

# Baltic Earth - Earth system science for the Baltic Sea region



## Outline

- **Introduction and infrastructure**  
Marcus Reckermann,  
Intl. Baltic Earth Secretariat,  
Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, Germany
- **Grand Challenges**  
Anna Rutgersson, University of Uppsala,  
Sweden
- **Scientific achievements in hydrology  
in the Baltic Sea region**  
Irina Partatsenok, Hydromet, Belarus
- **Advances and challenges in hydrology  
of the Baltic sea basin: view from Russia**  
Sergei Zhuravlev, Russian State  
Hydrologic Institute, St. Petersburg, Russia



# Baltic Earth

Earth System Science for the Baltic Sea Region

# Baltic Earth - Earth system science for the Baltic Sea region



## Vision of the programme

*To achieve an improved Earth System understanding of the Baltic Sea region*

- **Interdisciplinary** and **international** collaboration (conferences, workshops, joint projects etc.)
- **Holistic view** on the Earth system of the Baltic Sea region, encompassing processes in the **atmosphere**, on **land** and in the **sea** and also in the **anthroposphere**
- “**Service to society**” in the respect that **thematic assessments** provide an overview over knowledge gaps which need to be filled (e.g. by funded projects)
- **Education** (summer schools)
- Inherits the BALTEX network of scientists and infrastructures
- Succeeds BALTEX since the 7<sup>th</sup> Study Conference on BALTEX, Borgholm, Öland, Sweden, 10-14 June 2013

# Baltic Earth

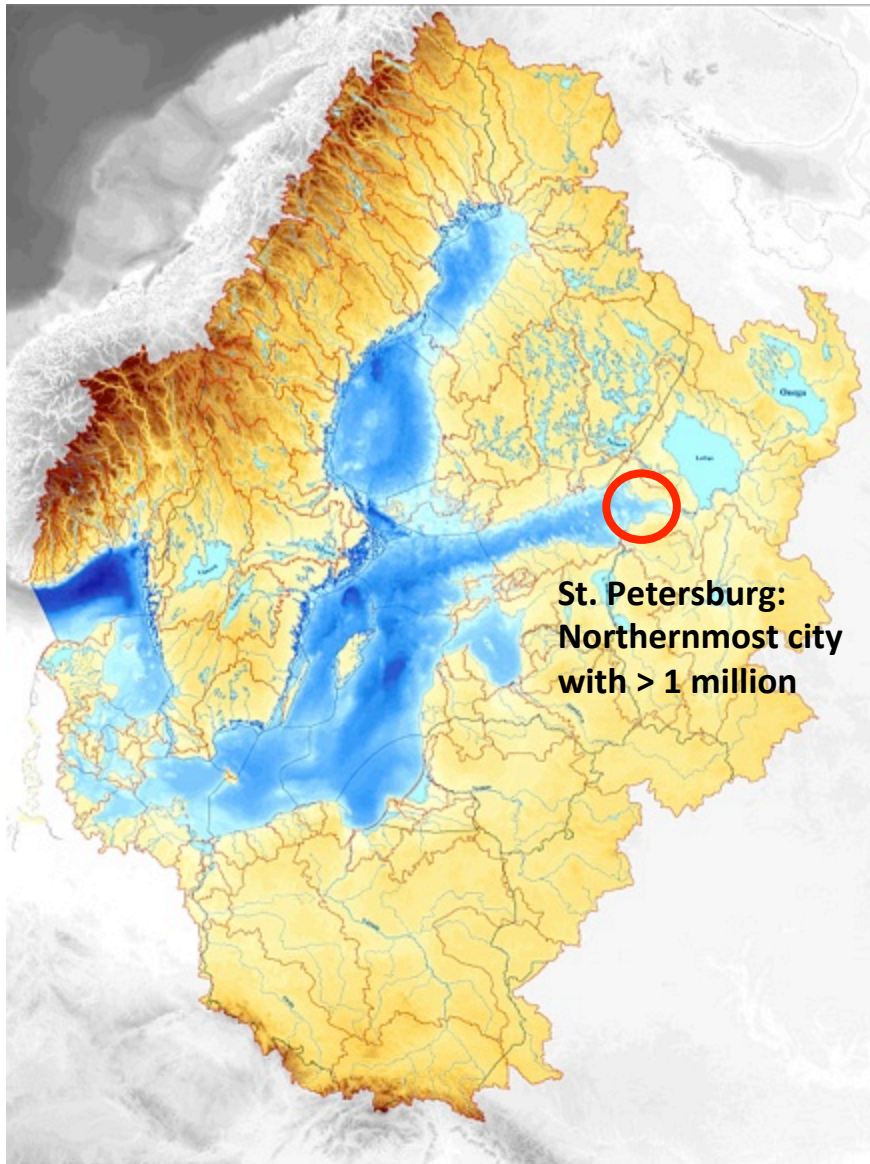
Earth System Science for the Baltic Sea Region

The Baltic Sea region





## The Baltic Sea region



- Drainage Basin: 2.13 Mill. km<sup>2</sup>  
(20% of the European continent)
- 85 million people in 14 countries
- Baltic Sea: 380 000 km<sup>2</sup>



## The Baltic Sea region



### The North ...

- extensive forests, mostly coniferous
- sparsely populated
- mostly rocky coasts
- subarctic climate in winter

### The South...

- intense agriculture
- densely populated
- mostly sandy coasts
- moderate climate in winter

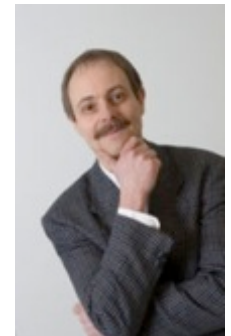


## Baltic Earth Infrastructure

- **International Baltic Earth Secretariat**  
at Helmholtz Zentrum Geesthacht
- **Baltic Earth Science Steering Group (BESSG)**  
Excellent, active “young” scientists; country balance, gender balance, discipline balance, institutional balance, currently 20 members; meetings biannually
- **Working Groups** installed for each GC plus
  - WG on Outreach and Communication
  - WG on Education
  - WG on the Utility of Regional Climate Models
  - WG on the Assessment of Scenario Simulations for the Baltic Sea 1960-2100
- **Senior Advisory Board**
- **Science Plan**

## BESSG chairs

**Markus Meier**, Head of Physical Oceanography, Baltic Sea Research Institute, Germany



**Anna Rutgersson**, Professor of Meteorology, Uppsala University, Sweden.



Both have been active in BALTEX for many years



# Baltic Earth SSG members



**Anna Rutgersson**  
Sweden



**Jari Haapala**  
Finland



**Kai Myrberg**  
Finland



**Sergey Zhuravlev**  
Russia



**Anders Omstedt**  
Sweden



**Pita Post**  
Estonia



**Juris Aigars**  
Latvia



**Ben Smith**  
Sweden



**Martin Stendel**  
Denmark



**Inga Dailidienė**  
Lithuania



**Irina Partasenok**  
Belarus



**Karol Kulinski**  
Poland



**Corinna Schrum**  
Germany



**Andreas Lehmann**  
Germany



**Markus Meier**  
Germany



**Gregor Rehder**  
Germany



**Marcus Reckermann**



**Ralf Weisse**



**Franz Berger**  
Germany

# Baltic Earth Senior Advisory Board



**Deliang Chen**  
Sweden



**Andris Andrusaitis**  
BONUS



**Ulla Li Zweifel**  
HELCOM



**Valery Vuglinsky**  
Russia



**Fritz Köster**  
Denmark



**Jüri Elken**  
Estonia



**Kay Emeis**  
Germany



**Hans-Jörg Isemer**  
Germany



**Stanislaw Massel**  
Poland



**Jan Polcher**  
GEWEX-GHP





# Baltic Earth

Earth System Science for the Baltic Sea Region

## Secretariat

### International Baltic Earth Secretariat (IBES)

**Address:**

International Baltic Earth Secretariat  
Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht  
Max-Planck-Straße 1  
D-21502 Geesthacht  
Tel: +49-4152-87-1693  
Germany  
E-mail: [balticearth\(at\)hzg.de](mailto:balticearth(at)hzg.de) (replace "(at)" with "@")



For details on IBES staff, [click here](#)

## Publications

## Website etc.

The International Baltic Earth Secretariat (IBES) as a focal support point for Baltic Earth is located at the [Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht](#) (until 1 November 2010: GKSS Research Centre) in Geesthacht, Germany. The Baltic Earth Secretariat's tasks cover in particular:

- to support the Baltic Earth Science Steering Group, Working Groups and Panels in their activities, and to provide preliminary reviews of their work,
- to maintain connections with all participating research groups and with all operational data and numerical modelling centres for Baltic Earth,
- to prepare for international Baltic Earth meetings, workshops, seminars and conferences, and to provide assistance for reports by Baltic Earth scientists and to international research groups and the research and public community at large, and
- to inform participants about ongoing activities which may be of relevance to their work.

## Events

Since January 2002, GKSS (Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht as of 1 November 2010) has been the only sponsor of the International BALTEX (now: Baltic Earth) Secretariat, covering salaries for the staff members, infrastructure and travel support.

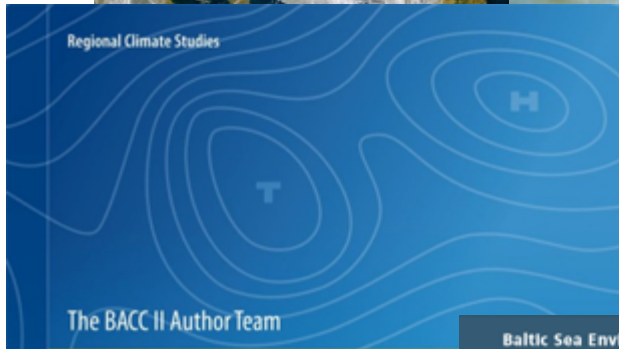
Infrastructure

Secretariat

Publications

Website etc.

Events

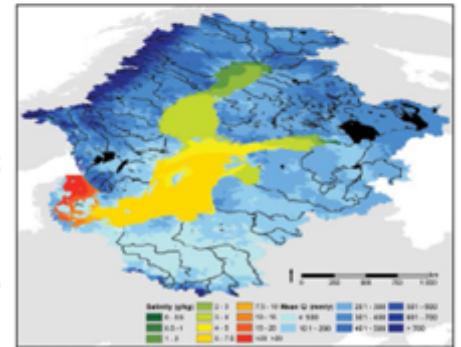


**An Earth System Science Program for the Baltic Sea Region**

PAGES 109-116

From its very beginning, BALTTEX had been part of and contributed to the Global Energy and Water Exchanges Project (GEWEX), within the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), and Baltic Earth will continue this legacy.

In the coming years, the efforts of Baltic Earth will be guided by specific grand challenges defined by the program that pose major interdisciplinary research questions that studies of the Baltic Sea region can help answer. Thematic assessments of particular research topics compiled by expert groups, such as the BALTTEX Assessment of Climate Change for the Baltic Sea Basin (BACC), <http://www.baltic-earth.eu/BACC/> [see Ackermann et al., 2008] will help Baltic Earth scientists identify gaps in current knowledge and will guide the development plans to address these grand challenges.



## Infrastructure



## Secretariat

## Publications

- 14 books
- 722 peer-reviewed journal articles
- 65 reports
- 876 BALTEX/Baltic Earth Conference presentations
- 55 International BALTEX Secretariat Publication Series issues
- 9 International Baltic Earth Secretariat Publication Series issues

## Website



- [Home / News](#)
- [Background](#)
- [Grand Challenges](#)
- [Working Groups](#)
- [Projects](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [Organisation](#)
- [International](#)
- [Baltic Earth Secretariat](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Internal](#)
- [How to participate](#)

**1<sup>st</sup> Baltic Earth Conference**  
**Multiple drivers for Earth system changes in the Baltic Sea region**  
 Nida, Curonian Spit, Lithuania  
 13 - 17 June 2016

**BACC II**

 **Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht**  
 Centre for Materials and Coastal Research

### Announcements



### Extending the knowledge of the regional Earth system in the Baltic Sea region

Baltic Earth stands for the vision to achieve an improved Earth system understanding. Research disciplines of BALTEX continue to be relevant, but a more holistic approach is needed. This means that the research disciplines of BALTEX continue to be relevant, but a more holistic approach is needed. This means that the research disciplines of BALTEX continue to be relevant, but a more holistic approach is needed. This means that the research disciplines of BALTEX continue to be relevant, but a more holistic approach is needed.

A science plan is currently being developed. A science plan is currently being developed. A science plan is currently being developed. A science plan is currently being developed. A science plan is currently being developed.

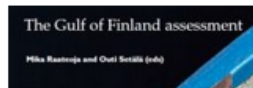
### NEWS

 **Baltic Earth Seminar at Fehmarnbelt Days 2016 "Exchanges between the North and Baltic Seas - A scientific overview".**  
 Presentations online [here...](#)

 **North Sea Climate Change Assessment now online available as Open Access! Congratulations for this tremendous effort!**

**Interview with students and lecturers about the Askö Summer School...**  
 A short note by the Baltic Sea Centre of Stockholm University ...

### Assessment Report of the Gulf of Finland published

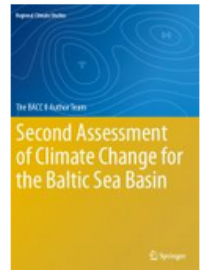


The Finnish Environment Institute SYKE has published an assessment of the Gulf of Finland, compiling the research results of over a hundred Finnish, Russian and Estonian researchers. The over 300-page publication includes recent information on issues such as eutrophication, hazardous substances, invasive species, noise, maritime traffic, and plastic waste. The publication is the most important result of the Gulf of Finland Year arranged by the countries. The publication includes for

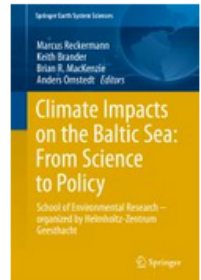
### Upcoming Events

For past events look [here...](#)

### The BACC Blog



**BACC I (2008) download**



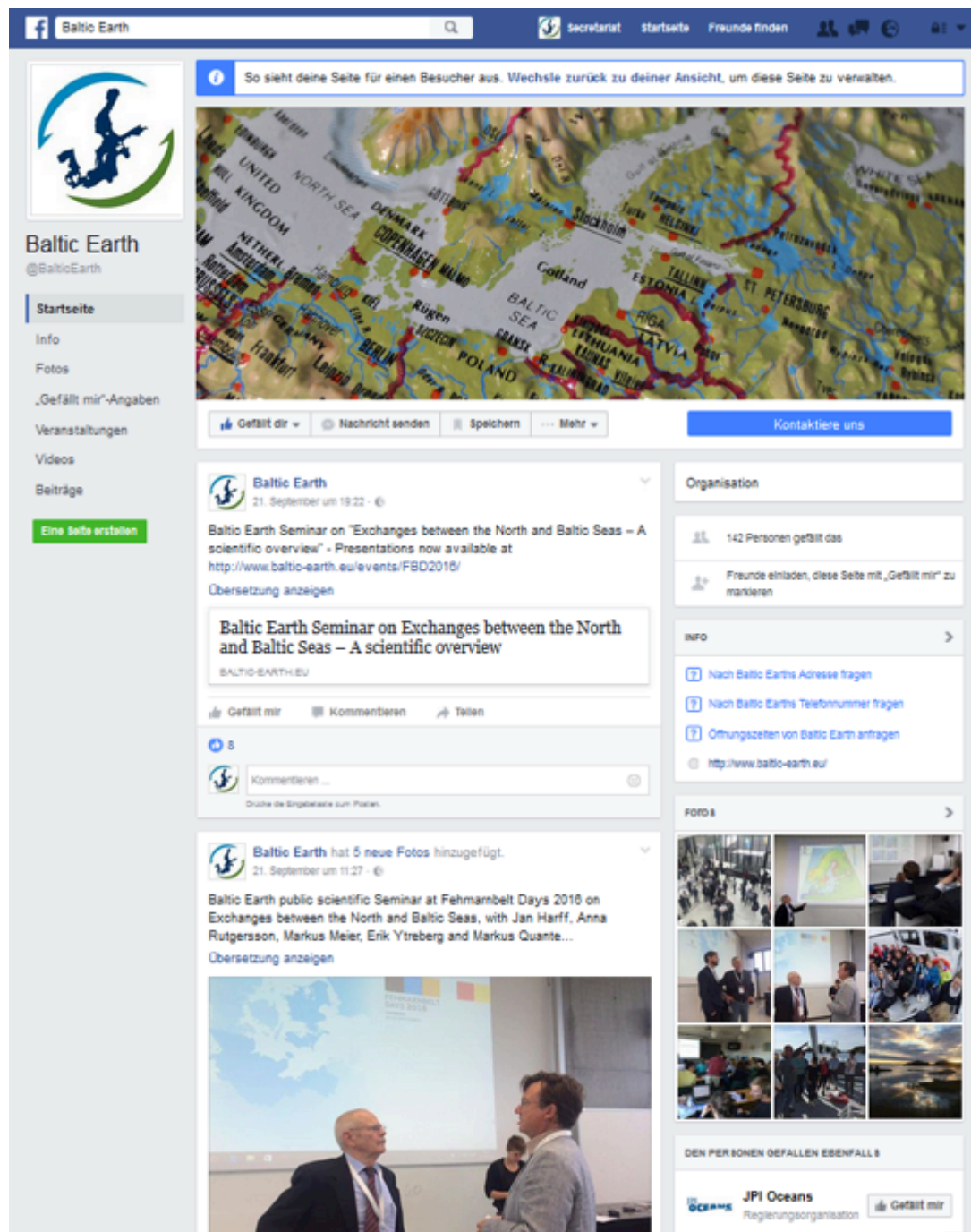
Infrastructure

Secretariat

Publications

Website etc.

Events



**Baltic Earth**  
@BalticEarth

Startseite  
Info  
Fotos  
,Gefällt mir'-Angaben  
Veranstaltungen  
Videos  
Beiträge  
Eine Seite erstellen

So sieht deine Seite für einen Besucher aus. Wechsle zurück zu deiner Ansicht, um diese Seite zu verwalten.

**Baltic Earth**  
21. September um 19:22 · @

Baltic Earth Seminar on "Exchanges between the North and Baltic Seas – A scientific overview" - Presentations now available at <http://www.baltic-earth.eu/events/FSD2016/>  
Übersetzung anzeigen

**Baltic Earth Seminar on Exchanges between the North and Baltic Seas – A scientific overview**  
BALTIC-EARTH.EU

Gefällt mir · Kommentieren · Teilen

0  
Kommentieren ...  
Drücke die Eingabetaste zum Posten.

**Baltic Earth** hat 5 neue Fotos hinzugefügt.  
21. September um 11:27 · @

Baltic Earth public scientific Seminar at Fehmarnbelt Days 2016 on Exchanges between the North and Baltic Seas, with Jan Harff, Anna Rutgersson, Markus Meier, Erik Ytreberg and Markus Quante...  
Übersetzung anzeigen

**Organisation**

142 Personen gefällt das

Freunde einladen, diese Seite mit „Gefällt mir“ zu markieren

**INFO**

- Nach Baltic Earths Adresse fragen
- Nach Baltic Earths Telefonnummer fragen
- Öffnungszeiten von Baltic Earth anfragen
- <http://www.baltic-earth.eu/>

**FOTOS**

DEN PERSONEN GEFALLEN EBENFALLS

**JPI Oceans**  
Regierungsorganisation  
Gefällt mir



**Baltic Earth Conferences**  
**Conferences**  
**Workshops and Seminars**  
**Summer Schools**

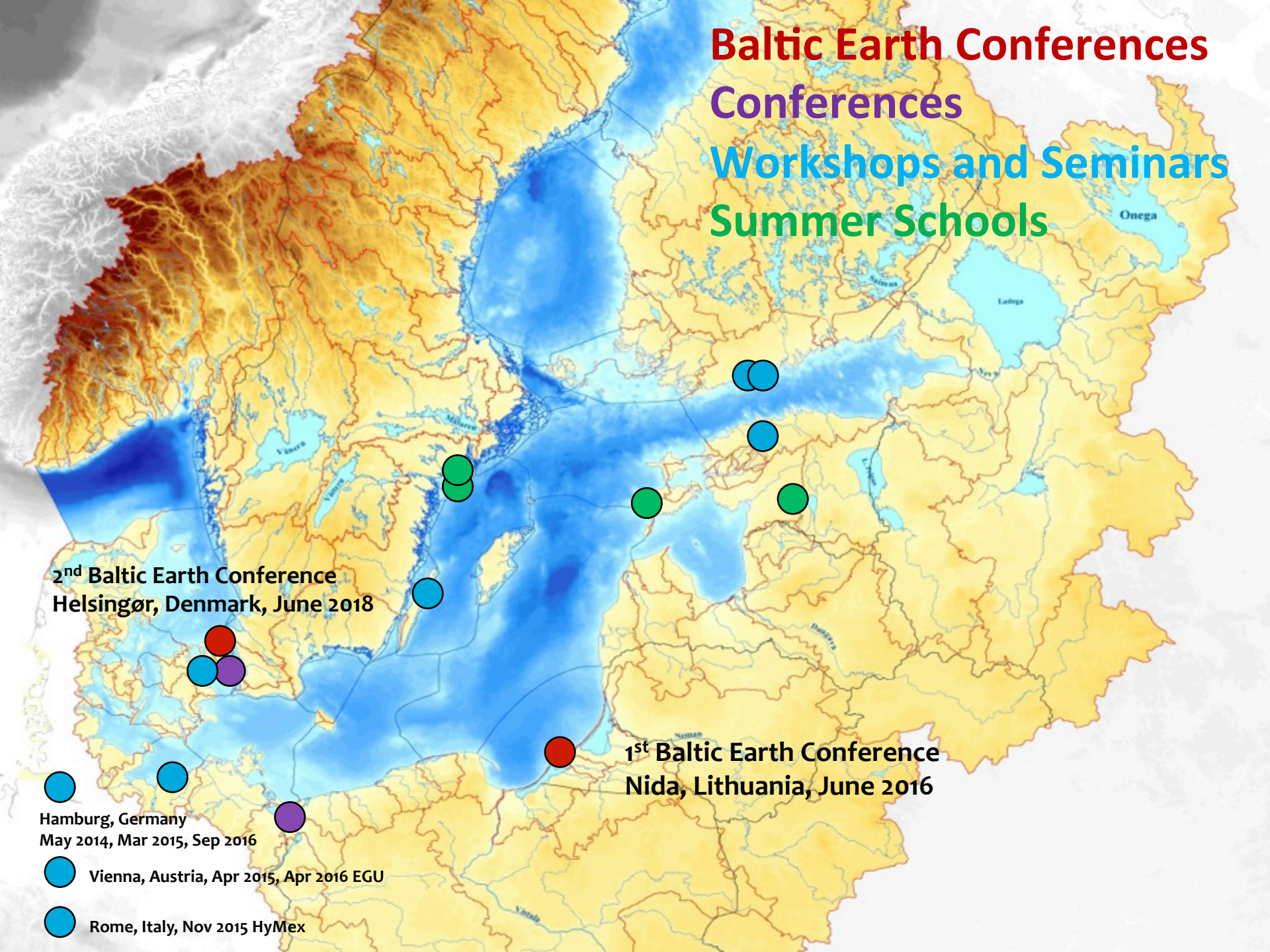
**2<sup>nd</sup> Baltic Earth Conference**  
**Helsingør, Denmark, June 2018**

**1<sup>st</sup> Baltic Earth Conference**  
**Nida, Lithuania, June 2016**

**Hamburg, Germany**  
May 2014, Mar 2015, Sep 2016

**Vienna, Austria, Apr 2015, Apr 2016 EGU**

**Rome, Italy, Nov 2015 HyMex**



## Events

### Summer Schools



### Workshops and Seminars

International advanced PhD course on

**Impact of climate change  
on the marine environment  
with special focus  
on the role of changing extremes**

co-organized by the  
"Baltic Ecosystem Adaptive Management" (BEAM) and Baltic  
Earth programmes and funded by BEAM



**Askö Laboratory, Trosa, Sweden**

**24 - 30 August 2015**

A Doctoral Students Conference

**Challenges for Earth system science  
in the Baltic Sea region:  
From measurements to models**

co-organized by the  
the University of Tartu and Baltic Earth



**University of Tartu and Vilsandi Island  
Estonia**

**10 - 14 August 2015**



European Union  
European Social Fund



Investing in your future

### Topical Conferences

### Baltic Earth Conferences

## Events

### Summer Schools

### Workshops and Seminars

### Topical Conferences

### Baltic Earth Conferences



International Summer School on

#### **Climate change in the Baltic Sea region**

Askö Laboratory, Trosa, Sweden, 29 August – 5 September 2016

co-organized by Baltic Earth, Stockholm University Baltic Sea Centre, Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde and University of Rostock

Thank you to the Askö staff, lecturers and of course the students for this phantastic Summer School! We intend to be back next year...

[Interview with students and lecturers about the Askö Summer School...](#)

A [short note](#) by the Baltic Sea Centre of Stockholm University ...



The Summer School ended with smiling faces because everybody successfully passed the exam and exercises. The spirit had been phantastic during the whole week, and the students and group exercises were just amazing. We also received a short tour around the brand new research ship "Electra" which is equipped with some of the newest technologies. A short "water crisis" was handled with ease and many buckets. A week to remember!



## Events

Summer Schools

Workshops and Seminars

Topical Conferences

Baltic Earth Conferences



FINNISH METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE



Baltic Earth

Baltic Earth Workshop on

**Natural hazards and extreme events in the Baltic Sea region**

Finnish Meteorological Institute, Dynamicum, Helsinki

30-31 January 2014



S Y K E



Baltic Earth  
Earth System Science for the Baltic Sea Region



Gulf of Finland  
Year 2014

---

Baltic Earth - Gulf of Finland Year 2014 Modelling Workshop on

**Using modelling as a tool to ensure sustainable development of the Gulf of Finland-Baltic Sea ecosystem**

A scientific workshop in support of the Gulf of Finland Declaration

Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), Helsinki 24-25 November 2014



GULF OF FINLAND



Gulf of Finland  
Year 2014



Baltic Earth

An open Baltic Earth PhD seminar in connection to the Gulf of Finland Final Scientific Forum

**Exchange processes between the Gulf of Finland and other Baltic Sea basins**

Tallinn, Estonia, 19 November 2015

## Events

Summer Schools

Workshops and Seminars

Topical Conferences

Baltic Earth Conferences



**Baltic Earth**  
Earth System Science for the Baltic Sea Region

**Climate modelling and impacts  
from the global to the regional  
to the urban scale**

An international scientific seminar

10 March 2015

Holcim Auditorium  
HafenCity Universität

Überseeallee 16, 20457 Hamburg, Germany

Scope of the seminar is to give an overview over the current state of research in the fields of global and regional climate modelling, and the impacts on the regional and urban scales.

Posters related to the seminar topic are invited to be presented. Poster abstract and registration deadline is 2 March 2015. There are no fees involved.

This open seminar is organised in connection with the 4<sup>th</sup> Baltic Earth Science Steering Group Meeting by the International Baltic Earth Secretariat at Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht in cooperation with HafenCity Universität Hamburg (HCU) and the Cluster of Excellence CliSAP of Hamburg University, which stands for „Integrated Climate System Analysis and Prediction“.

Baltic Earth is the research network for Earth system science in the Baltic Sea region. [www.baltic-earth.eu](http://www.baltic-earth.eu)

HCU | HafenCity Universität  
Hamburg

U+H  
Universität Hamburg  
DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

DKRZ  
DEUTSCHES  
KLIMARECHENZENTRUM

clisap

Max-Planck-Institut  
für Meteorologie

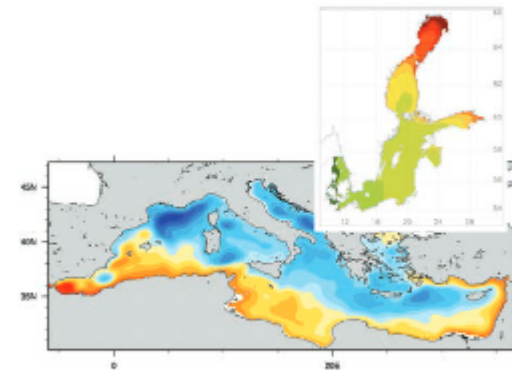
Helmholtz-Zentrum  
Geesthacht  
Zentrum für Material- und Küstenforschung

A joint  
**HyMeX-Baltic Earth**  
Workshop

HyMeX



**Joint regional climate system  
modelling for the  
European sea regions**



**ENEA**  
**Rome, Italy**  
**5-6 November 2015**

**Announcement  
and Call for Papers**

## Events

### Summer Schools



**FEHMARNBELT  
DAYS 2016**  
HAMBURG  
20-22 SEPTEMBER

---

**Exchanges between the North and Baltic Seas –  
A scientific overview**

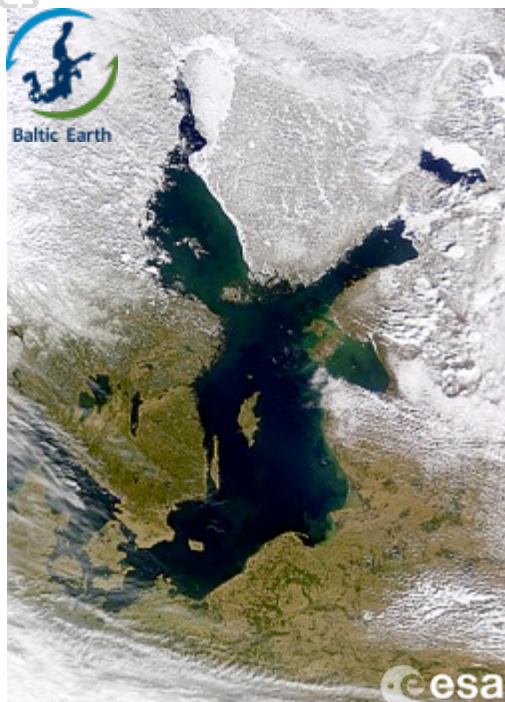
HafenCity University Hamburg, Germany  
21 September, 9 – 12:30

*(Background graphics include maps of the Baltic Sea region and text: 'A GEWEX / WCRP Project', 'Baltic Sea Experiment')'*

### Workshops and Seminars

### Topical Conferences

### Baltic Earth Conferences



### Joint Baltic Earth-ESA Workshop on Remote Sensing applications in the Baltic Sea region

Helsinki, Finland

**29-31 March 2017**

## Events

Summer Schools

Workshops and Seminars

Topical Conferences

Baltic Earth Conferences

2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference

### Climate Change - The environmental and socio-economic response in the southern Baltic region



Szczecin, Poland  
12 - 15 May 2014



Baltic Earth

First Announcement

3<sup>rd</sup> Lund Regional-scale  
Climate Modelling Workshop

### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges in Regional Climate Modelling



Lund, Sweden  
16 - 19 June 2014



First Announcement

## Events

Summer Schools

Workshops and  
Seminars

Topical Conferences

**Baltic Earth  
Conferences**

# 1<sup>st</sup> Baltic Earth Conference

Nida, Curonian Spit, Lithuania

13 - 17 June 2016



**Multiple drivers for Earth system changes  
in the Baltic Sea region**



**Second Announcement and Call for Papers**

## Events

Summer Schools

Workshops and  
Seminars

Topical Conferences

**Baltic Earth  
Conferences**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Baltic Earth Conference**  
**Helsingør, Denmark**  
**10-15 June 2018**



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

---

# Baltic Earth Grand Challenges

**Anna Rutgersson**

Professor of Meteorology Uppsala  
University

Co-chair, Baltic Earth



**Baltic Earth**  
Earth System Science for the Baltic Sea Region

# Baltic Earth Science Plan and Grand Challenges



- Flexible science plan with a continuously on-going definition of core research questions which are identified to be key scientific issues, so-called “**Grand Challenges**” (GCs)
- New Grand Challenges will be identified at conferences and by using **assessments of existing research** by dedicated working groups. Grand Challenges are envisaged to be research foci for periods of about 3-4 years (then terminated or updated).
- The human impact will be assessed at all levels, wherever possible and senseful



# Baltic Earth Science Plan and Grand Challenges



- GC1: Salinity dynamics
- GC2: Land-Sea biogeochemical linkages
- GC3: Natural hazards and extreme events
- GC4: Sea level and coastal dynamics of the Baltic Sea
- GC5: Regional variability of water and energy exchanges
- GC6: Multiple drivers of regional Earth system changes

# Baltic Earth Science Plan and Grand Challenges



- GC1: Salinity dynamics GEWEX
- GC2: Land-Sea biogeochemical linkages
- GC3: Natural hazards and extreme events GEWEX
- GC4: Sea level and coastal dynamics of the Baltic Sea
- GC5: Regional variability of water and energy exchanges GEWEX
- GC6: Multiple drivers of regional Earth system changes

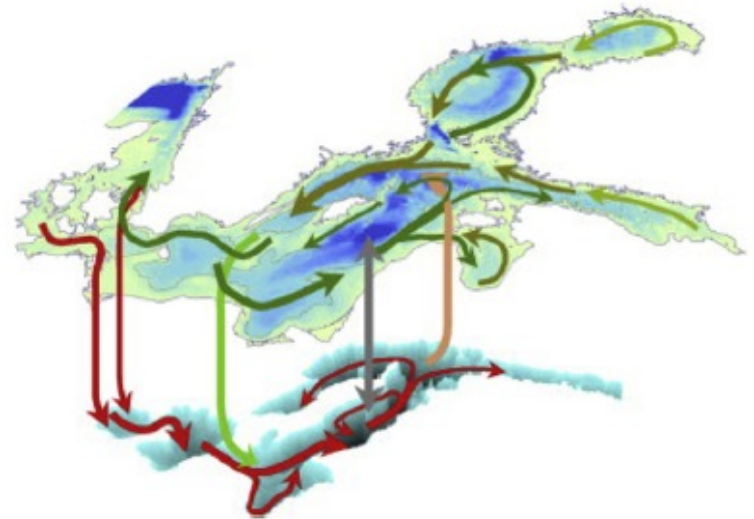


# GC1: Salinity dynamics in the Baltic Sea

GC chairs: Andreas Lehman, GEOMAR, Kai Myrberg, FMI; Piia Post, University of Tartu

## Suggested key research themes

- Interrelation between decadal/climate variability and salinity.
- Water mass exchange and major Baltic inflows
- Regional salinity distribution/variability and associated circulation patterns (including salinity fluxes between the coastal areas and the open sea and within the sub-basins).



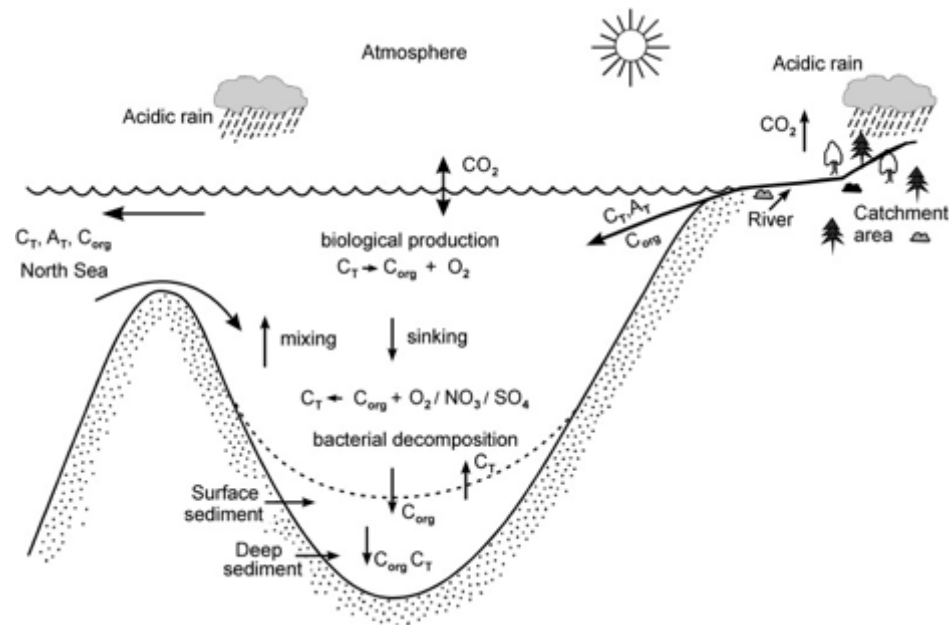


# GC2: Land-Sea biogeochemical linkages

GC chairs: Gergor Rehder, IOW, Karol Kulinski, IO-PAN, Benjamin Smith, Lund University

## Suggested key research themes

- C, N, P cycles studies for the understanding primary production mechanism and organic matter transformations in the Baltic Sea
- Transformations and pathways of terrestrial organic matter, influence of the terrestrial input on the carbonate system
- extension of the databases with the missing terrestrial loads data of the key chemical substances (e.g. Neva River).



# GC3: Natural hazards and extreme events in the Baltic Sea region



GC chairs: Jaari Haapala, FMI; Anna Rutgersson, Uppsala University; Martin Stendel, DMI,

## Background:

- Society is very sensitive to extreme geophysical events that have severe implications for human life, generate economic losses and influence ecosystems.
- A natural disaster links extreme geophysical events to ecosystems and society (in particular weaknesses in ecosystems and society)
- Understanding the underlying causes of natural disasters increases the ability to predict the occurrence and severity and may save human lives as well as mitigate economic losses.



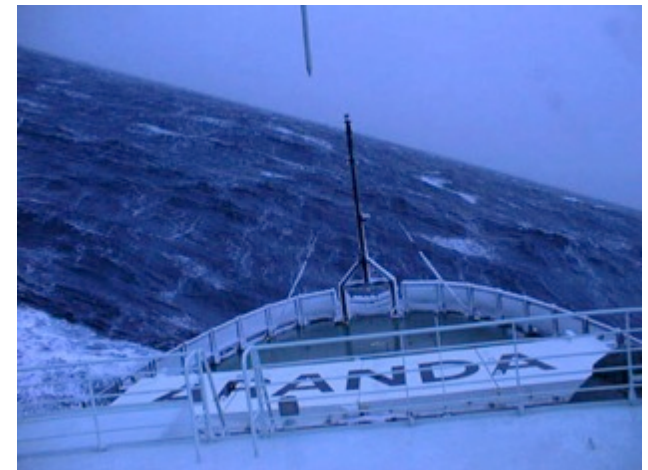
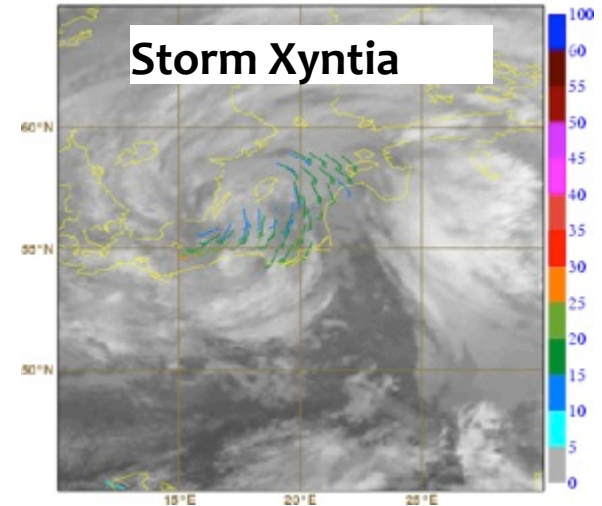
Photos: Martin Stendel and Finn Majlergaard

# GC3: Natural hazards and extreme events in the Baltic Sea region



## Background:

- Many natural hazards have hydrometeorological origin (storms, waves, flooding, droughts).
- Natural hazards are often caused by several factors (storm surge in combination with precipitation and river runoff might cause extreme flooding).
- Prediction capabilities are very limited. This is generally well recognized regarding infrastructure such as dam safety and urban flooding risks.
- The range of ecosystem services at risk is more poorly defined, from vital societal functions such as drinking water supply to biodiversity.



# GC3: Natural hazards and extreme events in the Baltic Sea region



## Suggested key research themes

- Changes in atmospheric circulation in the Northern Hemisphere, and the impact of circulation changes on climate extremes in the Baltic Sea region in the future.
- Response and contribution of marine processes to changes in extreme and climate variability (water level, waves, ice conditions, sea surface temperature).
- Monthly to seasonal prediction systems and probabilistic estimates of the extreme events.
- How has the achievement of environmental goals influenced changes in extreme conditions (droughts, floods and heat waves)?
- How vulnerable is drinking water security to hydrometeorological extremes?
- What is the response of marine ecosystems to extreme events?
- How will the carbon cycle of the Baltic Sea region respond to changes in extreme conditions ?



**Gudrun Storm**







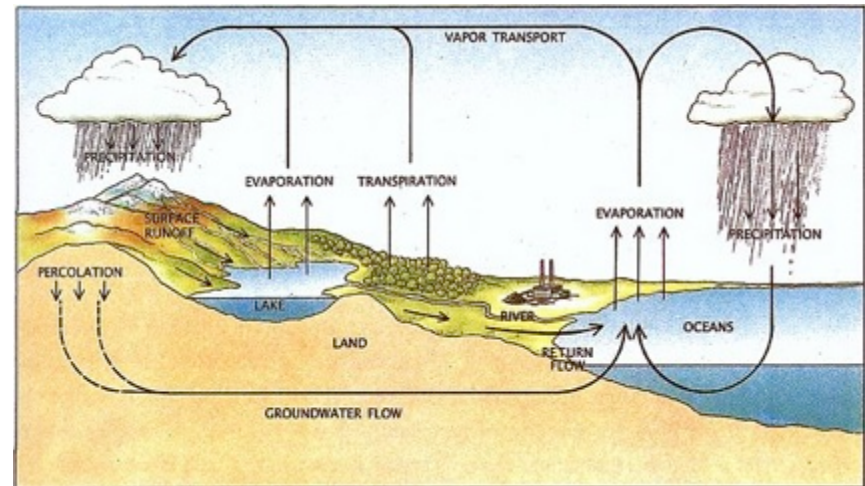
# GC5: Regional variability of water and energy exchanges in the Baltic Sea region



GC chairs: Sergej Zhuravlev, Saint-Petersburg State University, Irina Partasenok, Centre for Hydrometeorology

## Suggested key research themes

- The observation of atmospheric processes
- The diagnosis of natural variability of energy and water components.
- The improved description and modelling of atmospheric processes
- The extended and continuous evaluation of atmospheric processes with conventional meteorological/hydrological observations.
- The modelling/prediction of short- and long-term water and energy exchanges.



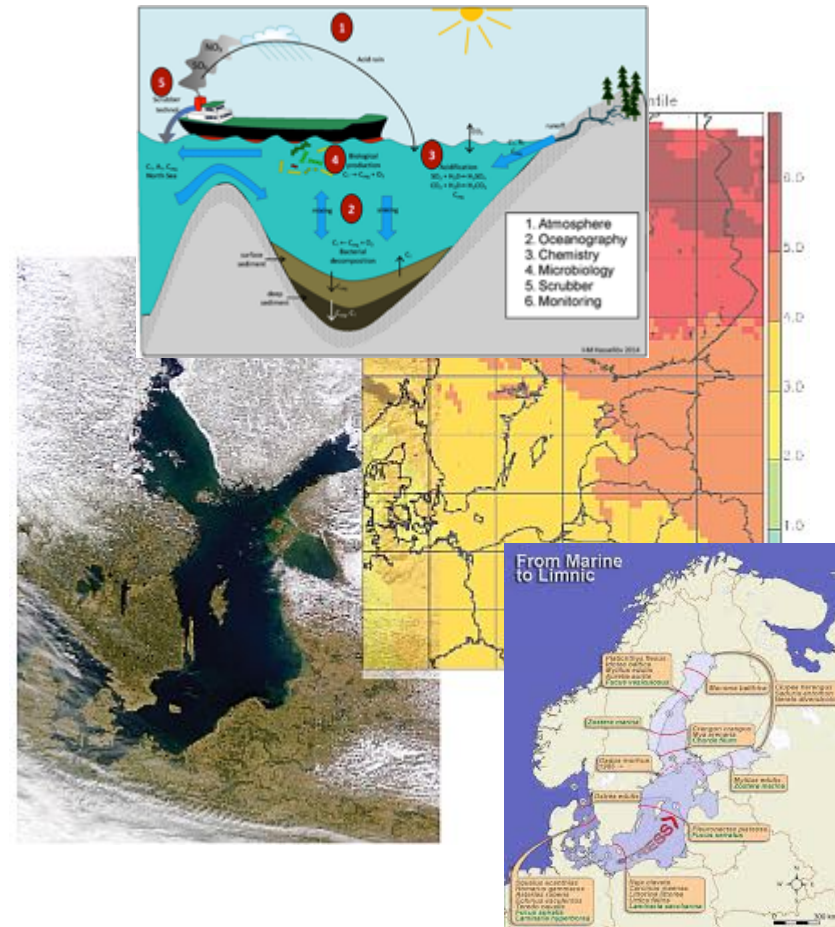
# GC6: Multiple drivers of regional Earth system changes



GC chairs: Benjamin Smith, Lund University; Juris Aigars, University of Latvia  
Marcus Reckermann, HZG

## Suggested key research themes

- A mixture of interwoven factors, such as regional climate change, eutrophication, pollution, fisheries, hydrographic engineering, agricultural and forestry practices and land cover change are responsible for the current situation and of potential importance as drivers of future changes.
- There is a need for increased cooperation among researchers having specialised knowledge of different components of the coupled biophysical-societal system.
- Key disciplines include meteorology and climate science, oceanography, hydrology, marine, terrestrial and freshwater ecology, microbiology and biogeochemistry, economists, human geographers, political scientists and engineers.



# Joint Baltic Earth/ESA Workshop



## Remote sensing applications to address regional challenges

29-31 March, Helsinki, Finland

Scientific topics:

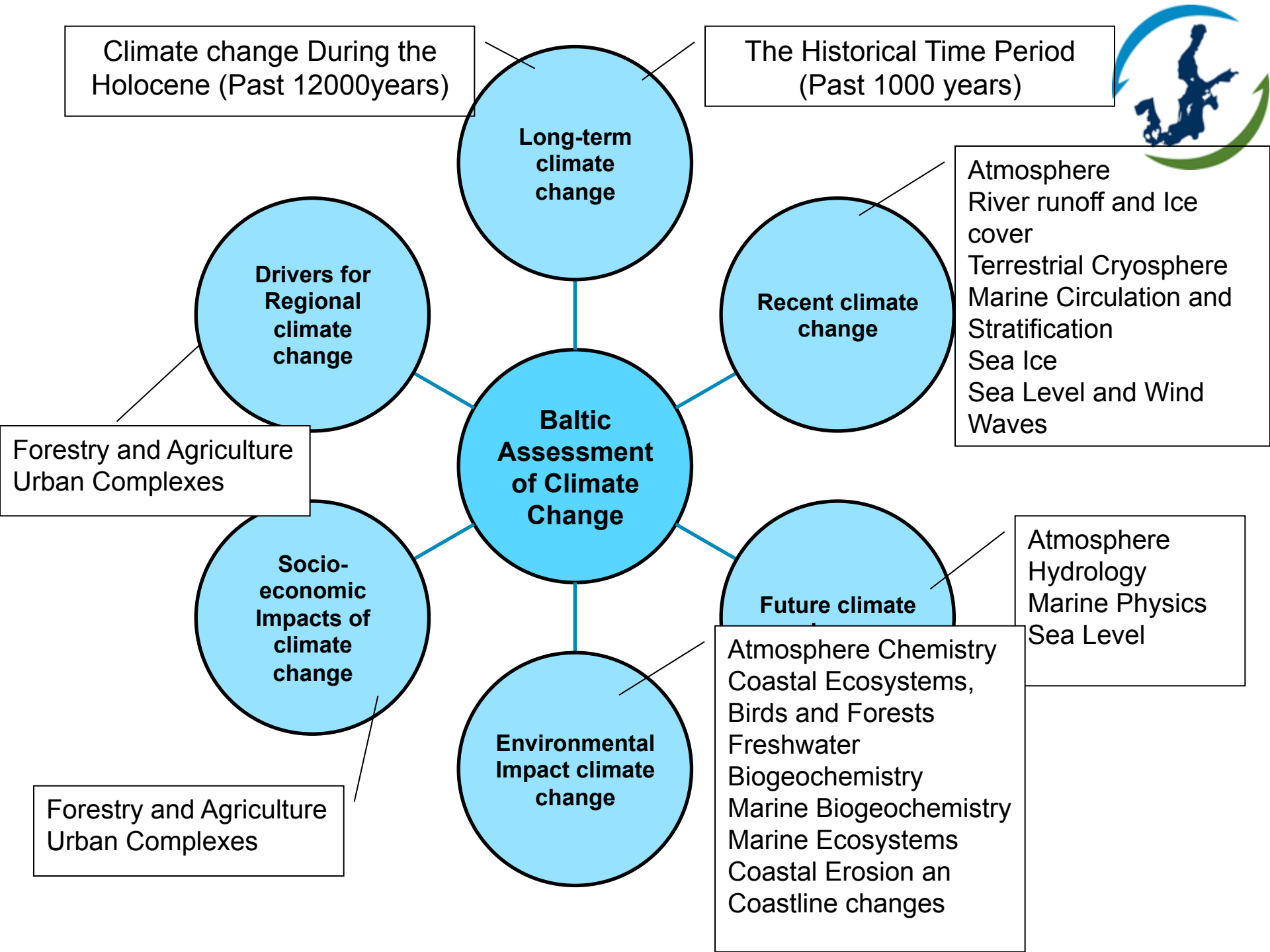
- Salinity dynamics in the Baltic Sea
- Land-Sea biogeochemical feedbacks in the Baltic Sea region
- Natural hazards and regional variability of water and energy exchanges
- Understanding sea level dynamics
- General topics

# Scientific Achievements of Baltic Earth with Focus on the Hydroclimatology

Irina Partasenok, Hydromet,  
Belarus  
And Baltic Earth team



**Baltic Earth**  
Earth System Science for the Baltic Sea Region



Climate change During the Holocene (Past 12000years)

The Historical Time Period (Past 1000 years)

Long-term climate change

Recent climate change

Atmosphere  
River runoff and Ice cover  
Terrestrial Cryosphere  
Marine Circulation and Stratification  
Sea Ice  
Sea Level and Wind  
Waves

Baltic Assessment of Climate Change

Future climate

Atmosphere  
Hydrology  
Marine Physics  
Sea Level

Environmental Impact climate change

Atmosphere Chemistry  
Coastal Ecosystems, Birds and Forests  
Freshwater  
Biogeochemistry  
Marine Biogeochemistry  
Marine Ecosystems  
Coastal Erosion an  
Coastline changes

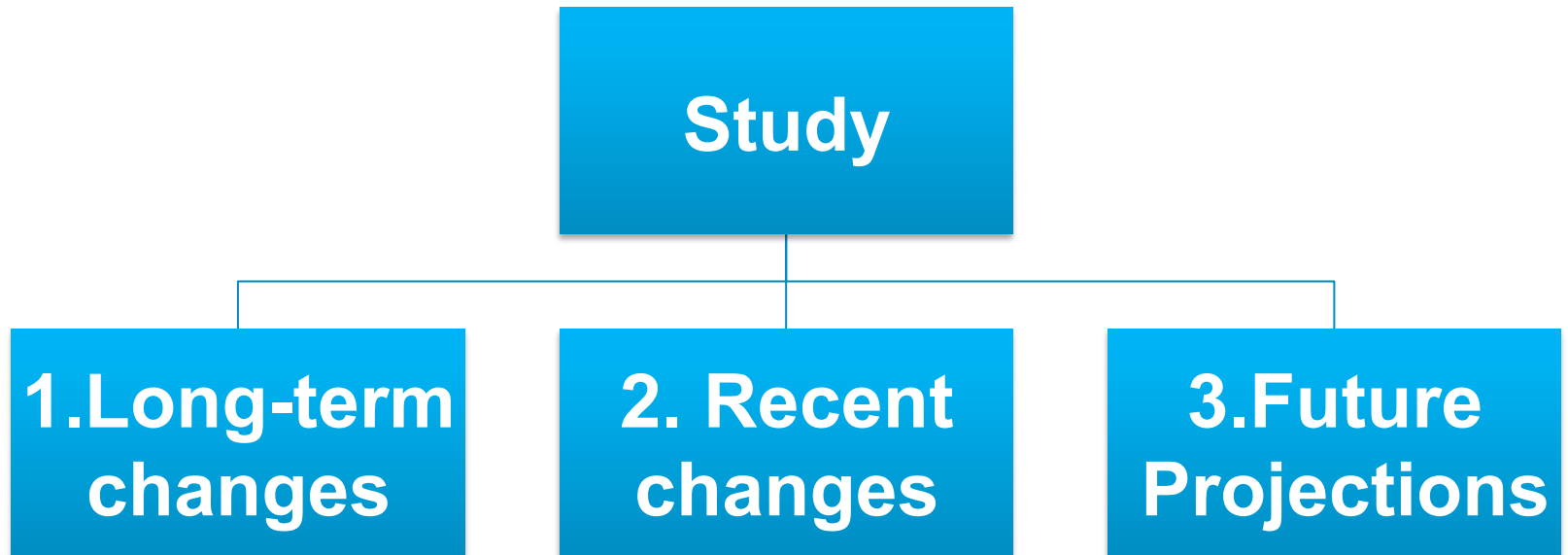
Drivers for Regional climate change

Socio-economic Impacts of climate change

Forestry and Agriculture  
Urban Complexes

Forestry and Agriculture  
Urban Complexes

# Baltic Earth achievements



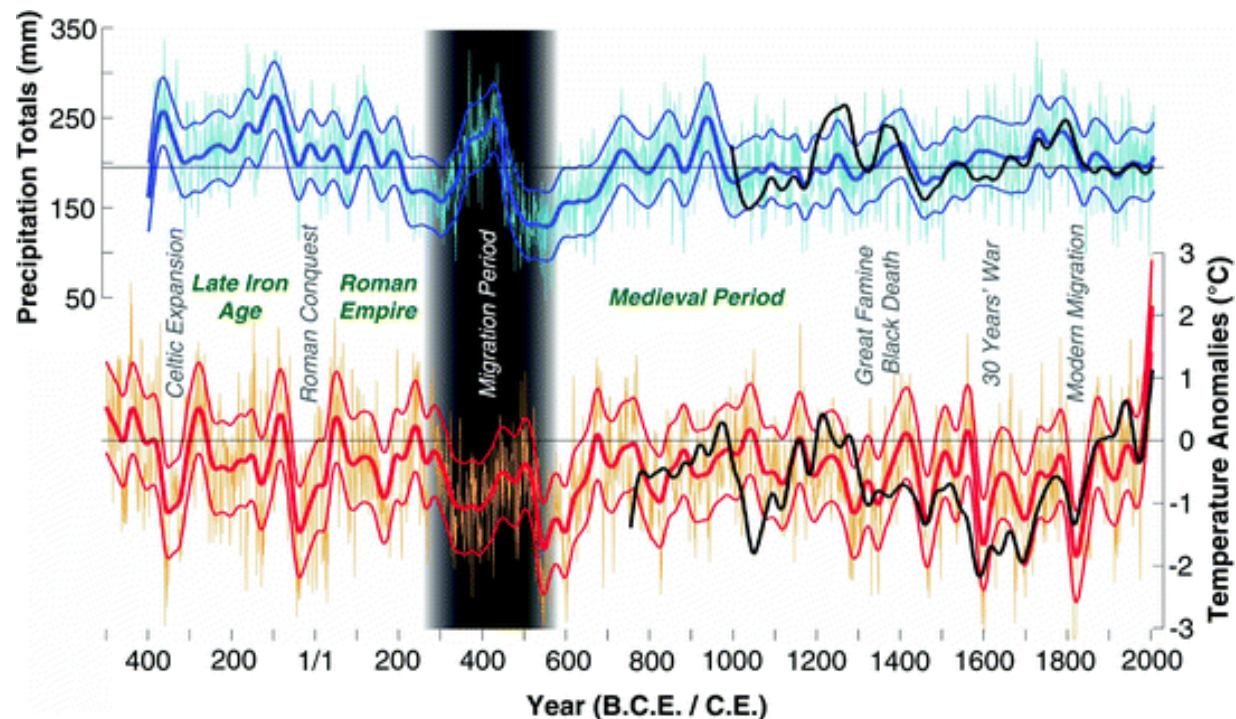
# 1. Long-term Climate Change (12000 years BP)



Climate change during the Holocene

For main stages of the Baltic Sea

- 1) Baltic Ice Lakestage (before 11500 years BP)
- 2) Yoldia sea Stage (11700-10700 years BP)
- 3) Ancylus Lake Stage (10700-9500 years BP)
- 4) Littorina Sea Stage (9500 years to present).



Reconstructed April–June (AMJ) precipitation totals (*top*) and summer (June–August) temperature anomalies (*bottom*) for central Europe with respect to 1901–2000. *Error bars* are  $\pm 1$  RMSE (Root-Mean Square Error) for the calibration periods. *Black lines* show independent precipitation and temperature reconstructions from Germany (Büntgen et al. [2010](#)) and Switzerland (Büntgen et al. [2006](#)). *Bold lines* are 60-year low-pass filters. Periods of demographic expansion, economic prosperity and societal stability are noted, as are periods of political turmoil, cultural change and population instability. Büntgen et al. ([2011b](#))



# 1. Long-term Climate Change (1000 years BP)

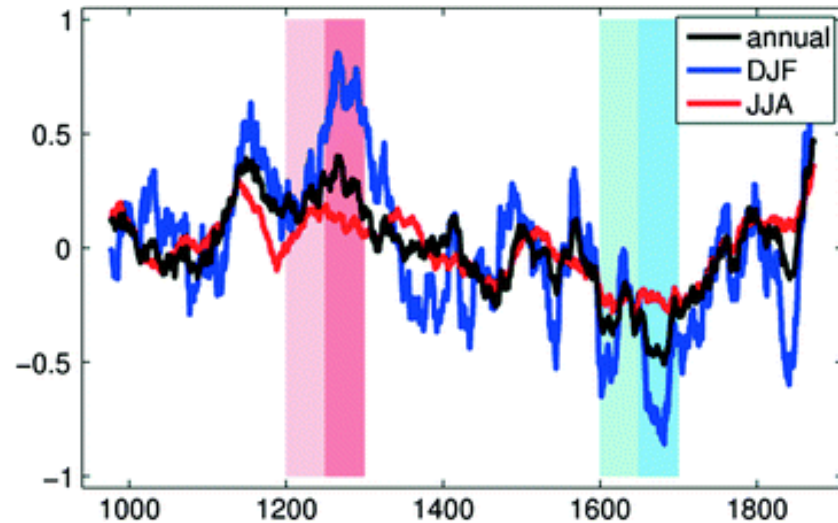
Millennial Climate

Medieval Warm Period (900-1350)

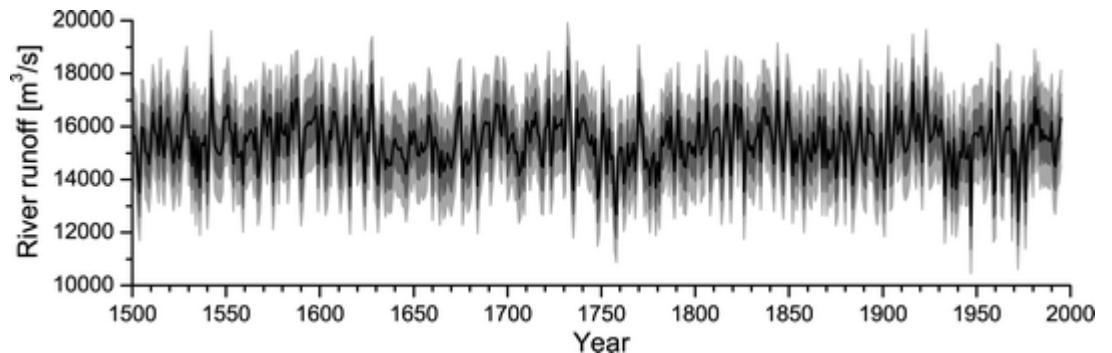
Transitional Period (13580-1550)

Little Ice Period (1550-1850)

Contemporary Warm Period (after 1850)



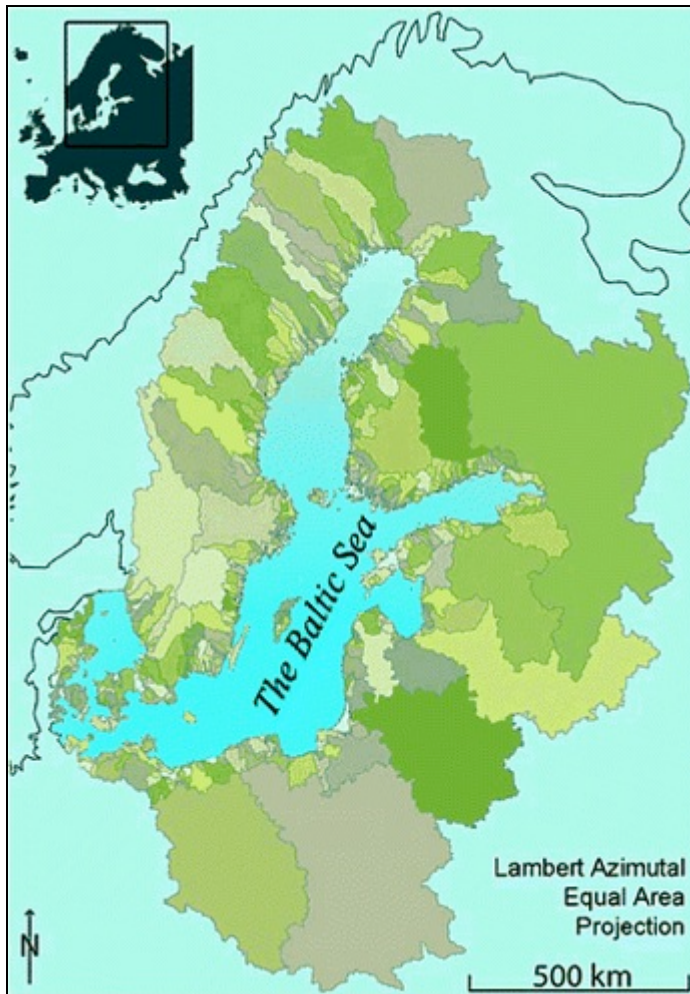
The 2-m temperature anomaly with regard to the preindustrial mean (950–1900) for the winter (*DJF*), summer (*JJA*) and annual mean averaged over the Baltic Sea region. The coloured sections highlight the periods that are defined as MWP (*red*) and LIA (*blue*). The darker colours reflect the 50-year periods which are considered for the analysis of the Baltic Sea. After Schimanke et al. ([2012](#))



Reconstructed annual river discharge to the Baltic Sea for the past 500 years. The *grey shading* indicates 1 and 2 standard errors of the reconstructed river discharge (Hansson et al. [2011](#))



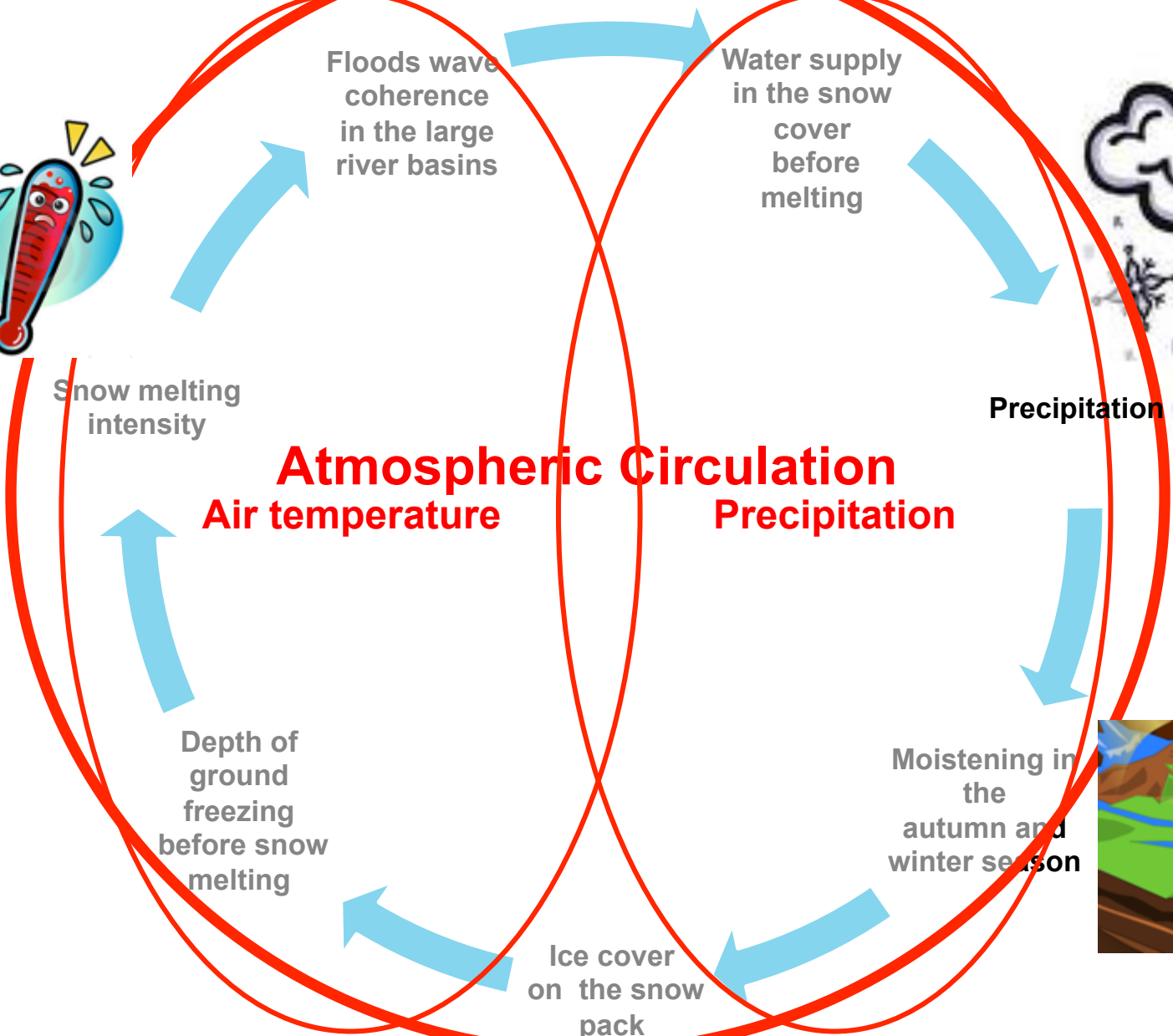
## 2. Recent Changes - study object



Sub-basins of the Baltic Sea drainage basin greater than 6 km<sup>2</sup> in size (Hannerz and Destouni 2006)

River	Country	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Percentage of Baltic Sea drainage basin	Mean annual discharge (m <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Percentage of total river inflow to the Baltic Sea	Run-off (l km <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
Neva	Russia/ Finland	281,000	16.1	2460	17.6	8.8
Vistula	Poland/ Ukraine/ Belarus/ Slovakia	194,400	11.2	1065	7.6	5.5
Odra	Poland/ Germany/ Czech Republic	118,900	6.8	573	4.1	4.8
Nemunas (Lithuanian)	Belarus/ Lithuania/ Russia	98,200	5.6	632	4.5	6.4
Daugava	Belarus/ Latvia/ Lithuania/ Estonia/ Russia	87,900	5.1	659	4.7	7.5
Narva	Estonia/ Russia	56,200	3.2	403	2.9	7.2
Kemi	Finland	51,400	3.0	562	4.0	11.0
Göta	Sweden	50,100	2.9	574	4.1	11.5
Torne	Sweden/ Finland	40,100	2.3	392	2.8	9.8
Kymi	Finland	37,200	2.1	338	2.4	9.1
Total		1,015,400	58	7658	55	

# Climate forcing the streamflow and floods





## 2. Recent Changes

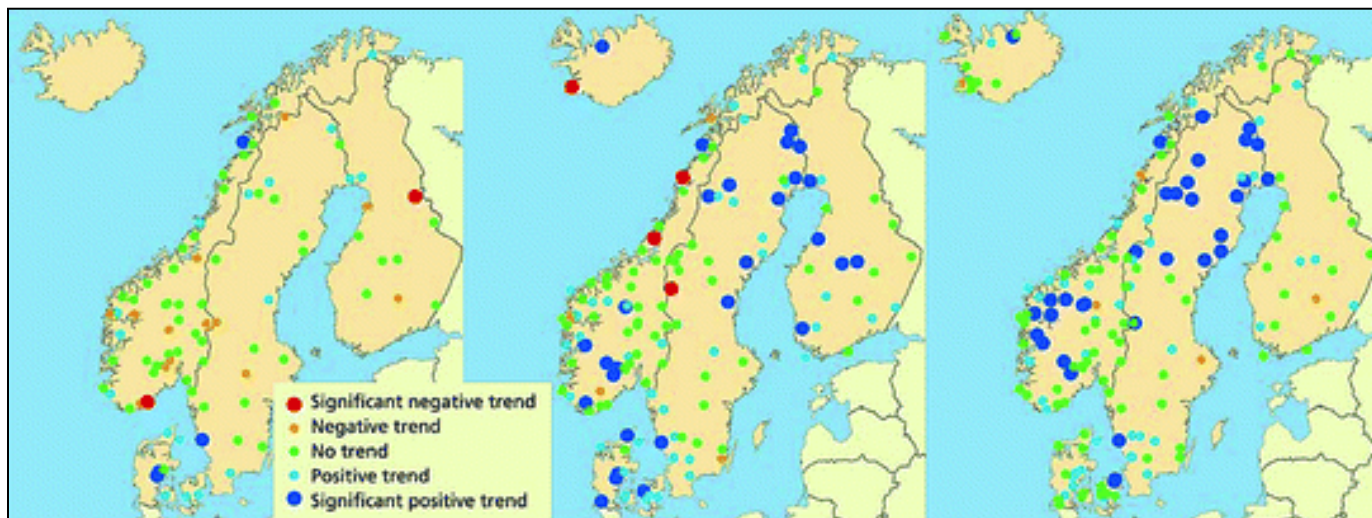
Atmosphere – north shift of the cyclones and increase of westerly.

Wind – increase of wind speed in the North.

Precipitation – no sign.change for entire region, more in the North. Falling is longer and more extremes.

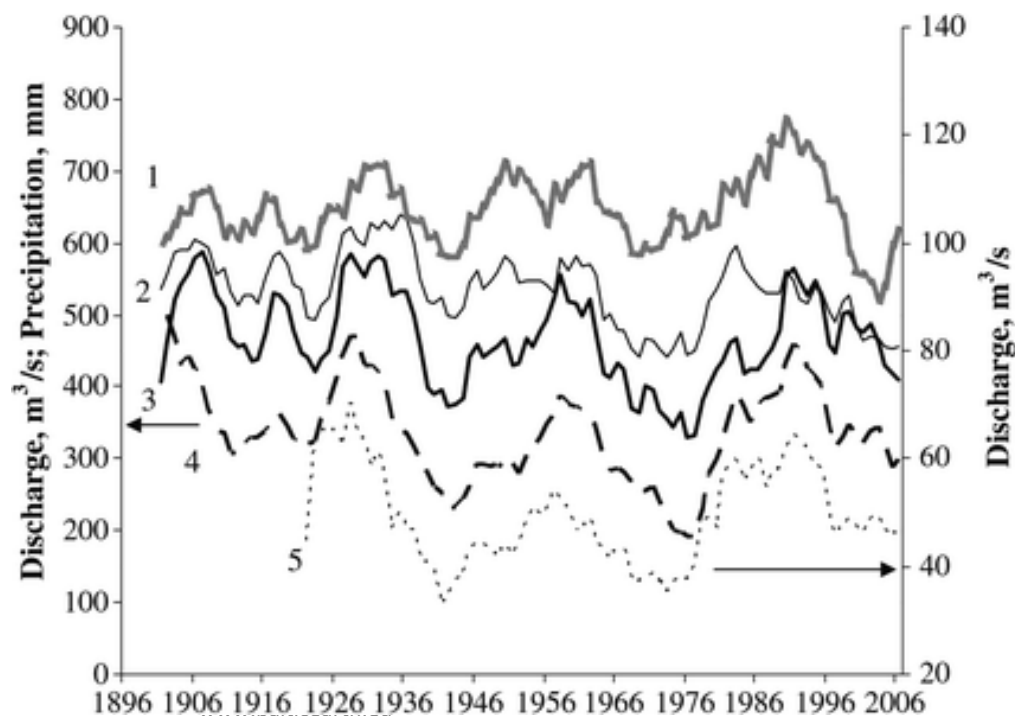
Air temperature – increase, especially in cold part of the year.

## 2. Recent Changes - Hydrology



Trends in annual streamflow within the Nordic countries for 1920–2002 (*left*), 1941–2002 (*middle*) and 1961–2000 (*right*) (Hisdal et al. [2010](#))

Long-term change in precipitation and mean annual discharge for rivers in the Baltic Sea basin: 1 precipitation (Station Rīga University); 2 Nemunas; 3 Daugava; 4 Narva; 5 Pärnu. Curves 1–4: left axis, curve 5: right axis. Data were smoothed using a 6-year moving average



# 3. Future Projections - Hydrology



Country	Model combinations	Scenario	Results	
Denmark	1)HIRHAM 2)NAM+ECHAM4- HIRHAM	SRES A2	Annual discharge increase up to 11-14% Annual discharge increase up to 9-34%	Sediment up to 24-27% Phosphor up to 3.3-16.5%
Finland	1) WSFS 2)TUFLOW+2GCM +RCA3 RCM 3) TUFLOW +3GCM +4RCM	SRES A2, A1B B1	1)North –no change, West and Centre – floods increase 2) Floods decrease 3)Floods decrease up to 8-22%	
Latvia	HBV+HadAM3H- RCAO	SRES A2 B2	Annual discharges decrease up to 2-24%	
Lithuania	HBV+ECHAM5 and HadCM3	SRES A1B	Annual discharges decrease up to 41%	
Norway	HBV+2GCM+RCM	SRES A2 B2	Winter and autumn discharge decrease	
Poland	ECHAM5-MPI-M- REMO		Water decrease in the median value from –32 to –50 mm	
Sweden	HBV+GCM/RCM ECHAM5/RCA3	SRES A1B	Uncertainness in the projections	

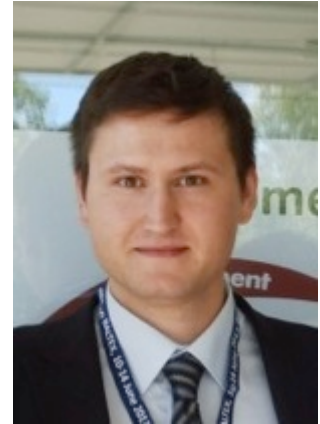


# Advances and challenges in hydrology of the Baltic sea basin: view from Russia



Saint-Petersburg  
State University

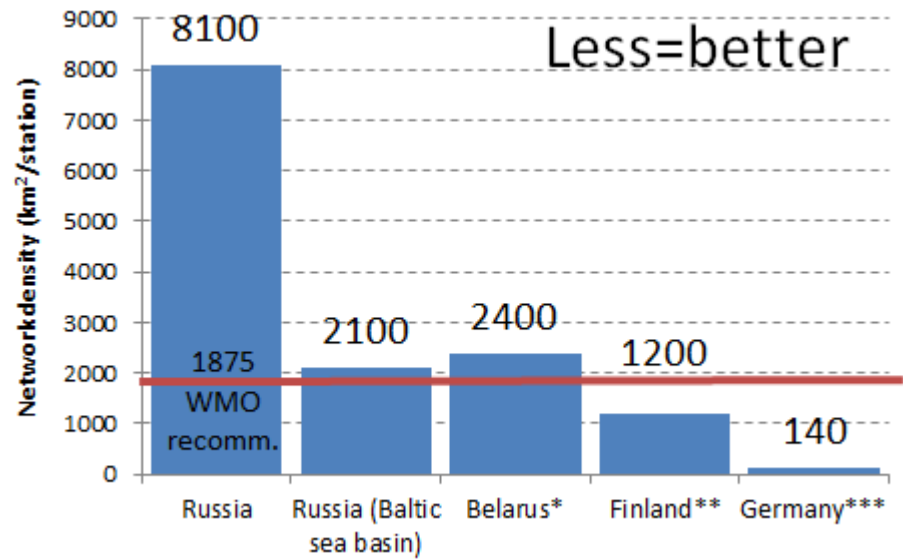
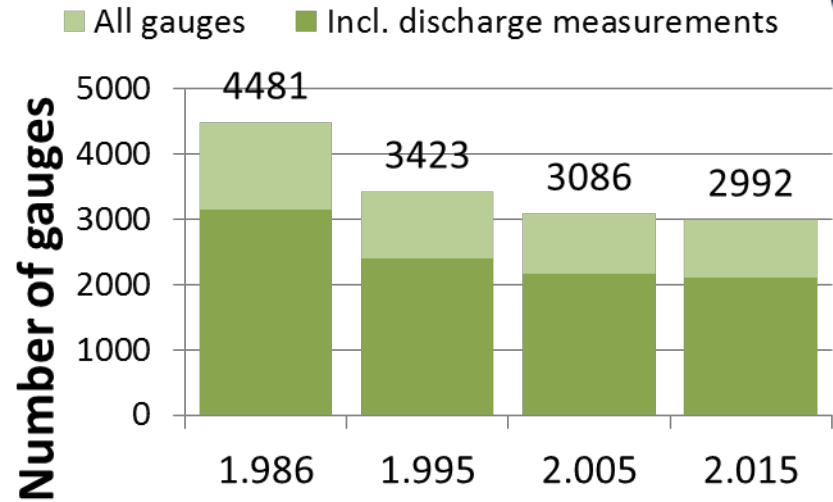
**Sergei Zhuravlev,**  
Associate Professor, Chair of  
Hydrology, Inst. of Earth Sciences,  
SPbSU  
Leading researcher, head of the  
Hydrologic Modelling Lab,  
Russian State Hydrologic Institute  
[s.zhuravlev@spbu.ru](mailto:s.zhuravlev@spbu.ru)



# Hydrological network in Russia and Russian part of the Baltic Sea basin



- Total number of hydrological stations is about 3000.
- It is slowly decreasing during last years
- Russian part of the Baltic sea basin has the highest density of hydrological network



\*HMC.BY 2014

\*\*WMO INFOHYDRO 2014

\*\*\*Fresh surface water, 2009

# Hydrological datasets and new data services in Russia



- automated information system of the state monitoring of water objects (gmvo.skniivh.ru)

Daily discharges (1950 stations) from 2008 up to date

Daily water levels (2650 stations)

Hydrochemical data, water turbidity, ice regime etc

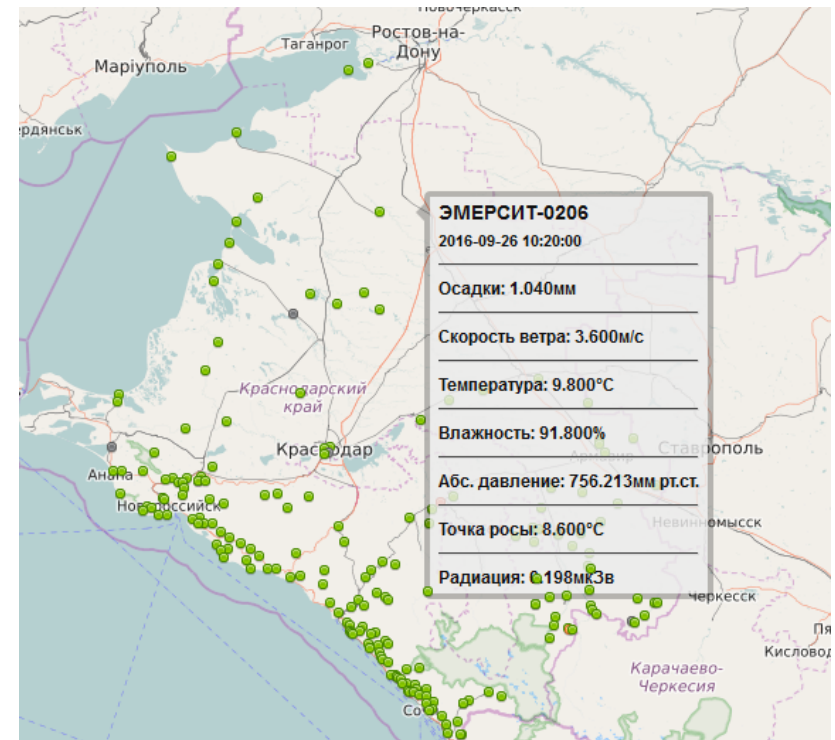
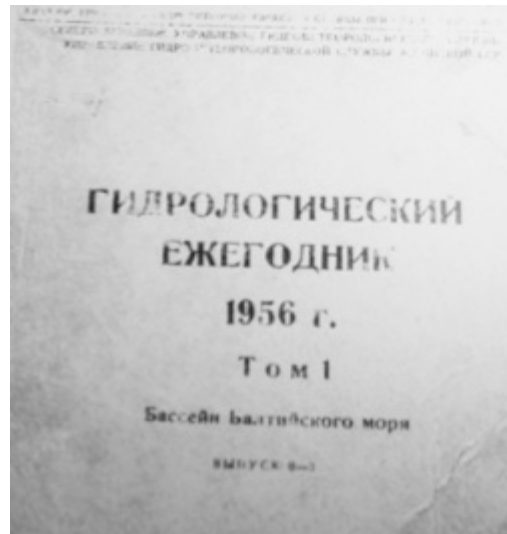


But only in Russian 😞

- regional systems  
i.e. <http://emergit.com/map/>

- local datasets

Daily runoff data  
for the Russian  
part of the Baltic  
sea basin  
(1946 - 1992)



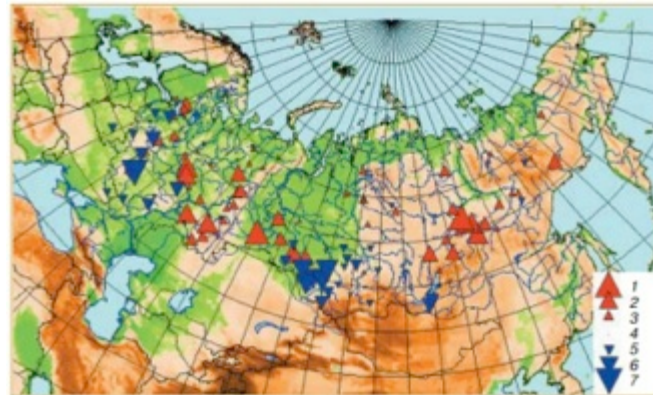
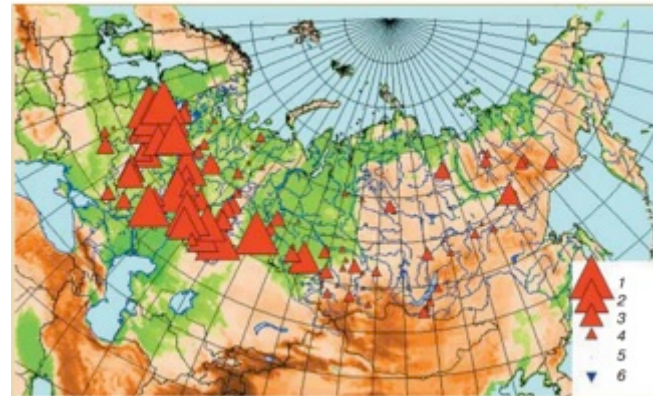


## Anomalies of winter, spring and summer–fall runoff



### Runoff studies: runoff trends in Russia

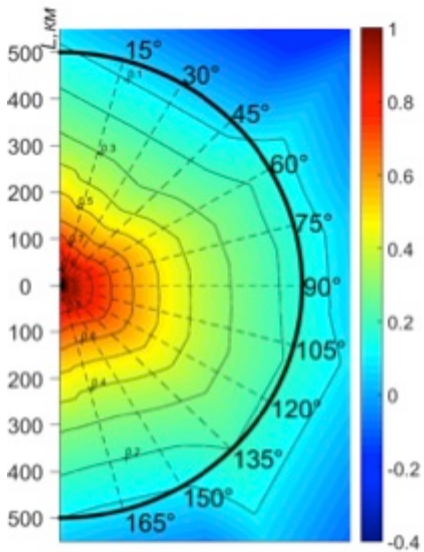
- Winter and summer low flows are increasing
- Different spatial patterns for spring floods
- Strong need for regional studies



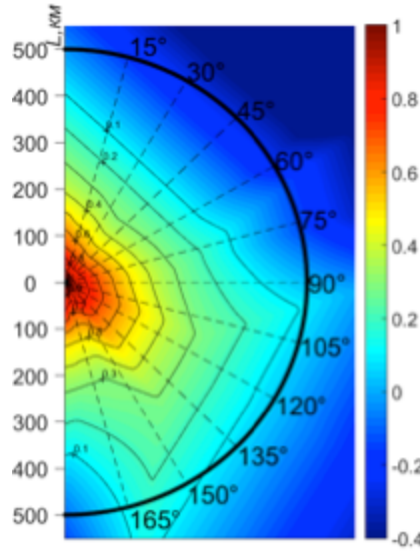
(Shiklomanov, Georgievskiy, 2008)

# Runoff trends in the Russian part of the Baltic sea basin

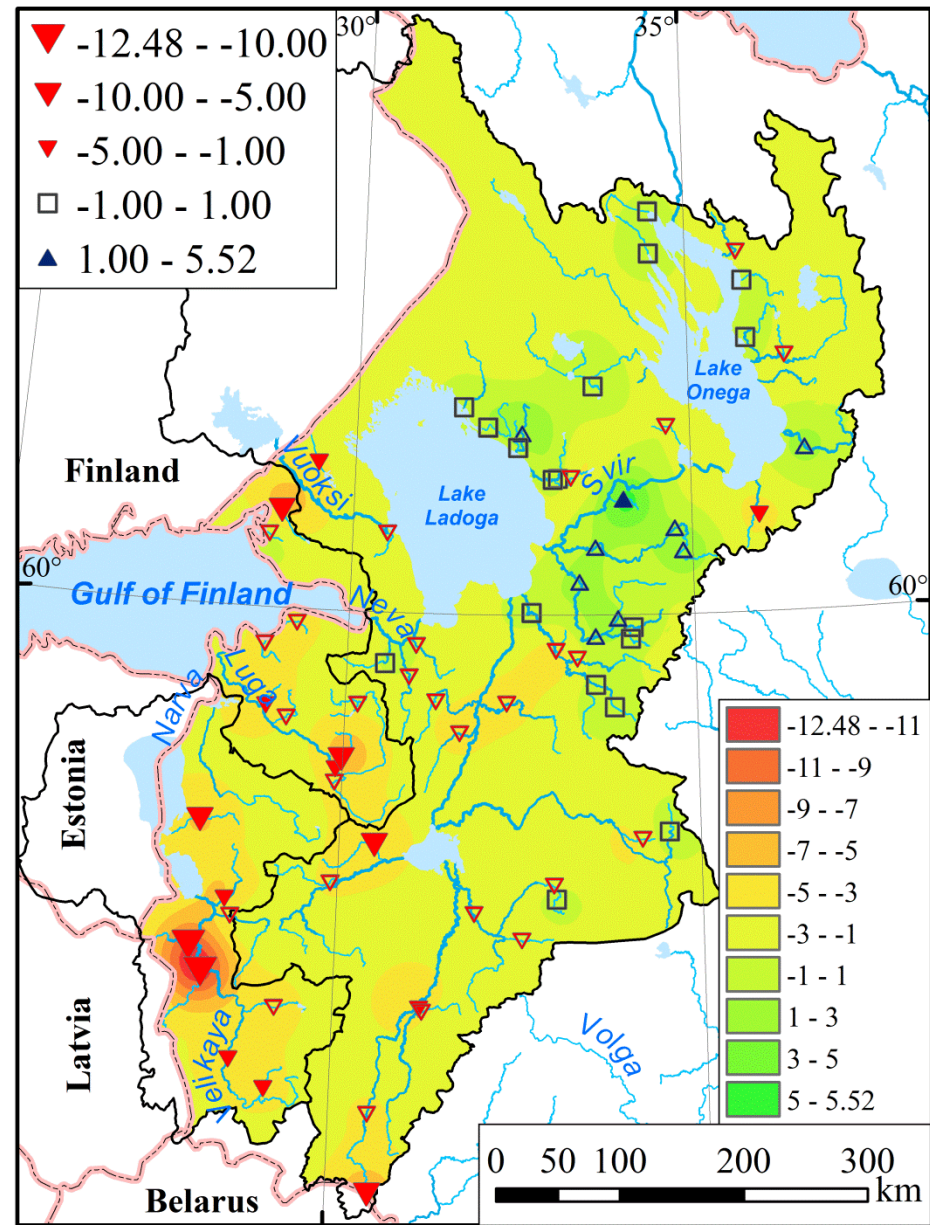
- Peak runoff of spring floods over the east of GoF basins tends to decrease in the south and to increase in the north
- The major factor of peak flow reducing is increasing of thaws during the winter period
- Spatial correlation of peak runoff is decreasing (Red – perfect correlation; blue – weak)



(1946-1978)



(1979-2013)



Peak flow trends for the period 1946-2013 (Zhuravlev, 2016)



# Hydrologic modeling

**A number of hydrological models were adapted to Baltic Sea region:**

- HYPE (SMHI, Sweden)
- HBV (SMHI, Sweden)
- Hydrograph (SHI, Russia)
- WetSPA (Belgium, adapted to Poland)
- SWAT (USA, adapted to different countries of Baltic Sea region)  
and many others

## **Objectives:**

To share information about different models adapted for Baltic Sea basin

To review numerous hydrological studies for the different sub-basins of the Baltic Sea



## What should be done (acc. to BE Science Plan, GC 5 Understanding regional variability of water and energy exchanges)

- Data description and translation. Guideline preparation.
- Review article & participation in assessment reports
- New “sub”-regional projects (e.g. Western Dvina project, Russia and Belarus)

# Thank You!

**GEWEX**



**Baltic Earth**

Earth System Science for the Baltic Sea Region