

1st Baltic Earth Conference

Nida, Curonian Spit, Lithuania

13 - 17 June 2016



**Multiple drivers for Earth system changes
in the Baltic Sea region**



Second Announcement and Call for Papers

1st Baltic Earth Conference in Nida

Scope and Topics

The goal of Baltic Earth is to achieve an improved Earth system understanding of the Baltic Sea region, encompassing processes in the atmosphere, on land and in the sea, as well as processes and impacts related to the anthroposphere. The human impact shall be assessed at all levels, wherever possible and reasonable.

Recent research, documented for example in the BACC II book, has shown that the observed environmental changes are often caused by a mixture of interwoven factors, among them climate change and its associated impacts, eutrophication, pollution, fisheries, land cover change and others. Each of these factors has a scientific and a societal dimension, which are often interdependent, and which makes the identification of a single, or even dominant factor responsible for the change difficult.

The scope of this first Baltic Earth Conference is to attempt to describe the different factors for change, their impacts on the Earth system of the Baltic Sea region, and to demonstrate the capacity to model any of these factors in a single or a coupled approach. Are we able to simulate the observed changes in a realistic way? Are we able to produce credible scenarios for the future? Ultimately, this analysis should help to identify knowledge gaps and research needs for the coming years, to help find solutions for the challenges we face in the future.



Baltic Earth focuses on specific interdisciplinary research challenges formulated by the Baltic Earth Science Steering Group. Additional topics are treated by dedicated Working Groups. Conference topics will be based on these challenges:

- Salinity dynamics
- Land-Sea-Atmosphere biogeochemical feedbacks
- Natural hazards and high impact events
- Sea level dynamics, coastal morphology and erosion
- Regional variability of water and energy exchanges
- Regional climate system modeling
- Multiple and interrelated drivers of environmental changes



Contributions related to any of these scientific fields are welcome. In addition, we welcome such contributions from similar sea and coastal regions around the world, e.g. the North Sea, the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, or the Bo Hai and Huang Hai sea areas. Invited and contributed papers will be presented in plenary along with parallel poster sessions. The conference is also intended as discussion forum for scientists, managers and other stakeholders. Conference language is English.

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Call for Papers

Contributions in accordance with the preliminary conference topics as outlined above, both oral or as poster, are welcome. Extended abstracts in English, maximum of two pages, including figures, tables or diagrams, are invited to be submitted by e-mail to the International Baltic Earth Secretariat.

Abstracts must be submitted by e-mail to balticearth@hzg.de by 19 February 2016. Please indicate to which topic you would like to have your presentation allocated. An electronic abstract template is available for download at www.baltic-earth.eu/nida2016. Please use this template, other formats will not be not accepted.

Abstract Deadline: 19 February 2016

The Scientific Conference Committee will review the submitted papers, decide on allocation to topic, oral or poster presentation and establish the conference programme. Authors will be notified by mid March 2016, and the programme is expected to be online by end of March 2016. An abstract volume will be distributed at the conference.

Authors will be invited to submit a full paper based on their presentation for a special conference issue in an international scientific journal to be published after the conference.

Scientific Conference Committee

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- Inga Dailidienė, Lithuania
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- Sirje Keevallik, Estonia
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For an updated list of sponsors, see the conference website

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Time Table

Abstract Deadline.....	19 February 2016
Notification to Authors.....	11 March 2016
Programme online.....	25 March 2016
Registration Deadline.....	22 April 2016
Conference.....	13-17 June 2016

1st Baltic Earth Conference in Nida

Venue and Accommodation

**Cultural Centre Agila, Taikos g. 4, Neringa, Nida
Curonian Spit, Lithuania**

The town of Nida is located on the Curonian Spit in the Kursiu Nerija National Park. The Curonian Spit is a 98 km long and only up to 4 km wide, curved sand-dune peninsula, separating the Curonian Lagoon from the Baltic Sea. In 2000, the Curonian Spit cultural landscape became a UNESCO World Heritage site. The northern 52 km long stretch belongs to Lithuania, the southern part is Russian territory. The Lithuanian harbour city of Klaipėda is located at the narrow exit of the lagoon to the Baltic Sea.



Hundreds of bird species live on the spit and millions of birds cross it every spring and autumn on their migration routes and many stop to rest or breed here. About 900 plant species are found in the Park area as well. The popular summer resort of Nida is home to the highest drifting sand dunes in Europe and famous for its rich historical and cultural heritage, among others the cottage of Nobel-prize winning author Thomas Mann.

Registration and Fees

All conference participants must register online via the conference website.

Registration Deadline: 22 April 2016

The conference fee is 250 € (300 € after 22 April) for full delegates. Students pay 100 € (150 € after 22 April). The conference fee covers the conference venue, the abstract volume, the Ice Breaker, morning and afternoon coffee and refreshments, daily lunches and the conference dinner. Accompanying persons will be charged for participation at the conference dinner. Partial support for students and young scientists may be available, depending on additional funding. Details on support and conference fee payment are available at the conference website.



**Fee payment is due at time of registration, latest on 22 April.
For payment details see the conference website.**

Travel Information

Nida is the administrative centre of Neringa municipality on the Curonian Spit. It is the westernmost point of Lithuania. The closest international airport is Palanga, about 30 km north from Klaipėda. From Klaipėda, Neringa can be reached by car and pedestrian ferries; regular buses commute between the ferry terminals and the town of Nida.



Social Events

Monday, 13 June.....Ice Breaker
Tuesday, 14 June.....Excursion
Thursday, 15 June.....Conference Dinner

www.baltic-earth.eu/nida2016