

Electrifying Potential: Shore-side Power Generation in Ports

The digital conference brought together **over 100 participants** with speakers from across the Baltic Sea Region **including non-EU members Russia and Norway**, to discuss practical examples and the policy context of shore-side power facilities and how to **ensure a transformation to a greener shipping and cruise industry in the Baltic Sea Region**.

Lea Wermelin, Danish Minister for Environment declared that economic recovery should focus on **developing the Baltic Sea Area as the world's most sustainable cruise destination, and to make shore power accessible in the most visited cruise ports by 2030**. Following which, Grzegorz Marek Poznanski, Director General of the Council of the Baltic Sea States, highlighted the holistic and cross sectoral approach of CBSS in promoting the sustainable maritime economy. Finally, Mr. Poznanski **welcomed the Lithuanian presidency of the CBSS Expert Group for Sustainable Maritime Economy**.

Key takeaways



1. With crisis there is opportunity:

- We must build back better after the pandemic.
- It is a critical time for the climate.
- Shore-side power generation results in healthier and more attractive port-side communities.

We can expect the cruise industry to bounce back after COVID-19. Recovery funding can only be spent once, so it is important that it builds the foundation for a sustainable cruise and shipping industry.



3. There are challenges that still must be overcome:

- **Three bottlenecks:** financing, energy tax, and lack of green electricity.
- **We need green energy first**, it is not effective to set up on-shore power where there is not clean energy produced locally.
- **Financing is needed** as installation has a high cost.
- **Stakeholder coordination** and involvement is needed across many different groups.
- **Avoiding risk** that power is installed in ports where ships do not need it.



2. The policy framework has set the stage for action:

- **European Green Deal** offers opportunity for OPS to contributing to the goal of a climate neutral continent.
- **Policy Area on Clean Shipping** creates an opportunity for the Baltic Sea Region "to become a model region for clean shipping".
- **The Council of Ministers for the Environment and Climate** declaration aims to making the region the world's most sustainable cruise destination, and promotes investments in OPS to contribute to the green recovery and job creation.
- **VISION Baltic 2030, Reikjavik Declaration, and Bornholm Declaration.**



4. Yet practical opportunities abound:

- **The Baltic Sea Region has an opportunity to create a shared identify and brand** around the challenge of becoming a sustainable cruise destination.
- **Funding:** There is a business case for shore-side power generation, and EU funds are also available.
- **Cruise industry first, and shipping can follow:** Cruise ships require by far the largest electricity capacity and by scaling to them from the onset, expanding to commercial shipping becomes easier.

In conclusion

- **Ports have an important role to play** to make the Baltic Sea Region a model region for sustainability and green solutions, in line with national strategies of CBSS members states and the EU Green Deal to achieve **climate neutrality and cut transport emissions by 90% in 2050**.
- **There is opportunity to earn the reputation as a sustainable tourism destination.**
- **Collaboration is key**, across the Baltic Sea countries and between all actors: port owners and ship owners, local governments, and citizens.
- **The time to take action is now**, with **political framework, financial opportunities, political will, and human capacity all in place.**

