Healthy River – Healthy Me – Healthy Sea: Joint actions for common challenges

> Project Meeting Minsk, Belarus 13-14 December 2018

Main objectives of the Project

- Introduce integrated ecosystem health and source-to-sea thinking into RBM
- Develop and strengthen Public Advisory River Teams (PARTs) in Nemunas and Daugava basins and establish new PARTs in Narva, Odra and Pregolya
- Activate the role of NGOs in existing national, bi- and multilateral RBM bodies

Project duration: 2018-06-01 - 2019-05-31

The final products the project will deliver

- (1) wide public engagement in integrated ecosystem-based river basin management and
- (2) understanding personal footprint and responsibility for both ecosystem- and human health.

The final products must meet the following requirements:

- be simple, attractive and understood by all stakeholders (by connecting human and ecosystem health)
- be tangible (by Public Advisory River Teams established in all priority basins)
- be sustainable (public participation well established and integrated into river basin management)

Core activities

• Public Advisory River Teams meetings:

- 2 per basin in Nemunas, Daugava,
- 1 per basin Narva, Odra and Pregolya 1 joint international conference
- 1 annual workshop for all basins
- Transboundary rafting/kayaking expedition on Daugava (from Belarus to Latvia), for 15-20 prs. (2-3 per basin) to share knowledge and promote water protection
- Information campaign: Woven "River Belt", produced by stakeholders (e.g. schools) and symbolising each river basin will to be delivered to Daugavpils Museum
- **Continuation of River Watch** public monitoring with new elements included: microplastic and groundwater level
- Screening of eel for hazardous substances (at least for mercury) in selected basins
- Network of angling clubs engaged in protection of migratory species and their habitats, to share experiences and learn from each other,
- Various awareness raising materials, e.g. for salmon information centres adapted to national conditions,
- "River University" education programme in Poland
- **Public awareness actions** in relation to the International Day of Action for Rivers and Against Dams, World Fish Migration Day, etc.

Partners

- <u>Coalition Clean Baltic</u>
- Coalition Save Rivers / Koalicja Ratujmy Rzeki
- Lithuanian Fund for Nature / Lietuvos Gamtos Fondas
- <u>Klaipeda Ecological Club "Žvejonė" / Klaipėdos ekologinis klubas</u>
- Environmental Protection Club of Latvia /Vides aizsardzibas klubs
- The Green Belt of Latvia / Latvijas Zala Josta
- <u>Peipsi Center for Transboundary Cooperation</u>
- <u>Center for Environmental Solutions</u>
- Ecohome / Neman Environment Group (part of Ecohome)
- Friends of the Baltic
- <u>Green Planet</u>
- Lake Peipsi Project (Pskov) / Chudskoye Project