

DRAFT PROGRAMME

LOW IMPACT FISHERIES IN THE BALTIC SEA

A BALTIC CONFERENCE TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW IMPACT FISHERIES
IN THE BALTIC SEA

This seminar is organised by the Fisheries Secretariat (FISH) in partnership with WWF Sweden

Place: MIR, Gdynia, Poland

Time: 26–27 September, 2012



Purpose of event: *To look at Low Impact Fisheries alternatives in the Baltic Sea region and to create a set of recommendations for action.*

With this conference we would like to stimulate a broader debate about what further actions are needed in order to minimise the environmental impacts caused by fishing. It will provide opportunities for knowledge-sharing and discussion on possible improvements and/or changes in gears and practices in the Baltic fisheries, with the view to make the Baltic Sea a model for Low Impact Fisheries.

We hope that the conference will be a starting point for closer collaboration between scientists and fishermen, as well as decision-makers, and that it will forge links to ongoing work in the Baltic Sea region.

AGENDA

Day 1:

Venue: MIR, Gdynia

MODERATOR: *Axel Wenblad, former director of Swedish Board for Fisheries, Sweden*

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Welcome and introductions – *Niki Sporrang, FISH, and Håkan Wirtén, WWF Sweden*

13:40 Key note: Low Impact Fisheries in the Baltic Sea – alternative fishing techniques and policy barriers – *Gustaf Almquist, The Fisheries Secretariat (FISH), Sweden*

14:20 Panel discussion: From theory to practice – reflections on outcomes in the report

FEATURED SPEAKERS (quick round of presentations of panel members, each member should be able to discuss problems and possible solutions on their specific topic related to the report):

- 1) **targets species:** *Eskil Kierkegaard, Technical University of Denmark (DTU Aqua), Denmark (cod and flatfish)*
- 2) **bycatch of birds:** *Jochen Bellebaum, Independent Expert on bird bycatch, Germany*
- 3) **habitat:** *Christian Pusch, Marine and Coastal Nature Conservation Unit, German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (EMPAS), Germany*
- 4) **vulnerable species:** *Sven-Gunnar Lunneryd, Institute of Coastal Research, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden (seals)*
- 5) **vulnerable species:** *Iwona Pawliczka, Hel Marine Station, University of Gdansk, Poland (harbour porpoise)*
- 6) **fuel efficiency:** *Sara Hornberg, The Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology (SIK)*

15:40 Coffee

16:00 The Norwegian example: Experiences on how to develop selective gears and techniques (how can scientists, fishermen and decision makers cooperate to facilitate the development of LIF fisheries) (20 + 10 min) - *Arne Bjørge, Institute of Marine Research, Norway (tbc)*

16:30 BS RAC work on reducing cod discards – *Reine Johansson, Chairman, Baltic Sea RAC (tbc)*

16.50 EU project on cod trawl selectivity (LOT 1) – *Daniel Stepputtis, Institute of Baltic Sea Fisheries, Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut, Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, Germany* **or** *Hans Nilsson, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden (tbc)*

- 17.10 Is it possible to achieve sustainable small-scale fisheries in the Baltic Sea with today's fisheries policies? – *Vesa Tschernij, Manager South Baltic FLAG, Sweden*
- 17.30 Low Impact Fisheries in action – *two fishermen using LIF methods in the Baltic Sea*
- 18:00 End of Day: Welcome to Outdoor gear exhibit
- 19.30 Joint dinner

Day 2: Inspiring tools and examples

- 08:30 Opening key note: **WWF Smart Gear – examples from around the world**

09.00 World Café: POSSIBILITIES TO MAKE THE BALTIC SEA A MODEL REGION

Facilitators: *Kajsa Balkfors, Kajsa Balkfors AB/ Cirkus Transfer and Tatiana Glad, Co-funder of Waterlution, Engage! InterAct*

One topic: “How can we implement *Low Impact Fisheries* in the Baltic Sea region?”

Conversations that matter: moving towards action

- 11:45 Recommendations for action!
The recommendations from the groups are presented and further discussed.
- 12.30 EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region – how can LIF be realised through the Baltic strategy?
- 12.50 Conclusion and closing remarks
- 13:00 End of day 2 and lunch**