

Interreg BSR NOAH

Protecting Baltic Sea from untreated wastewater spillages during flood events in urban areas

NEWS & UPDATES

January–June 2020

▪ **Progress meetings**

The first period 3 progress meeting was held online on the 1st of April 2020 (face-to-face meeting in Gdansk postponed due to COVID-19). Current actions such as pilot site activities, modelling and water quality measurements were discussed.

The second meeting of the period was held online on the 15th of June 2020. Project progress and reporting were discussed.

▪ **Pilot site investments**

The procurement and installation of investments in NOAH pilot sites is mostly proceeding as planned but may suffer from some minor delays due to the COVID-19 situation. In most sites, the installation of the sensors and actuators is expected to be finished by the end of June 2020. The pilot municipalities and investments:

- Rakvere, EE – Smart Weirwall System
- Haapsalu, EE – Smart Weirwall System
- Jurmala, LV – Automated Hydrological Stations
- Ogre, LV – Automated Hydrological Stations
- Liepaja, LV – Automated Hydrological Stations
- Slupsk, PL – Automated Hydrological Stations
- Pori, FI – no installations
- Söderhamn, SE – no installations

▪ **Output 2.3**

To demonstrate the effects of holistic spatial planning in urban run-off control, all NOAH pilot sites are taken through a process of hydraulic modelling by the technical universities of the project. The models give the possibility to analyze the impact of combining different climate scenarios with surrounding water bodies and land use patterns. The Output 2.3 *Report on modelling results* by WP2 *Better planning and risk mitigation* has been published in April on the [NOAH website](#) under *Project outputs*.

▪ **Extreme Weather Layer (EWL)**

The preparations for testing and implementing the final tool of the project, the Extreme Weather Layer (EWL), has begun. The hydraulic models (Output 2.3) of the NOAH pilot sites will be used as the basis of the tool, which brings urban planning into new holistic level by connecting major weather impacts into existing general spatial planning. The tool introduces graphical layers that present, with simple color codes, the need for stormwater low impact development (LID) and retention facilities in individual sites and the limitations for planning impervious surfaces in open public areas. The implementation of EWL aims at minimizing run-off from catchment areas

and thus decreasing discharges of pollutants into the Baltic Sea. Finally, the process and the results of the implementation will be generalized to make EWL internationally transferable.

▪ **Visualization of the project results**

To provide the stakeholders with material of the project activities and effects, visualization of the NOAH pilot areas with project results will be performed (A4.2). Images and videos (O4.2) will depict extreme weather events' impact on urban drainage systems and the contamination levels of wastewater spillages to the Baltic Sea. The visualizations will take into account different climate scenarios and present the effects of the new NOAH passive and active urban water management solutions.

▪ **Project-related publications**

Articles/papers on NOAH published during spring 2020:

- PL: Kierunek WodKan periodical 1/2020, 27.2.2020:
[NOAH na pomoc morzu](#)
- EE: Äripäev (Business) newspaper 5.3.2020:
[Õppimine kiirelt arenevas ehitusvaldkonnas pakub põnevaid väljakutseid](#)
- EE: Inseneeria (Engineering) magazine 28.5.2020:
[Mida teha, kui tänavad muutuvad mägijõgedeks? Probleemile otsib lahendust NOAH](#)
(available for subscribers)
- FI: Ympäristö ja Terveys (Environment and Health) magazine 4/2020, May 2020:
[Tulvanhallintayhteistyöllä uusia keinoja Itämeren saastekuorman vähentämiseksi](#)
(Article unfortunately not available online)
- Journal of Water Supply: Research and Technology, Vol. 69, Issue 3, May 2020:
Kändler, N.; Annus, I.; Vassiljev, A.; Puust, R. *Real time controlled sustainable urban drainage systems in dense urban areas.*

▪ **Stakeholder Representative Panel**

The NOAH project has established a Stakeholder Representative Panel in January 2020 to efficiently reach the stakeholders outside the project partnership and to ensure the transnational value of the project to be verified and documented in project communication. The panel members – from Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia and Lithuania – are all experts of water management and sustainability development in the Baltic Sea region. Project outputs, and finally the NOAH concept, will be introduced to the Stakeholder Representative Panel for discussion and joint development. The panel will have online meetings regularly in 2020–2021.

▪ **IWA World Water Conference**

The [IWA World Water Conference and Exhibition](#) (postponed from October 2020 due to the Corona crisis) will be held in Copenhagen 9–14 May 2021. The program includes a workshop called “Cooperation towards improving water and environment in the Baltic Sea”, which BSR NOAH will be part of.