# Baltic Sea NGOs - Experiences of regional cooperation: Coalition Clean Baltic

Piotr Gruszka
Green Federation GAJA & Polish Ecological Club
(CCB Member organisations)

NGO Work with Fisheries in the Baltic Sea
28-29 August 2007, Hel, Poland

Coalition Clean Baltic

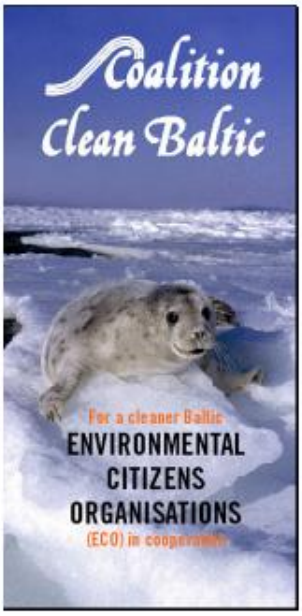
# What is CCB?

Coalition Clean Baltic

# Coalition Clean Baltic

**CCB – Joining forces for the Baltic**

- **CCB** is a network of Environmental NGOs, grass-root level, in 10 countries bordering the Baltic Sea
- **CCB** was established in 1990
- **CCB** is environmental Citizens Organisations (ECO) in cooperation
- **CCB** has 27 member organizations
- **CCB** has organisations in: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Sweden and Ukraine



Coalition Clean Baltic

- **CCB** is working in the Baltic Sea catchment area and its membership represents about 0.5 million individual members in the Baltic Sea region

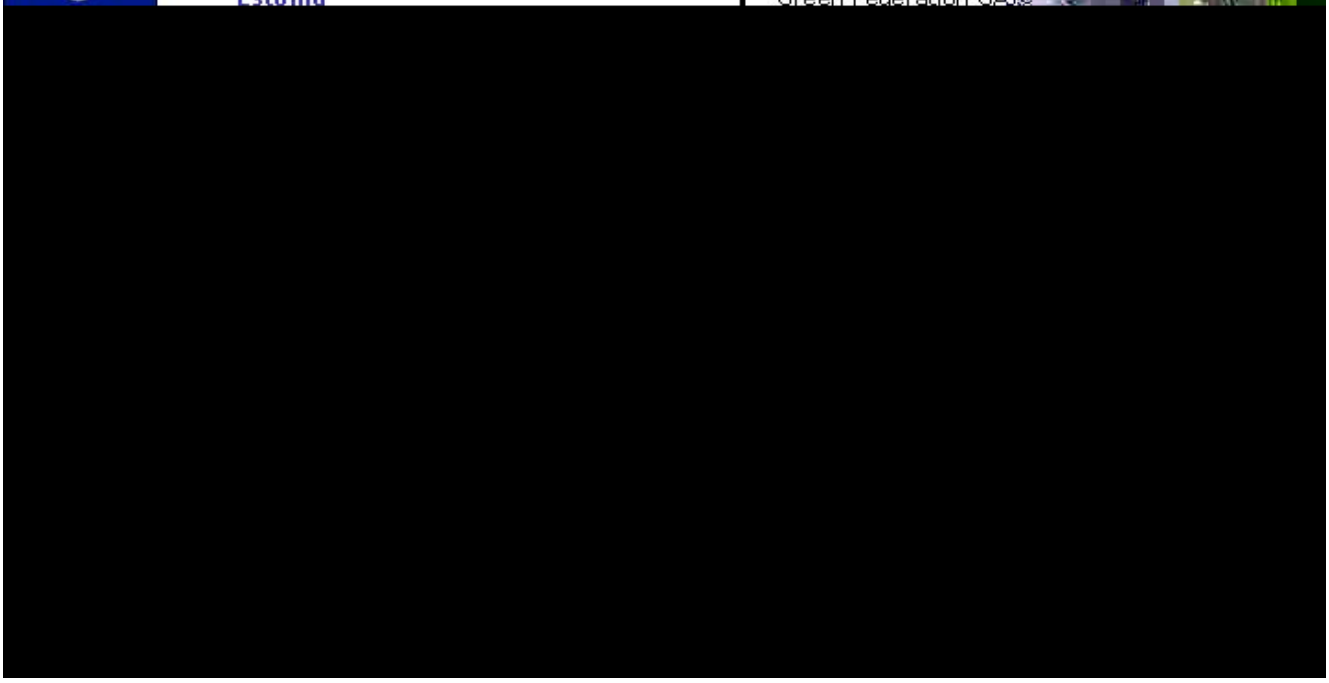
Baltic

# Member organisations

**Denmark**
Danish Society for Nature Conservation

**Estonia**

**Poland**
Ecobaltic Foundation, Gdansk
Ecological Library Foundation, Poznan
Green Federation GAJ

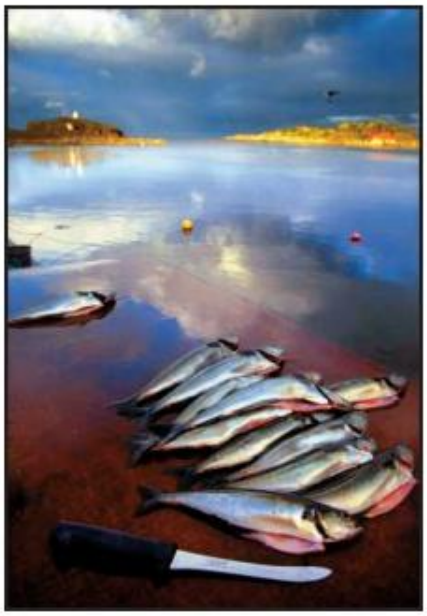


Coalition Clean Baltic

# We love the Baltic Sea!

Coalition Clean Baltic

# To help the Baltic Sea to survive



Coalition Clean Baltic

# 3 Priority Areas

1. **Promotion of good ecological water status**

2. **Prevention of installations and transports harmful to the Baltic Sea environment and coastal areas**

3. **Development of sustainable Baltic Sea fisheries**

Coalition Clean Baltic

# 3 Priority Areas

## 1. Promotion of good ecological water status

- Sustainable wastewater management
- Sustainable River Basin Management
- Promotion of water protection measures in agriculture

## 2. Prevention of installations and transports harmful to the Baltic Sea environment and coastal areas

- Harmful installations and transports
- Promotion of sustainable development in coastal zones
- Harmful hydro-electric power plants

## 3. Development of sustainable Baltic Sea fisheries

- Protection of the naturally spawning Baltic salmon
- Promotion of Baltic Sea sustainable fishing practices

Coalition Clean Baltic

# CCB works mainly through means of

- Lobbying
- Public awareness
- Co-operation projects
- Support to member organisations

Coalition Clean Baltic

# CCB is running activities

- International level
  - present joint NGO proposals and demands towards Baltic Ministerial Meetings, HELCOM, Baltic Sea RAC, BALTIC 21 process – Agenda 21 for the Baltic Sea Region, European Commission, and Baltic Sea Parliamentarian Conferences
- National level
  - in each Baltic Sea region country, towards Governments, authorities
  - towards national environmental policies
  - public awareness and educational activities
- Local level
  - concrete projects in the field
  - partnerships: municipalities, organisations, etc.

Coalition Clean Baltic

# CCB lobbying activities

- HELCOM (observer since 1991)
- BALTIC 21 (member since 1996)
- Baltic Sea RAC for fisheries (member)
- European Commission
- Council of the Baltic Sea States
- national, regional, local authorities, etc.

Coalition Clean Baltic

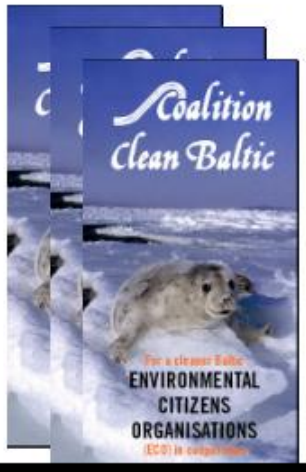
# CCB awareness activities

- Production, dissemination and gathering of information
  - different publications, brochures, posters, e-mail lists, website, etc.
- Promotion of projects
  - for environmental education and awareness raising campaigns etc.
- Publishes environmental info and electronic newsletter (www.ccb.se)

Coalition Clean Baltic

# CCB Publications

CCB gathers, produces, and disseminates information about environmental problems in the Baltic Sea Area, and about constructive measures to address them.



Coalition Clean Baltic

## 1. Promotion of good ecological water status

# Sustainable Waste Water management

**Goal:** reduce eutrophication, less algal blooms, recycling of nutrients

**Activities:**

- 1 CCB international seminar
- Local seminars in St. Petersburg
- Demonstration of eco-toilets in Russia and Ukraine
- Production, translation, and publishing of CCB booklets on WW
- Info campaign in St. Petersburg
- Lobby activities

Coalition Clean Baltic

## 1. Promotion of good ecological water status

# Sustainable River Basin Management

**Goal**: Promote River Basin Management Plans, involve different stakeholders

**Activities:**

- International Workshop - EU water policies
- Position paper on actions for River Basin Management Plan
- Produce map and brochure on Gulf of Finland rivers
- River Watch Networks (Gulf of Finland and Kaliningrad)
- Natura 2000 in Lithuania, Env. Inform. Centre
- Different river protection projects in Ukraine

Coalition Clean Baltic

## 1. Promotion of good ecological water status

# Water protection measures in Agriculture

**Goal**: More environmentally friendly agricultural production

**Activities:**

- Trainings and networking for farmers in Poland
- Publish info materials
- Harmful industrial farms project in Poland
- Agriculture projects in Poland, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine
- Lobby work - HELCOM, BA21, nationally, etc.

Coalition Clean Baltic

## 2. Prevention of installations and transports harmful to the Baltic Sea environment and coastal areas

# Harmful installations and transports

**Goal**: Avoid potential threats from harmful installations

**Activities:**

- Campaigns and activities for awareness raising
- Publishing and distribution of different info material
- Lobbying nationally and internationally (HELCOM)
- Project on public participation for new planned harmful installations
- Project on pollution of the Lake Onega

Coalition Clean Baltic

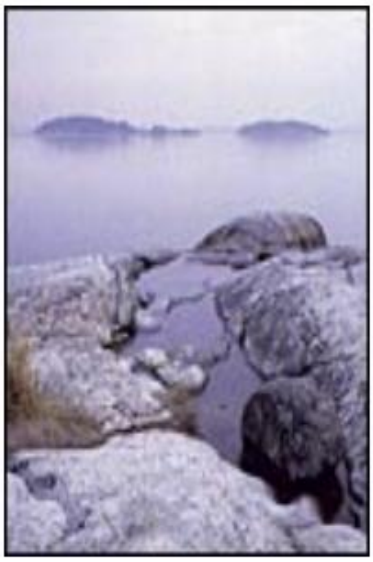
## 2. Prevention of installations and transports harmful to the Baltic Sea environment and coastal areas

# Sustainable development in coastal zones

**Goal:** Reduce potential threats to valuable Baltic Sea coastal areas

**Activities:**

- Dissemination and presentation of CCB report and pamphlet "Threats to coastal zones"
- Dissemination of CCB Yearbook 2004
- Different lobby activities
- Public participation in costal development, St. Petersburg
- AGORA sustainable tourism project



Coalition Clean Baltic

## 2. Prevention of installations and transports harmful to the Baltic Sea environment and coastal areas

# Harmful Hydro-electric power plants

**Goal:** Protect valuable rivers from exploitation by dams and hydro-power

**Activities:**

- Presentation of the CCB map on Nemunas river basin
- Presentation of CCB survey on hydro-power projects
- Dissemination and translation of CCB hydro-power reports
- Lobby for balanced exploitation

Coalition Clean Baltic

## 3. Development of sustainable Baltic Sea fisheries

# Baltic Salmon

**Goal:** Preserve genetic variety, restore natural spawning populations

**Activities**:

- Lobby activities, e.g. Baltic Sea RAC
- Salmon fishway excursion, Sweden
- Raise awareness on salmon by disseminating various CCB info materials - reports, pamphlets, brochures, posters
- Projects:

- Protection of migratory salmonids in Poland, Green Federation GAJA
- Wild salmon management in the Gulf of Finland and the Baltic Proper, EGM and Lithuanian Fund for Nature
- Salmon rivers restoration in Belarus

Coalition Clean Baltic

### 3. Development of sustainable Baltic Sea fisheries

# Sustainable Fishing practices

**Goal:** Promote sustainable fishing practices, precautionary and ecosystem approach

**Activities:**

- Lobbying Baltic Sea RAC
- CFP and DG Fish meetings
- Pamphlet on harbour porpoise
- Produce and disseminate CCB papers and publications (posters, pamphlets) on sustainable fishing practices
- Lobby national governments

Coalition Clean Baltic

# CCB in the Baltic Sea Regional Advisory Council (BS RAC)

- Member of the Executive Committee
- Active participant in working groups on fisheries for salmon and sea trout, and on demersal fisheries
- CCB member organisations as Members of the BS RAC - General Assembly:
  - BUND (Umwelt- und Naturschutz)
  - Estonian Green Movement
  - Finnish Association for Nature Conservation
  - Polish Ecological Club
  - Swedish Society for Nature Conservation

Coalition Clean Baltic

# CCB Achievements

## Some examples:

- full openness and transparency within HELCOM
- protection of Baltic river ecosystems from small hydro-power plants (Latvia, Lithuania)
- new legislation on ecological farming in Poland
- promotion of sustainable fisheries in the Baltic Sea: phase-out of Baltic Sea driftnets and separate management of Eastern and Western Baltic Sea cod stocks
- sustainable wastewater management in the Baltic Sea region

Coalition Clean Baltic

# Strengths of CCB

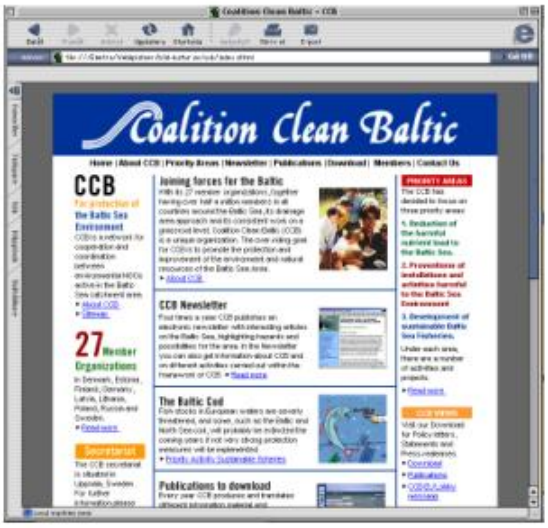
- activities on the international, national and local level at the same time
- covering the whole Baltic Sea region
- 16 years of experience
- >0.5 million members
- genuine knowledge and experience within the network

- extensive information and knowledge exchange within the network identifies important tasks for CCB to emphasize

Coalition Clean Baltic

# Thanks for your attention!

Coalition Clean Baltic

# Visit www.ccb.se

- About CCB
- Information
- Newsletters
  (8-12 times per year)
- Priority Areas
- Statements etc.
- Contact