



Gulf of Finland Year -its present status

- We are currently planning the contents of the Gulf of Finland Year and ensuring its official status in all countries involved.
- The trilateral research co-operation, established during the previous Gulf of Finland Year, is being expanded to include new organizations and interest groups. Multiple sources of funding are required for the dissemination of the research results.

Aiming high

- The activities of the Gulf of Finland Year are linked to high-level goals: the Year's objectives are in line with implementing the targets of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan, the EU's Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Baltic Sea Region Strategy.



Gulf of Finland Year 2014 Project Management

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Gulf of Finland Year 2014



Why is the Gulf of Finland Year 2014 organised?

- We are combining the collaborative efforts of marine researchers from the three riparian countries of the Gulf of Finland: Finland, Russia and Estonia.
- Through comprehensive measurement campaigns and modelling exercises of the Gulf, we will obtain new information in key research areas. Our main themes of investigation are:
 - a. marine spatial planning
 - b. pollution and health of ecosystems
 - c. fish and fisheries
 - d. marine traffic, specifically in winter conditions
 - e. marine bio- and geodiversity

- We will generate new information to support environmental decision-making process towards ecosystem-based approach.
- We will compare the present environmental state of the Gulf with its state during the previous the Gulf of Finland Year in 1996, and disseminate new information to decision-makers, politicians and as well as to the general public.
- We will organise events and gatherings for the decision-makers, politicians and citizens having interest to the Baltic Sea.
- We will prepare the Gulf of Finland declaration, which will demonstrate the measures necessary to conduct to achieve a good environmental status of the sea by 2021, which is the goal of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan.

Research needs good planning

- Preparations for the Year are already under way: shared needs for further investigations have been identified by interviewing the researchers of major marine scientific institutions. This process has allowed us to define the five key research themes.

High potential for reaching out to the public

- Workshops, seminars and other ways to transfer information will be organised to deliver the latest information on the Gulf of Finland environmental conditions and human use. This will enable us to reach a large number of politicians, civil servants and the general public. Cities, municipalities, regional councils, institutions, organisations and other Baltic Sea stakeholders are invited to become partners in our events.