



Press Release

Geesthacht, Warnemünde, Sopot

Fourth Baltic Earth Conference presents scientific assessments for the Baltic Sea region: Climate, sea, coasts.

From 30 May until 3 June, the 4th Baltic Earth Conference will take place in Jastarnia on Hel peninsula, Poland. The conference is jointly organized by the International Baltic Earth Secretariat at Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, the Leibniz Institute of Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde, and the Institute of Oceanology at Polish Academy of Sciences, Sopot.

We expect about 130 participants from the Baltic Sea region and beyond, to share scientific findings and experience. Focus of this year's conference is on the so-called BEAR reports (Baltic Earth Assessment Reports), which are scientific assessments of certain thematic fields of the Earth system of the Baltic Sea region.

An outstanding report is the summary of the current knowledge of climate change in the Baltic Sea region. This is an update to the two previous "BACC books" of 2008 and 2015. 47 authors have assembled the latest knowledge from about 900 publications. "Water temperatures have increased over the past 100 years, and we can expect this to continue", says Markus Meier of Leibniz Institute of Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde, chairman of the Baltic Earth Science Steering Group and lead author of the study, "the current climate projections imply that during a normal winter, the entire Baltic Sea will be largely ice-free by the end of the century".

Karol Kuliński of the host institute IO-PAN, vice chair of the Baltic Earth Science Steering Group, and lead author of one of the BEAR reports, emphasizes the international and interdisciplinary dimension of this collaboration: "Scientists from all Baltic Sea countries and beyond have contributed to the BEAR reports, but also from all the different scientific disciplines which are relevant for understanding the regional Earth system of the Baltic Sea region. This adds to the scientific breadth and credibility of the reports," says Kuliński.

Background

Baltic Earth is an international network of researchers and institutions, striving for a better holistic understanding of the Earth system of the Baltic Sea region, and for making this knowledge available. It is coordinated by the International Baltic Earth Secretariat at Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon in Geesthacht, Germany. Activities of Baltic Earth include educational events like summer and winter schools, international workshops and conferences as well as joint research and publication projects. Every two years, a large Baltic Earth Conference is hosted by different partners around the Baltic Sea coasts. This year, the Institute of Oceanology, Polish Academy of Sciences in Sopot, Poland, is the host of the conference.

Weblinks:

Baltic Earth website:

<https://baltic.earth>

4th Baltic Earth Conference: <https://baltic.earth/hel2022>

BEARs Online: https://esd.copernicus.org/articles/special_issue1088.html

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