



# GATEWAY & PARTNERS

**Indicator 4. Cooperation intensity between institutions on  
management of water bodies and coastal areas**

**June 2021**

## THE MAIN RESEARCH AIM:

The aim of the survey is to assess the fulfilment of the result indicator „Indicator 4. Cooperation intensity between institutions on management of water bodies and coastal areas“

### Target Group

23 respondents from selected organisations\* in Estonia and Latvia

### Sample size

N=23 (From selected organisations 10 from Estonia and 13 from Latvia)

### Method

CATI (Computer - Assisted Telephone Interviewing)

### Fieldwork

May 2021

### Specifications\*

\* Selected organisations in Estonia: Water Department, Ministry of Environment; Sea Environment, Ministry of the Environment; Fisheries Economics Department; NGO Estonian Small Ports Development; Association of Fisheries of Gulf of Liivi; Director of Strategy and Analysis; Ministry of Economy and Communication; Ministry of defense; International cooperation bureau; Maritime and Waterways Services, Transport Authority.

\* Selected organisations in Latvia: Association of Latvia's Coastal Local Authorities (member of LALRG); Department of Environmental Protection, Water Resources Division; Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre; Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology; Maritime Administration of Latvia; Riga Planning Region; Association of Local Authorities = Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (LALRG); State Environmental Service region – Lielrīga; State Environmental Service region – Ventspils; State Border Guard; Ministry of Agriculture – fisheries; Ministry of Economics - Strategic Planning and Resource Management Department, Strategic department.

# Ways of cooperation and main purposes

		N
All		23
Estonia	Estonia	10
	Latvia	13
Organisation	Ministry of the Environment, Department of Marine Environment	1
	Ministry of Defence, Department of International Cooperation	1
	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Maritime economy	1
	Police and Border Guard Board, Border Guard Department	1
	Ministry of Rural Affairs - field of fishery, Department of Fisheries	1
	Maritime Administration / Veeteede Amet, Development Department	1
	Environmental Board	1
	MTÜ Liivi Lahe Kalanduskogu / Fishery Board of Riga Bay NGO	1
	MTÜ Eesti Väikesadamate Arenduskeskus / Estonian Small Harbours' Development Centre NGO	1
	Environmental Board, Lõuna Region	1
	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development	1
	Ministry of Economics	1
	Ministry of Agriculture	1
	State Border Guard	1
	Maritime Administration of Latvia	1
	Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre	1
	State Environmental Service - Lielrīga	1
	State Environmental Service - Ventspils	1
	Association of Local Authorities = Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (LALRG)/ Latvijas Pašvaldību savienība (LPS), Elita Kresse, Adviser on Foreign Affairs	1
	Association of Latvia's Coastal Local Authorities (member of LALRG)	1
	Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology	1
	Riga Planning Region	1
	Kurzeme Planning Region	
	Manager	22
Position	Specialist	1

# Summary

- 20 authorities (87%) indicated that they have colleagues or partners working on management of water bodies and coastal areas in Latvia/Estonia and 18 out of 19 know their colleagues from the related fields and all 18 have met them in person.
- 17 authorities out of 23 (74%) say they have carried out cooperation with Latvian organisations on management of water bodies or coastal areas. 2 authorities out of 16 indicated that such cooperation have been up to 2 years and 9 (53%) indicated that the length of cooperation have been more than 10 years.
- Out of 5 authorities who had not carried out cooperation 2 would be interested in it and 2 authorities out of 5, who had not cooperated, are planning to carry out cooperation in the future.
- Cooperation intensity between Estonian and Latvian institutions on management of water bodies or coastal areas at the moment: 57% (N=13) consider cooperation regular, 17% (N=4) consider it to be limited. Results show that 19 organisations out of 23 (83%) are interested in regular cooperation.

# Results

## Cooperation between institutions on management of water bodies and coastal areas

### Whole sample

- 20 respondents (87%) say that they have colleagues or partners dealing with similar topic
- 19 respondents out of 20 know these persons
- 19 out of 19 have met these persons
  
- 1 respondent abstained from direct answers

Do you have colleagues or partners dealing with management of water bodies and coastal areas topic on Estonian/Latvian side?



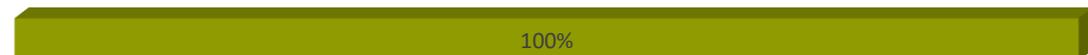
■ Yes ■ No ■ N/A

Do you know these persons?  
% of those who have partners dealing with similar topic, N=20



■ Yes ■ No

Have you met with these persons?  
% of those who know those persons, N=19



■ Yes

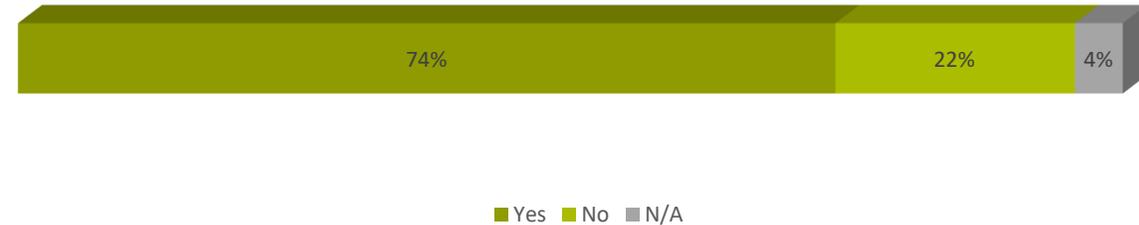
# Length of cooperation between institutions

## Length of cooperation between institutions on management of water bodies and coastal areas

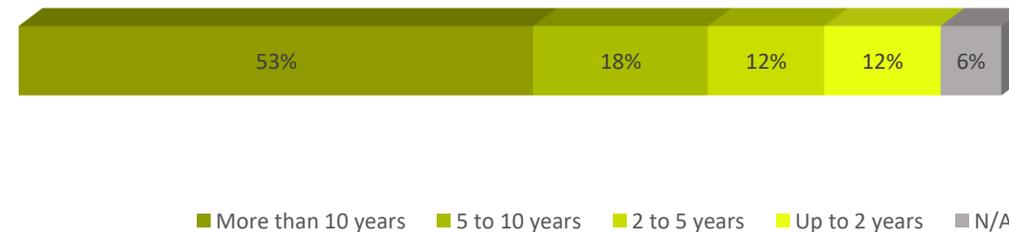
### Whole sample

- 17 respondents (74%) out of 23 say they have carried out cooperation with Latvian organisations on management of water bodies or coastal areas
- Up to 2 years have cooperated 2 respondents out of 17
- 2-5 years have cooperated 2 respondents out of 17
- 5-10 years have cooperated 3 respondents
- More than 10 years have cooperated 9 respondents (53%) out of 17
- 1 respondent abstained from direct answers

Have you carried out cooperation with Estonian/Latvian organisations on management of water bodies or coastal areas?



For how long have you cooperated?  
% of those who have cooperated, N=16



# Ways of cooperation and main purposes

N	What kind of cooperation have you carried out?	What has been its main purpose?
1	Conferences, joint projects related to marine recreation and small port development and infrastructure	To improve small port infrastructure around the Baltic Sea, improve small shipping service, creation of joint standards and signal-systems
2	Cooperation to guarantee the safety and well-being of regional water, through joint policing and border guard efforts. We have cooperation on different levels, the leadership, specialist, regional prefectures. Our cooperation is regulated by plans and policies between the different departments as well as on the EU level. The cooperation has been going on for more than a decade, we try to manage our interests jointly	To ensure regional internal security
3	Do not want to comment	Do not want to comment
4	Joint projects, expert meeting	Exchange of information, coordination of management plans, exchange of experience and recommendations
5	Kategoriski atsakās no komentāriem	Kategoriski atsakās no komentāriem
6	Navigational maps, joint supervision/ surveillance of activities in our region, guaranteeing safety of sea traffic, training and recognition of sailors, shipping personnel (certificates, permits)	Crossborder security, safety of maritime transport
7	Nitrogen budget, trips of monitoring, sampling, data processing for pollution detection	Taking environmental quality indicators to determine the state of the environment
8	Ship management, security	Ship safety, movement in the Gulf
9	Small port development and cooperation	Achieving a joining network of small ports in Latvia and Estonia and assessment of the situation
10	Various types of meetings to promote the successful development of the fisheries sector	Exchange of experience, planning of successful management
11	We have a common fishing policy in the EU, many projects going to ensure joint management of common fish supply in the area	Sustainable management of common fishing supply
12	We have all kinds of projects related to fishing	Finding ways for common and effective management of the area
13	We have conducted joint projects within the framework, related to clean water; monitoring projects; stemming from these projects we exchange information;	Opening channels for effective management of the area; open new channels for information and expertise exchange
14	We have had joint projects, also cooperation on various improvement, development and communication issues. Our cooperation is close on these issues	Implementation of projects, promotion of cooperation, maintenance and development of water bodies
15	We have several project, i.e. a joint monitoring program and projects to harmonize water status assessment criteria	As we have a cross-border sea basin, the aim is to move in the direction of joint management. Ideally, under the Water Framework Directive, there could be a common economic plan - today there are different plans that we are trying to synchronize
16	We have several projects with colleagues in Latvia, monitoring the environment of the seas in our region	Effective management of the area - some questions can not be handled by one country alone, we need effective cooperation
17	Implementing specific projects for Estonian-Latvian programs	Training: In one project in particular, a plan was prepared for the rescue services so that in the event of a sudden accident at sea (fuel / oil or other chemical spills), a rapid response and the necessary equipment and shore-based infrastructure were available

# Reasons for non-cooperation

## N What have been the reasons for non-cooperation? comments of those who have NOT cooperated

- 1 There have been no offers
- 2 Because it is not within our competence, we do not have the means
- 3 There was no need
- 4 Coastal defense, mostly cooperation between defense forces (joint drills etc), related political cooperation

## N What have been the reasons for non-cooperation? comments of those who have cooperated

- 1 After we joined the EU, bilateral cooperation stalled a bit, but we work together a lot in the framework of the EU. Cooperation is regular.
- 2 Bureacracy complicates cooperation greatly - only 1/3 of resources go to the fulfilment of project goals, while most is spent on bureaucratic procedures and demands; this is a waste of resources
- 3 Complicated bureaucracy - it limits and stops cooperation; decisions are made at initial stages, but reaching the final goal is slowed down
- 4 We have cooperation, but haven't achieved full potential due to lack of resources, co-operation takes extra time both countries have their own procedures and internal rules - more cumbersome than doing things nationally

## Those who have not carried out cooperation

- Out of 5 respondents who had not carried out cooperation 2 would be interested in it

Are you interested in cooperation with Latvian organisations on management of water bodies or coastal areas?  
% of those who have not carried out cooperation, N=5



■ Yes ■ No

# Cooperation consideration in the future

## Whole sample / % of have not carried out cooperation

- 19 respondents out of 23 are planning to carry out cooperation in the future
- 3 respondents are not planning to cooperate in the future
- 1 respondent abstained from direct answers
  
- 2 respondents out of 5, who have not cooperated, are planning to carry out cooperation in the future
- 3 respondents out of 5, who have not cooperated, are not planning to cooperate in the future

Are you planning to carry out cooperation in future?  
% of all respondents, N=23



■ Yes ■ No ■ N/A

Are you planning to carry out cooperation in future?  
% of have not carried out cooperation, N=5



■ Yes ■ No

# Cooperation intensity and ideal cooperation

## Whole sample

- **Cooperation intensity between Estonian and Latvian institutions on management of water bodies or coastal areas at the moment**
  - 57% (N=13) consider cooperation regular
  - 17% (N=4) consider it limited
  - 9% (N=2) have no cooperation
  - 9% (N=2) abstained from direct answers
  - 9% (N=2) indicated other answers\*
- **Ideal cooperation intensity between Estonian and Latvian institutions on management of water bodies or coastal areas:**
  - 83% (N=18) regular
  - 9% (N=2) cooperation not needed
  - 9% (N=2) abstained from direct answers

\*1) If necessary, there is cooperation, but I do not have a direct connection with Estonia, other people are doing it  
 2) Regular cooperation with medium intensity

How would you assess the cooperation intensity between Estonian and Latvian institutions on management of water bodies or coastal areas at the moment?  
 % of all respondents, N=23



- 3: regular cooperation, including regular exchanges of information and regular meetings, exchange visits and / or joint training
- 2: limited cooperation, including some exchange of information, no or infrequent meetings, exchange visits and / or joint training
- 1: no cooperation
- Other
- N/A

What could be the ideal cooperation intensity between Estonian and Latvian institutions on management of water bodies or coastal areas?  
 % of all respondents, N=23



- 3: regular cooperation, including regular exchanges of information and regular meetings, exchange visits and / or joint training
- 1: cooperation is not needed
- N/A

Thank you!

**Gateway&Partners**