

MOTORWAYS OF THE SEA

TEN-T 2005 PROJECT

MASTER PLAN STUDIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE MOTORWAYS OF THE BALTIC SEA (DENMARK, SWEDEN, FINLAND, ESTONIA)

The main objective of the project proposal is to develop a framework that will provide a basis for further and more detailed planning of the development of the Motorways of the Sea concept in the Baltic Sea region. All Baltic Sea countries take part, to various extents, in the different work packages.

- Study on goods flows and maritime infrastructure

By presenting the current status and a forecast of the maritime transport sector in the Baltic Sea region, the study aims at contributing to an increased knowledge of the current situation of goods flows and maritime infrastructure as well as the likely future development and demand of maritime transport in the Baltic Sea region. The study will target both the intra-regional and extra-regional dimension of trade and transport. This is necessary for the further development of transport policies, infrastructure planning other joint actions in the Baltic Sea region and the development within the industry.

- Baltic Sea Winter Motorways

A well functioning maritime traffic on the Baltic Sea all year round is of high importance not only for the Baltic Sea countries, but for the transport system of the EU as a whole. A strategy to achieve this is by enhancing the strategic and operational cooperation between the Baltic Sea countries within the area of assistance to winter navigation. The icebreaking cooperation is one such area, in which a joint approach will give added value and improve the function of the winter navigation in the region. The long-term strategic vision is to develop a joint Baltic Icebreaking Service.

- Safe major routes of the Motorways of the Baltic Sea

Existing hydrographical survey data in the Baltic Sea is not sufficient. Quality assurance by re-surveys of the main routes on the Motorway of the Baltic Sea has already been deemed necessary and a scheme is developed and approved by the IHO Baltic Sea Hydrographic

Commission. New shallows or shallower areas than previously assumed have been found during re-surveys recently done. Reliable surveyed routes and extended areas allow safe icebreaking operations also in heavy ice conditions.

- North Sea Baltic Hub

There is a need to improve the supply of interregional and intermodal transport service within the North Sea and Baltic Sea regions as interregional trade is expected to continue to grow. The rapidly increasing containerised trade also requires improved supply of maritime services. The aim of this work package is to create a basis for commercial as well as political decisions, fostering the development of a North Sea Baltic Hub.