



Overview of first ASTRA project results: Activities and progress in Lithuania June 2005 – March 2006

Project Partners' Meeting

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Potsdam

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- ≡ Brief reminding on Lithuanian case study areas;
- ≡ Progress in Lithuania:
 - WP1: Adaptation strategies for regional planning purposes;
 - WP2: Dissemination;
 - WP3: Development of policies and adaptation strategies for the BSR.
- ≡ Lessons learnt / Suggestions for the future work

Klaipeda City



- ≡ Klaipeda County - the only county in Lithuania which borders Baltic Sea;
- ≡ Klaipeda City - third largest city in Lithuania;
- ≡ 190 700 inhabitants;
- ≡ Ice-free port;
- ≡ Produces 1/10 of the country's industrial production;
- ≡ Important economical, cultural, scientific center of Lithuania.



Curonian Spit



- ≡ Sand dunes peninsula (98 km long and 0.4-4 km wide) – Baltic Sea and Curonian Lagoon;
- ≡ 52 km (territory of Lithuania) – Curonian Spit National Park;
- ≡ Home of highest moving dunes in Europe, rare plants;
- ≡ 2 400 inhabitants;
- ≡ In 2000 added to Unesco World Heritage List
 - It is an outstanding example of a landscape of sand dunes that is under constant threat from natural forces (wind and tide).

WP1: Adaptation strategies for regional planning purposes



- ≡ Identification of stakeholders and decision-makers in the case study areas - a list of about 40 persons representing:
 - Klaipeda County Head Administration;
 - Klaipeda City Municipality (Departments of Environmental quality, City Planning, Civil Protection Survey, Education Unit, politicians);
 - Municipalities of the County (Palanga, Neringa, Kretinga, Silute, Klaipeda district);
 - Klaipeda REDP and local EPAs (under LitMoE);
 - Local science and research institutions;
 - Air and sea ports;
 - National and regional parks (protected areas);
 - NGOs, active schools, local media;
 - Industries;
 - Representatives of national institutions (MoE, Parliament).

WP1: Activities of Vilnius University (1)



- ≡ Climatologic and GIS database:
 - Climatologic database (incl. climate scenarios data);
 - GIS database (relief, hydrography, land use, buildings, transport)
 - Additional information (articles, reports, maps).
- ≡ Climate change diagnosis for Lithuanian case studies. Analysis of extreme weather events:
 - Initial analysis of the climatologic and meteorological data from coastal area;
 - Identification of most dangerous weather phenomenon;
 - Diagnosis of the main climate change indices and the assessment of their impacts on ecosystems, human health, economy).

WP1: Activities of Vilnius University (2)



- ≡ Analysis of Winter Storm impacts and responses in Lithuania:
 - Collection of information and analysis of impacts and responses for Klaipeda and Curonian Spit.
- ≡ Social-economic and physical analysis of the case study areas and feasibility study of the available and potential adaptation measures:
 - Initial analysis of the most sensitive areas to climate change in case study areas;
 - Overview of national legislation concerning climate change adaptation measures.

WP1: Activities of the Institute of Geology and Geography (1)



- ≡ Activities mainly related to the Curonian Spit.
- ≡ Analysis of wind regime and its impact on transformations of aeolian sand forms:
- ≡ Evaluation of the influence of deflation and accumulation processes and recreation on dunes:
- ≡ Analysis of trends of water level:
- ≡ Contacts with Curonian National Park and recommendations for the management of Curonian NP dunes.

Main results (1):

- ≡ The Main Dune Ridge (MDR) reduced by 10 ha in last 100 years;
- ≡ Retreat of the eastern slope of the MDR – 1-3 m/year;
- ≡ Baltic Sea level rose approx. 12,3 m. (1975-2005);
- ≡ During last 10 years the budget of continental coastal surface was negative, the balance of the Curonian Spit coastal surface sediments – positive;
- ≡ During storm “Anatol” some sectors of accumulative coast lost the same amount of sand as had been accumulated during the three previous years.

WP2: Dissemination (1)

≡ Events:

- Meetings of Lithuanian partners:
 - Beginning of every reporting period (5);
 - Management and content;
 - 2 organized.
- Local case study workshops:
 - 4 workshops every half a year;
 - Participants from the list of stakeholders;
 - 1 organized.

≡ Publications:

- Project leaflet in Lithuanian language:
 - 200 copies;
 - Translated, procurement procedure completed;
 - Will be ready before the conference.
- Articles in media:
 - 2 articles in media;
 - 1 article published before the 1st local workshop.
 - 1 additional article published.

WP2: First local case study workshop (1)



- ≡ Klaipeda, March 17, 2006;
- ≡ Approx. 30 participants:
 - Municipalities of Klaipeda County, Klaipeda REPD and EPAs, Marine research centre, Hydrometeorological Survey, Klaipeda sea port, NGOs, National institute of land management.
- ≡ **Main goal** – to raise awareness of local stakeholders on climate change and to discuss the necessity to introduce climate change issues into the process of strategic and spatial planning.

WP2: First local case study workshop (2)



≡ Topics:

- Trends of climate change in the world and Lithuania;
- Vulnerability of economy, social and environmental sectors to climate change;
- Impact of sea level fluctuation on Lithuanian coast;
- Impact of wind on the forms of Curonian Spit and possible protection;
- Impacts of extreme weather events: Winter Storm 2005 in Klaipeda County;
- Impact of spatial planning decisions on climate change.

≡ Active contribution by all ASTRA LT partners.

WP3: Development of policies and adaptation strategies for the BSR



- ≡ ECAT – participation in the working group, winter storm study, overview of adaptation strategies.
- ≡ Other partners – active involvement by collecting and providing national and local information, making initial analysis.

Lessons learnt / Questions / Recommendations



- ≡ Agreement with LT partners to provide activity reports to country coordinator – before regional seminars;
- ≡ National project partners meetings – very efficient tool;
- ≡ Lithuanian scientists would like to agree about one research methodology and project targets (goals);
- ≡ How to involve all relevant stakeholders?

Thank you!



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