



BASRAN

- WHAT IS IT ?
- WHAT DOES IT DO ?

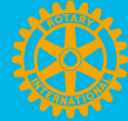
Päivi Kippo-Edlund

Helsinki Finlandia Hall Rotary Club

District 1420 Baltic Sea Forum

Board Member, Baltic Sea Regional Action Network,
BASRAN

Member of Technical Advisory Group of Community
Action for Fresh Water of RI and UNEP

Rotary 
Zones 15, 17 & 18

BASRAN
Baltic Sea Action Network

HOW DID BASRAN START?

- At RICon in Hamburg 2019 Finnish Rotarians from Districts 1420 and 1410 took initiative in starting a cooperation between Rotarians in the the Baltic Sea countries
- Inofficial net work of Rotarians working towards a cleaner Baltic Sea
- Currently there are approx. 1100 names on the mailing list



THE "BASRAN WAY" OF WORKING

- **Supports and inspires** Rotary members to start and join local environmental projects
- **Co-operates** with local, regional and national partners
- **Spreads information** about the state of the Baltic Sea and possible solutions
- **Raises awareness**
- **Connects** experts and institutions

- Newsletters
- Webinars
- Leadership Training in the Baltic Sea issues, Baltic Sea RYLA

- Board
- Action Committees

- Local Clubs plan and execute their own projects

CURRENT AFFAIRS



- Action Group Awareness Raising and Education was recently re-established with the chair from Estonia, TracyAnne Wenzinger (Tallinn International Rotary Club)
- Action Group Eutrophication is searching a chair and members
- The next BASRAN Webinar - Save the Date!
Wetlands and Global Grants
October 10, 2026, online, 9.00-10.30 CET (10.00 - 11.30 EET)

WANT TO JOIN?

Please register at
<http://basran.eu/>

As a member you will get
newsletters and invitations.

19.9.2027



WHICH ONE
IS THE
FUTURE
YOU
WANT?

Join us to Save the Baltic Sea!

Rotary
Finland



Save the Baltic Sea

Päivi Kippo-Edlund

CONTACTS

Board Members (Finland): Mathias Gruner (D1410), Päivi Kippo-Edlund (D1420)

Board Members (Estonia): Marve Virunurm (D1420), Deputy Member (to be named)

Web:

<http://basran.eu/>

Follow us on Facebook:

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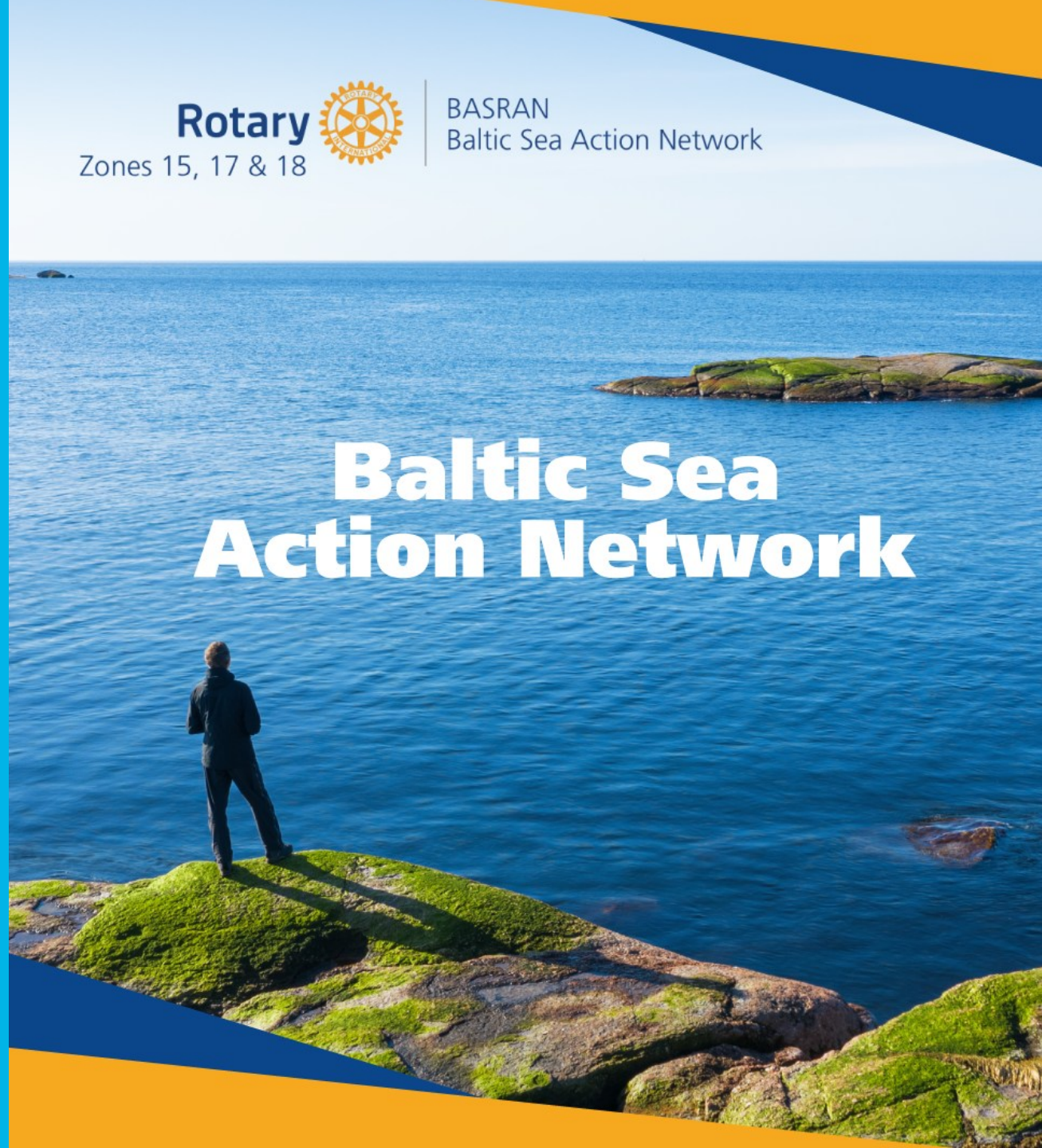
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Rotary
Zones 15, 17 & 18



BASRAN
Baltic Sea Action Network

Baltic Sea Action Network





Accessible Pärnu Beach - a story of a dream come true

Marve Virunurm





PÄRNU BAY ROTARY CLUB



- 12 ACTIVE AND ENERGETIC WOMEN FROM PÄRNU GATHERED ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2021
- BY MARCH 14, 2022, PÄRNU BAY ROTARY CLUB RECEIVED ITS OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION
- 2027 WE ARE CELEBRATING 5TH ANNIVERSARY

SEARCHING OUR PROJECT



- Monika Siruli, who described us her dream of swimming in Pärnu - she was the main inspiration of the idea – accessible Pärnu beach.
- Monika visited our club in the beginning of 2022, when we were yet to be an official Rotary Club and shared with us her story.
- She made us realize that something so simple and common to most of us can be unreachable to some people among us.
- Monika swam last time when she was 14 and now she is 49 years old and can swim again in Pärnu

SEARCHING OUR PROJECT

- The core idea of our project Accessible Pärnu Beach was **inspired by the people to whom the project is aimed**
- We made **a commitment to support people with special needs, who are unable to enjoy the beach** and sea in Pärnu
- **People with special needs have been our partners** and provided insight into their needs and requirements

OUR TARGET GROUP

- Wheelchair users and users other mobility aids
- People with poor vision or other special needs that make access to beach and sea difficult
- Children with special needs
- War veterans, who have served our country
- Elderly people who have problems accessing beach or sea
- Visitors of the beach with pram for small children

FINANCING AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Donations (private, enterprises, other Rotary Clubs)
- Estonian Wounded Veterans Association Sinilille campaign for veterans in May 2023
- EST-LAT interregional program (Accessible Hiking Trails)
- City of Pärnu – being co-operative partner in planning and finding suitable location

BEACH PAVILION AND INVENTORY



BEACH PAVILION AND INVENTORY



BEACH PAVILION AND INVENTORY



OPENING ON JUNE 30TH 2024



OPENING ON JUNE 30TH 2024



OPENING ON JUNE 30TH 2024



ACCESSIBLE PÄRNU BEACH -SUMMER 2024

- Accessible beach pavilion gain popularity and interest among both people with special needs as well as other beachgoers
- Pavilion was **open daily from July 1st until August 31st from 12 to 18**
- All services and inventory were **offered free of charge**
- Swimming chairs were rented when the **weather conditions were safe** and green flag was displayed in lifeguard tower
- Customers signed an **agreement of terms and conditions** before use of swimming chairs
- The customer had to have a **support person** with them when using the swimming chairs
- Person must wear a life jacket



ACCESSIBLE PÄRNU BEACH -SUMMER 2024

- Members of Pärnu Bay RC together with other volunteers worked at the Accessible Beach Pavilion daily from 12 to 18.
- The volunteer gave out information, helped with using the equipment and guided the special needs young people helping at the beach



WE MADE FRIENDS

Accessible Beach pavilion became a place to meet new people as well as old friends.

When weather wasn't suitable to go swimming or personal assistant wasn't available, people could still come to have a talk with our volunteers or spend time by the pavilion or on the beach platform .



ACCESSIBLE PÄRNU BEACH -SUMMER 2025

In addition to existing inventory we placed **a special changing cabana for wheelchair users** in co-operation **with city of Pärnu City Government.**



ACCESSIBLE PÄRNU BEACH -SUMMER 2026



ACCESSIBLE PÄRNU BEACH -SUMMER 2026



ACCESSIBLE PÄRNU BEACH -SUMMER 2026



VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

In addition to the members of the Pärnu Bay Rotary Club, many other organizations and helpers participated in the daily work of Invarand:

Pärnu Association of People with Disabilities

Pärnu Wheelchair Club

Friends and family members of Rotary members

Tallinn Reval Rotary Club

Rotaract

Tartu Hansa Rotary Club

Thanks to these volunteers and supporters, Invarand was able to operate daily and remain safe and open for visitors.



Pärnu Lahe Rotary Klubi
heategevusprojekt

Erivajadustele Avatud
Pärnu Rand

2024

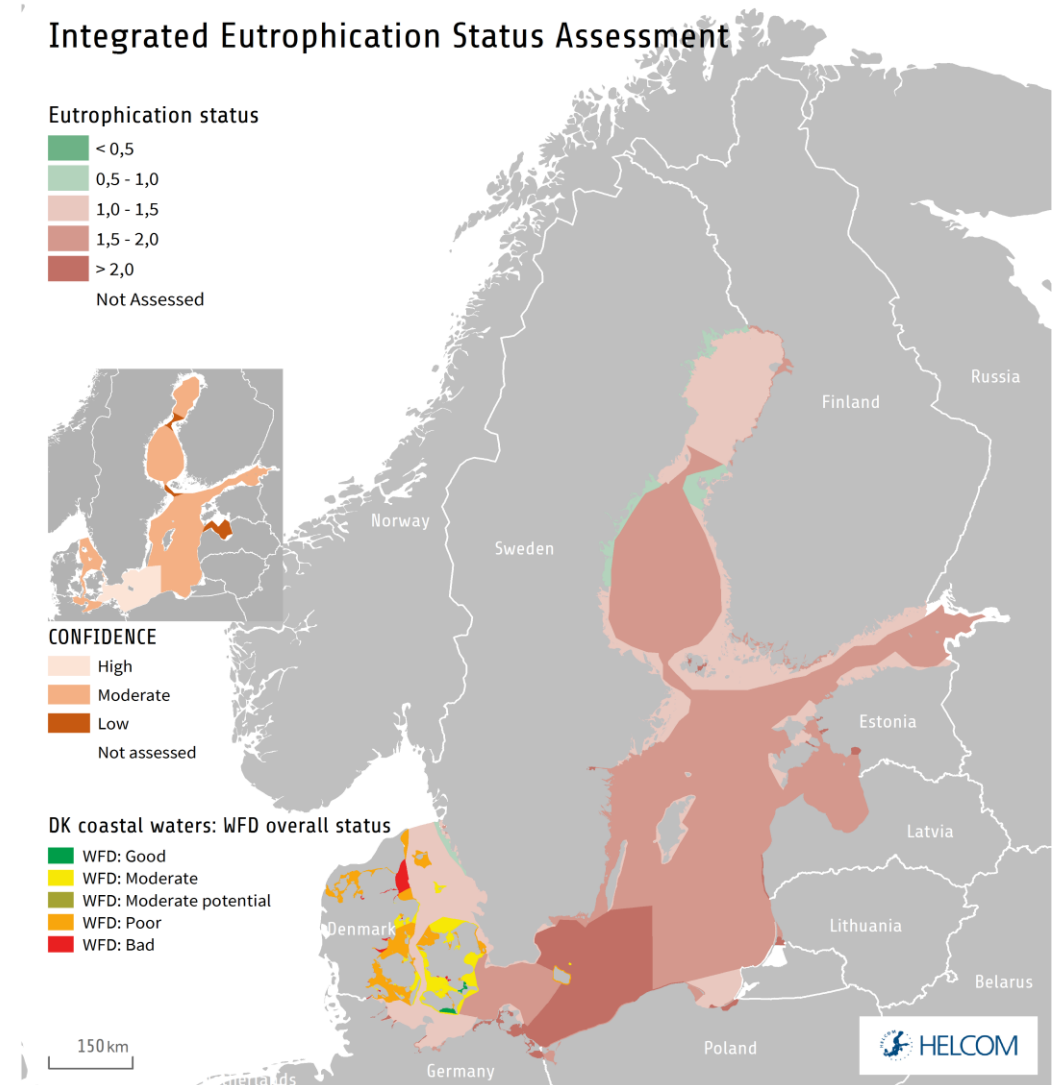


EXAMPLES OF WATER PROTECTION PROJECTS OF FINNISH ROTARY CLUBS

Päivi Kippo-Edlund
District 1420 Baltic Sea Forum
Saaremaa Seminar
19.9.2026

STATE OF THE BALTIC SEA

- one of the most polluted seas in the world
- on the drainage area there lives 85 million people

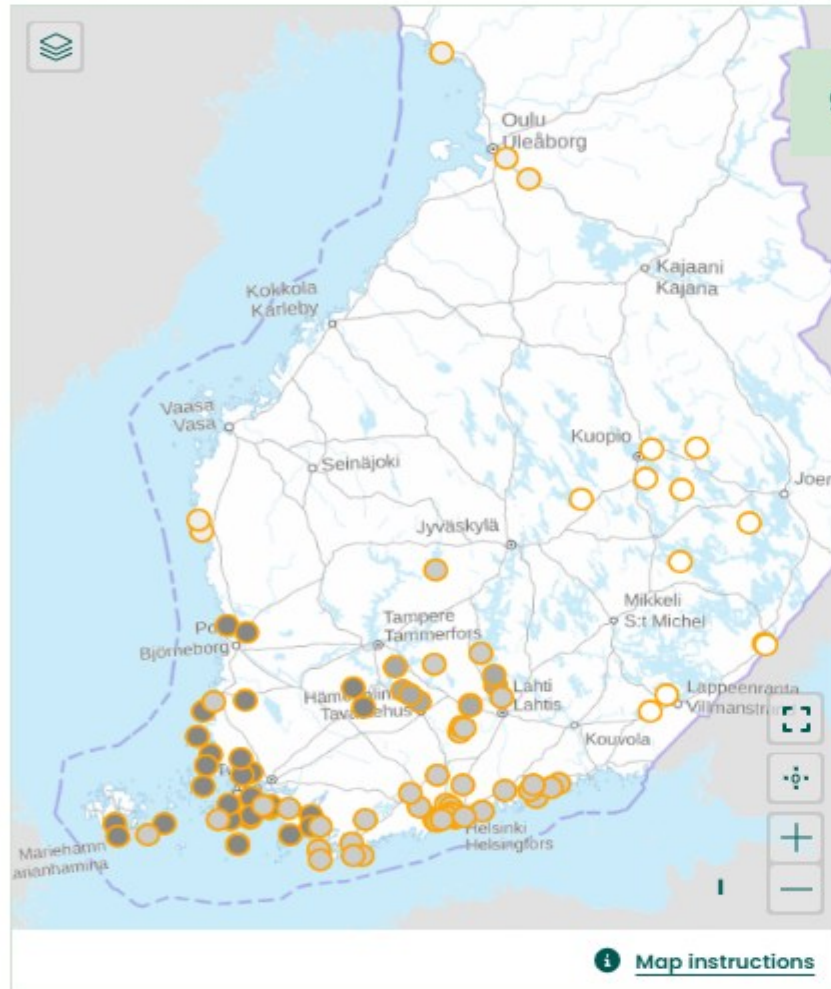


BLUEGREEN ALGAE MONITORING

- Citizen science
- Observing the blue green algae (cyanobacteria) situation (the sea and lakes)
- Cooperation between Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) and Finnish Rotarians
- Summer 2024: 96 active observing sites
- For example in Helsinki Finlandia Hall RC we have a group of Rotarians making the blue green algae observations once a week

BLUEGREEN ALGAE MONITORING

Rotarians' cyanobacterial monitoring locations in summer 2024



96 different observation locations

The map shows all Rotarian observation sites included in the 2024 monitoring by Rotary district.

- District 1430 observation site
- District 1420 observation site
- District 1410 observation site
- District 1390 observation site
- District 1385 observation site

Site administrator

All observation sites in the Rotarians' blue-green algae monitoring have been marked as being maintained by an expert, as those participating in the monitoring have received guidance on making observations.

- Expert

Observation sites in District 1385

LITTER MONITORING ON BEACHES

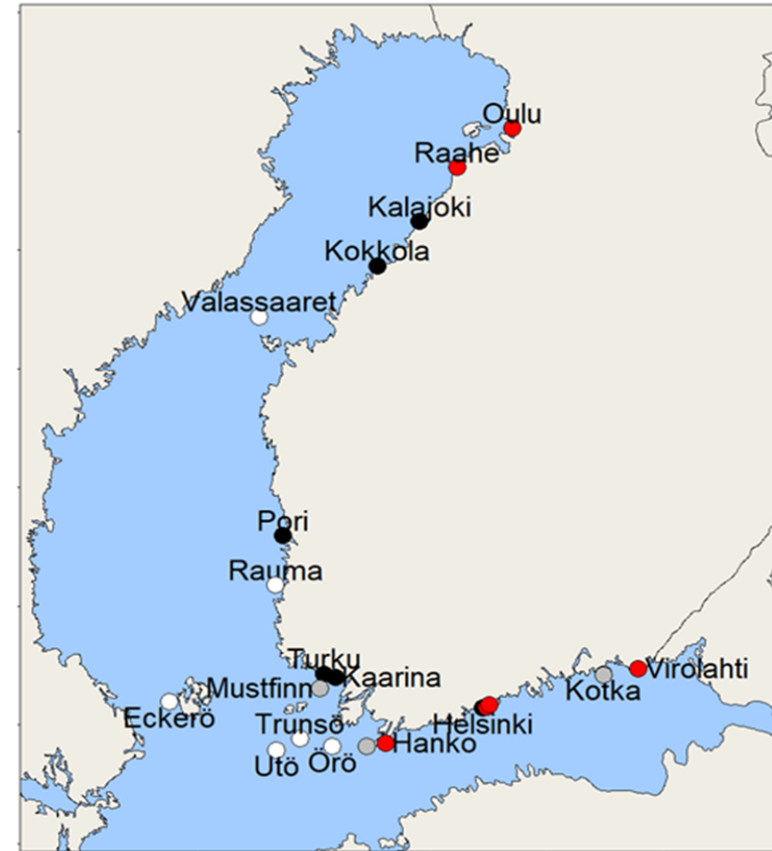
1) Lapurin saari, Virojoki, RC Kotka-Langinkoski, D1430

2) Kruunuvuorenranta, Helsinki, RCs: Helsinki City West, Helsinki Finlandia Hall and Helsinki Finlandia Hall Impact, Helsinki Kamppi-Kampen, D1420

3) Tvärminnen tutkimusaseman ranta, Hanko/Tvärminne RCs: Ekenäs, Hangö, Karis, D1420

4) Takaranta, Raahе, RC:s Raahе ja Pietari Brahe, D1385

5) Hietasaari, Oulu, RCs: Merikoski, Oulun Tulli, D1385



National beach litter monitoring sites (black = urban, white = natural, grey = intermediate)

● Rotary monitoring beaches 2022→

Litter monitoring

- Monitoring the amount and quality of litter on the beach
- Co-operation between Finnish Environment Institute, Keep Archipelago Tidy and Rotarians



WATERBACKPACK

- Environmental citizen science at schools
- Cooperation between clubs, municipalities (elementary schools), Water Protection Associations of Rivers and Finnish Environmental Institute
- Totally approx. 130-150 clubs are active in this project in Finland
- Studying the condition of local waters (sea, lakes, ponds)
- The backpack contains material in order to take and analyze watersamples
- Factsheets in the backpack give instructions



- Temperature (vesilämpömittari)
- Transparency (Secchi-depth)
- Blue green algae situation
- Turbidity (World Water Monitoring Challenge-purkki, tarra ja sameusasteikko)
- Oxygen content (testiputki, DO-tabletti, väriasteikko)
- Phosphorus and nitrogen content

PROJECT SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE UPPER CATCHMENT AREA OF THE LEPSÄMÄNJOKI RIVER (D 1420)

- Project Owner: Water Protection Association of Helsinki Region and Vantaanjoki River
- Rotary Clubs on the catchment area as cooperation partners
- Aim: stormwater retention by channel narrowing



FRESH WATER PROJECT OF MIKKELI (D1430), 2025-2028

— COOPERATION WITH SCHOOLS

- Presentations about water protection
- Freshwater studies, Water Backpack
- Sinking Christmas trees
- Reporting



AMONG THE LARGEST PUBLIC ROTARY EVENTS IN FINLAND



10

Organizers: 10 Rotary Clubs
in D 1420



Row to clean the Baltic Sea!



TAKE ACTION!

- Rotarians want to do good
- The Baltic Sea needs actions
- How to act?
Rotary clubs as local actors

Cooperation with the neighbouring clubs and your Rotary District

Cooperation with

- the local community,
- Environment Research Institute, University...

Build networks globally

- Rotary International, Community Action for Fresh Water,
<https://www.communityactionforfreshwater.org/>

Source: SYKE

THANK YOU!

