



Why and how it started?the right place in the right time

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What happens on land effects the sea

- As the catchment of the Baltic Sea is 4,5 times bigger than the water body land runoff is an important part of the problem. Not at least agriculture and in the case of Baltic phosphorus as the water is brackish not salt.

So reducing P and maintain seminatural biodiversity is a real challenge





Rapid changes

- From CCCP to market economy
- Rapid changes in ministries and administration-new ideas
- Collapse of kolchozes and sovchozes
- High nature values from a Baltic ,European perspective





Matsalu

- Coastal meadows
- Floodplains
- Wooded meadows
- Reed beds
- Huge areas if in Sweden
1000 ha in Estonia 10000
ha
- Habitats dependent on
traditional management-
grazing/mowing





Rapid reform of agriculture

- Changing from old CCCP agriculture to private farms were there was lack of knowledge and sometimes a little bit naive ideas about the future





New Agricultural practices

- Introduce new ideas but also supporting with small equipment. The latter maybe most important because the Baltic states after independet were "flooded" with consultants and feasability studies and reports without any real changes for people especially in rural areas.





New challenges

- From point sources and top down ,high tech based on consultants.
- To bottom up perspective local, based on awareness using both legal and economical instruments.
- Linking agriculture,tourism,nature/
(B&B,training of nature guides,handicraft etc)





Including young and old

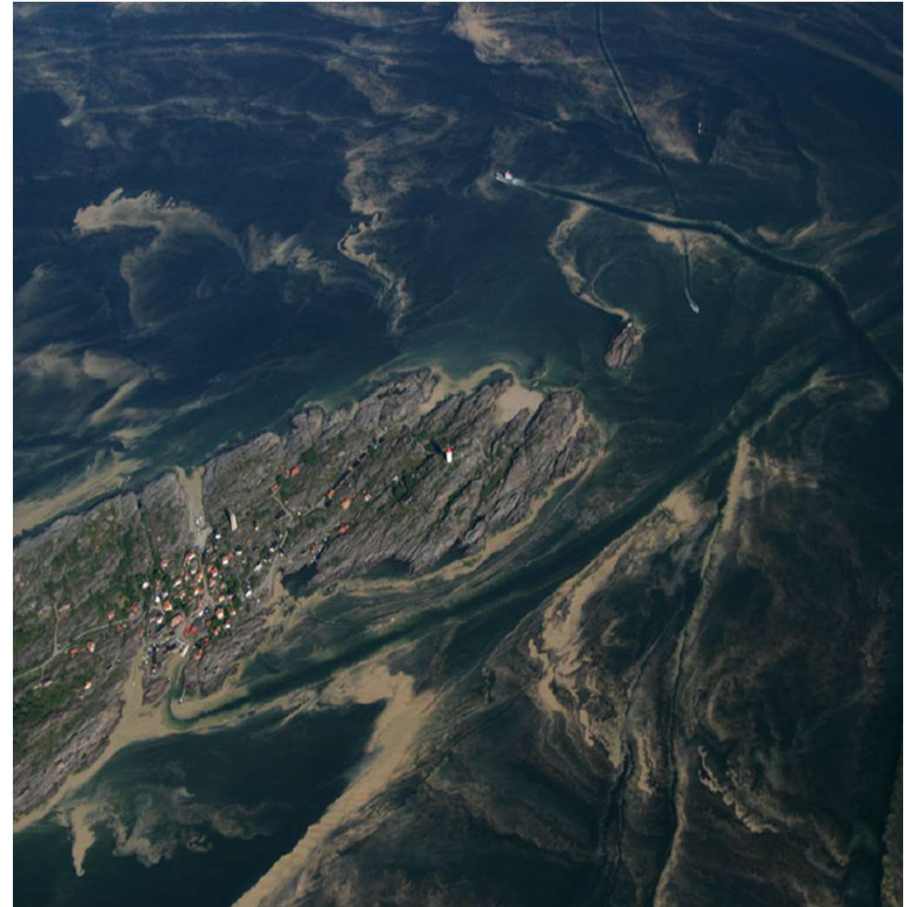
- As future generations whave to live with many problems created by generations before them there has always been a "nature education" component in the projects.





So what happend then...?

- The Matsalu project became a role model for similar projects with local partners in LV,LT,RU.
- WWF became an important player in HELCOM and in the GEF Baltic Sea Regional Project as well as several other projects.
- Least but not last BEP and BFYA became a reality.





So things can change !

- The Baltic Sea water quality has slowly improved mainly because of more modern WWTPs
- To reduce the the runoff from agriculture and and its effects in the sea CAP needs to be reformed and live up to the demands of WFD and the MSFD.
- So let´s make a change!

