The strategic EU-project CLEAN BALTIC SEA SHIPPING (CLEANSHIP) has during September 18-19 2012 held its Midterm Conference in Riga. One of the aims of the conference was to demonstrate to all project partners and other branch stakeholders all our newly found solutions, developed in our Pilot projects and revealed in our analyses by the project partners. Another aim of the conference was to execute a dialogue with stakeholders in the shipping branch concerning problems still to be solved, in order to enable the project partners to create a truly clean shipping.

In the next Milestone, ending in April 2013, we will execute political dialogues with our supporting organisations, BSSSC, BSPC, BSF, UBC and HELCOM, concerning our suggested solutions and remaining problem areas.

At the end of the project, in November 2013, we will issue a final conference where we will release the Project’s official strategic document, which shall become an effective tool for making all shipping as clean as possible in the Baltic Sea through its acting Shipping Branch Organisations.

We have now demonstrated that technical solutions can be made available for all Baltic Sea Ports to serve the ships with port shoreside electricity and sewage reception facilities.

We have also found it of utmost importance to, between ports and ship owners, try to reach harmonized port fee principles, so that it will become more cost effective to enter the ports with clean ships, than to carry on using ships releasing more SOx, NOx gases and carbon particles from their main and auxiliary engines.

A final agreement concerning such joint efforts is in principle a political problem to be solved and to be made the target for an execution between all our HELCOM nations and in IMO.

There are more than one fuel solutions which will in a near future show us how cleaner exhausts from the engines can become executed. The different fuel types and exhaust filter solutions for ships are now intensively studied in our project and presented in our Midterm Conference speeches. Some of them are presently under thorough examination and development into full scale solutions, which will be compared in between in our project. Others are still under early stage testing, with very promising, but not yet revealed final results.

All speeches and lectures from the Midterm Conference, made by our partners, and by external project leaders in projects linked to the CLEAN BALTIC SEA SHIPPING Project are now made available here on the CLEANSHIP web page.

Sten Björk
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CLEAN BALTIC SEA SHIPPING PROJECT