

Conference Committees

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Co-organizing Institutions



Time Table

2 nd Announcement	November 2015
Abstract Submission	February 2016
Registration and Hotel Reservations	April 2016

Venue and Travel

Cultural Centre Agila
Taikos g. 4, Neringa, Nida
Curonian Spit, Lithuania



Nida is the administrative centre of Neringa municipality on the Curonian Spit. It is the westernmost point of Lithuania. The closest international airport is Palanga, about 30 km north from Klaipėda. From Klaipėda, Neringa can be reached by car and pedestrian ferries; regular buses commute between the ferry terminals and the town of Nida.



Further Information

Details on registration procedures and the conference in general are available at the Baltic Earth website:
www.baltic-earth.eu/nida2016

1st Baltic Earth Conference



Multiple drivers for Earth system changes in the Baltic Sea region



Nida, Curonian Spit
Lithuania
13 - 17 June 2016

First Announcement

Scope

The goal of Baltic Earth is to achieve an improved Earth system understanding of the Baltic Sea region, encompassing processes in the atmosphere, on land and in the sea, as well as processes and impacts related to the anthroposphere. The human impact shall be assessed at all levels, wherever possible and reasonable.

Recent research, documented in the BACC II book, has shown that the observed environmental changes are caused by a mixture of interwoven factors, among them climate change and its associated impacts, eutrophication, pollution, fisheries and land cover change. Each of these factors has a scientific and a societal dimension, which are often interdependent, and which makes the identification of a single, or even dominant factor responsible for the change difficult.



The scope of this first Baltic Earth Conference is to attempt to describe the different factors for change, their impacts on the Earth system of the Baltic Sea region, and to demonstrate the capacity to model any of these factors in a single or a coupled approach. Are we able to simulate the observed changes in a realistic way? Are we able to produce credible scenarios for the future? Ultimately, this analysis should help to identify knowledge gaps and research needs for the coming years, to help find solutions for the challenges we face in the future.

Topics

The Baltic Earth Science Plan is organized along specific interdisciplinary research challenges which have been formulated by the Baltic Earth Science Steering Group. Additional topics are treated by dedicated Working Groups. The sessions of this conference will reflect these topics:

- Salinity dynamics in the Baltic Sea
- Land-Sea biogeochemical feedbacks in the Baltic Sea region
- Natural hazards and extreme events in the Baltic Sea region
- Understanding sea level dynamics in the Baltic Sea
- Understanding regional variability of water and energy exchanges
- Regional climate system modeling
- Assessment of scenario simulations for the Baltic Sea 1960-2100

A call for papers will be published in late 2015, specifying the scientific sessions. Results from any of these research fields and related to the overall theme of the conference are welcome, as well as contributions from related programmes. Invited and contributed papers will be presented in plenary along with parallel poster sessions.

The conference is also intended as discussion forum for scientists, managers and other stakeholders. Conference language is English.



Location



The town of Nida is located on the Curonian Spit in the Kursiu Nerija National Park. The Curonian Spit is a 98 km long and only up to 4 km wide, curved sand-dune peninsula, separating the Curonian Lagoon from the Baltic Sea. In 2000, the Curonian Spit cultural landscape was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The northern 52 km long stretch belongs to Lithuania, the southern part is Russian territory. The Lithuanian harbour city of Klaipeda is located at the narrow exit of the lagoon to the Baltic Sea.

Hundreds of bird species live on the spit and millions of birds cross it every spring and autumn on their migration routes and many stop to rest or breed here. About 900 plant species are found in the Park area as well. The popular summer resort of Nida is home to the highest drifting sand dunes in Europe and famous for its rich historical and cultural heritage, among others the cottage of Nobel-prize winning author Thomas Mann.



Credits

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