulf Nordberg introduced some research findings:

- Only organic wastes with very low metal content should be digested
- Digestion of source separated organic wastes will give a digestate accepted by farmers
- Transparency in what a plant is treating is very important for confidence
- A certification system is necessary for acceptance from food industry
- A dialog with food industry, farmers and other stakeholders is necessary for understanding of each others perspective

The trip to Uppsala ended by visiting the Eco-Village Hågaby, where Professor Per G. Berg, from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU, told about the history of the village, schools, composting room.

On our trip back to Finland, me and my colleagues felt ourselves more than welcome to join the network, thanks to the warm reception during our visit to Uppsala.

Mina Bouhlal



NEWSLETTER

Teacher-training continuing education

Survey results and implementation

by Lyudmyla Babak

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The survey on teacher-training continuing education for the BUP teachers was created and open for answering from 06-02-2008 to 09-02-2008. All together we received 54 answers from 13 countries. The Secretariat is very grateful to respondents and hopes to implement all wishes and suggestion into BUP's future work.

It is evident from the survey results that the teachers involved in the Baltic University Programme would like to be provided with continuing teacher training from BUP.

Even if 77% of the home universities provide continuing education, the teachers (92%) are interested in receiving support at an international level and they consider participation in such programmes to be important both for their home universities (86%) and for their professional development (90%). The most attractive type of continuing teachers' education is training programmes/seminars/courses focused at both subject-oriented and didactics-oriented material (27%). 21% of respondents are interested in just subject-oriented programmes and even less; only 14 % consider pure didactical seminars to be interesting. 21% of the teachers prefer regular trainings to the single seminar/workshop. 2-3 days seminars/courses/programmes seem to be ideal form of training as 64 % of the teachers voted for that.

According to the survey the following information/means are needed for successful teaching of the BUP courses. The list is ranked, one being the most demanded.

1. Methods of teaching
2. Sustainable Development questions
3. Didactical materials
4. Video and CD materials
5. Education for Sustainable Development
6. Information about EU and other international projects, new partnership
7. Illustrative material (presentations, games, cases)
8. Development of e-courses, e-education
9. Methods to activate students involvement

According to subjects, the teachers are interested in the subjects described in the table (no ranking).

Analysing the results, the Secretariat is eager to consider all suggestions and wishes. Therefore teacher-training activities are being planned for the next 2 years and application to implement these activities have already been sent to the Swedish Institute.

The first step in this process is the BUP Teacher Training programme to be offered to BUP teachers in Poland on 12-15 May 2008. Here we are going to devote this programme to intercultural communication in connection with sustainable development, as well as to didactical and methodological issues. The programme will be rounded off by a workshop aimed at combining didactical methods with the subject materials. We see such a structure of the programme containing both thematic and didactical components as a possible prototype for organizing future teacher-training activities.



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All participants will get a BUP teacher training certificate. We know that BUP teachers will participate in such trainings not only for their personal professional development, but in order to improve the competence of their students and universities as well. That is why we do hope that such certificates will be recognised by the home university authorities as an evidence of the teachers' professional development at an international level.

Subject	Topics
Environment	Environmental Engineering Environmental Protection Global Environmental Problems Economy and Law as instruments in Environmental Protection Environmental Management Environmental Safety Environmental Pollution Problems Environmental Science The Baltic Sea Environment and Sustainable Development Environmental Economy
Water	Sustainable Water Management Water Protection Water Quality Water and Engineering Systems in Sustainable Development
Ecology	Ecological Engineering Ecological footprint Ecology
Climate	Climate Issues Influence of the Climate Change on Agriculture Climate oscillations in the past times and their apply for today
Energy	Renewable Energy Systems Renewable Sources of Energy Energy management Bio and Renewable Energy
Agriculture	Sustainable Agriculture and an effect of the climate change on agriculture in Northern Europe
Natural resources	Natural Resource Management and Social Sustainability Nature subject in secondary school
Sustainability	Sustainability Indicators Economic Instruments and Law for Sustainability Sustainable Tourism Sustainable Urban Development Sustainable Management of Energy and Materials Flow Connection of Sustainable Development and engineering subjects
Biology	Biological implication of seawater acidification
Coastal Zone	Coastal Zone Management Ecological Sensitivity of the Coastal Areas
Chemistry	Constructivism in Chemical Education Chemical measurement of different kind of pollutions



NEWSLETTER

Climate 2008/Klima 2008

News

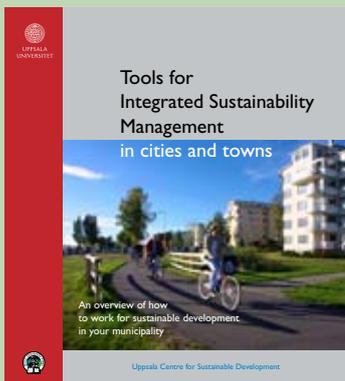
Call for Papers

submit ideas for
"Klima 2008 / Climate 2008"
now!

Individual researchers and research teams (scientists, decision-makers, enterprises, NGOs and individuals) are invited to submit papers for the online-conference until 15 May 2008 at the latest. Accepted papers will be subsequently published in the book "Interdisciplinary Aspects of Climate Change". Send a 250 words abstract to the conference secretariat.
<http://www.klima2008.net>

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FAIR • EXHIBITION • CONGRESS • SYMPOSIUM

*471 x 10⁹ gigajoules (GJ) - world's annual energy use (2004) [1]
..this is less than the amount of solar energy intercepted by our planet ... in every minute!
..around 1,200 times less than the absorption of solar energy by tropical oceans ... on annual basis!
..approx. 12-13 times less than the yearly theoretical potential from energy of the wind ... for the entire Earth!
..of which 10% is produced by annual photosynthesis due to vegetation ... in US alone!*

The numbers don't lie - renewable energy is the way to go! Especially today, in the wake of fossil fuel shortage, the generation of renewable energy deserves an unprecedented attention from governmental officials, scientists, field experts, and, more importantly, from general public. Countless organizations and institutions warn that the world needs an urgency driven joint effort to create a competitive renewable energy infrastructure and market. The developed world must therefore make more research investments to find better cost efficient technologies in order for the renewable energy sector to grow fast enough. This, in turn, will start a decline of fossil fuel dominance and help the world to avoid the looming climate and peak oil crises. To step to this challenge and bring the aforementioned groups together, Technical University of Lodz along with Baltic University Programme, Poland, is proud to announce the LIFE CORE 2008, a set of 4 events tied to the 14th Conference Of Parties 2008 in Poznan, Poland . the United Nation's Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP14).

FOUR EVENTS ON ENERGY PRGANIZED BY
THE TECHNICAL UNIVERDSITY OF LODZ AND
THE BALTIC UNIVERSITY PROGRAMME

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<http://www.lifecore.com.pl>



Welcome to Climate 2008 / Klima 2008

The world's CO₂-friendly Scientific Climate Conference
3-7 November 2008 online
<http://www.klima2008.net>



NEWSLETTER



You are all invited to the three coming seminars within the CBSS's series Balticenss. They will be held:

On April 22 in Berlin „Deepening Cooperation towards a fully-fledged Maritime Economy in the Baltic Sea Region”;

On April 24 in Warsaw „Demographic deficit, brain drain and challenged integration: The complexity of migration in the Baltic Sea Region”

On May 9 in Vilnius “Baltic Sea Region transport - a network of innovation, efficiency and competitiveness”.

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Education for Change

In the very end of November last year a disparate group of people from Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland met in Gdansk. The aim was to finalize the building up phase of the project Education for Change. Another aim was to start the process of integrating the project into a course offered by Baltic University Programme.

The meeting took place in the during summertime probably most attractive and busy wide sandy beech near the border between the cities of Gdansk and Sopot at the Bay of Gdansk. In late November, on the other hand, the place was quite quiet and very well suited for an intensive meeting.

Several difficulties with the project were discussed. One is the idea that the course material should be possible to use in a wide range of teaching situations where sustainable development is in focus. Situations ranging from schools and high schools to universities either for teaching in class or for the teachers own continued education. Another topic that evoked a lot of discussion was the question on the teaching materials. In the first place the scope and comprehensiveness of the planned textbook but also more technical questions like if it should be a printed book or an e-book.

Much less controversial was the fact that the preliminary and experimental competence development for teachers carried out by means of the study circle method in almost all cases had been a great success. The conclusion was that the study circle method is flexible and effective and thus may suit teachers from many different subjects, levels and countries.

The conference ended with a dinner at the castle ... and with a fiery performance in the icy garden. Thus to finalize this report it is my opinion that the participants of this meeting brought forward a lot of ideas to the project leader Gitte Jutvik. All of us that participated in the conference also owe the conference host and organiser Maria Mendel many thanks for her concern and effort.

More information on this project could be found on its own web site at <http://www.balticuniv.uu.se/educ/>

*Christian Andersson
The Baltic University Secretariat*

Climate Changes Investigations – a BUP course in Karelia

An analysis of regional climate changes within the Baltic Sea watershed has been included in and is considered an important component in the teaching of the Baltic University Program courses at the Northern Water Problems Institute (NWPI) in Petrozavodsk.

For the analysis a data on annual air temperature for the period 1900-1999 at 37 climate stations was collected in to a database. The stations are evenly distributed within the Baltic Sea watershed. From these annual air temperature data analyses on time-space relationships and their linear trends was carried out. The study was by the BUP student Margarita Emelyanova at the Karelian State Pedagogical University and with Dr. Yuri Salo at NWPI as her supervisor.

She found that significant changes in local air temperatures have occurred within the studied region during the last century. In the southern part of the studied area the temperature has both the increased and decreased in different stations. At the same time in the central part of the watershed and, particularly, in the northern part of the area a significant positive trend is found. The most noticeable warming during the investigated 100-years period takes place in Novgorod, Russian Federation. Here the linear trend equals a warming of 2.1oC per 100 years. In Koszalin, Poland, and Haaparanta, Finland and Riga, Latvia the increase in air temperature is estimated to 1.5oC per 100 years. Within the Baltic Sea watershed as a whole the area-averaged annual air temperature increased with a rate of about 0.4oC per 100 years for the study period.

The obtained results as well as the database were used for BUP lectures and the practical lessons in accordance with the NWPI Baltic University Program.

*Dr. Yuri Salo,
Northern Water Problems Institute, Petrozavodsk*