This brochure has been produced during Latvian Presidency of the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) 2018 - 2019 as a follow-up to the Baltic Leadership Programme in Civil Protection Alumni Conference and Outreach Event in Riga on 26 – 27 November 2018.

This brochure contains augmented reality.

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WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE THE BALTIC SEA REGION SAFE AND SECURE FOR THE INHABITANTS. Many of the safety and security challenges we face in the Baltic Sea region are transboundary. This calls for strong cooperation between civil security professionals - those responsible for responding when a crisis strikes, as well as for the work to prevent emergencies or disasters. Furthermore, there is an ambition to maintain a high level of security and safety for the inhabitants in the Baltic Sea region, and regional cooperation is a useful tool in achieving this. The leaders of tomorrow need to be well-equipped and well-connected to be able to respond to challenges and to deal with cross-border disasters, emergencies, and crime in an effective way.

The Baltic Leadership Programme (BLP) in Civil Security addresses these needs.

The BLP is a capacity building initiative of the Swedish Institute. BLP in Civil Security is organised in cooperation with the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) and the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) Secretariat.

The programme seeks to create a network of key civil security actors in the Baltic Sea region and equip them with the tools, knowledge and information needed to manage cross-border collaboration and projects between diverse organisations in an intercultural context.
**THE OVERALL AIM** of the Baltic Leadership Programme is to enhance the capacity of civil protection and law enforcement organisations by engaging experts, who hold key strategic leadership positions at the local, regional and national levels. The Programme offers a unique opportunity for the participants to share experiences and best practices among peers, acquire new knowledge and enhance leadership skills through the combination of theory and practice. The focus is on strategic leadership, crisis management, and transnational cooperation, in the area of societal security. The course has a clear macro-regional focus and addresses the issues from a multilevel perspective. The Programme consists of advanced problem-solving activities, open discussions, and group work facilitated by distinguished experts and prominent policy and decision makers working within the field of societal security. Participation in the course also increases the institutional knowledge and strengthens the ties between the agencies playing a central role in crisis management in the BSR.

The BLP is a capacity building and leadership programme designed to contribute to the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR). The EUSBSR brings together the EU Member States in the macro-region and offers a framework for cooperation on common challenges and goals.

Policy Area Secure is one of the 13 policy areas of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR). PA Secure is co-ordinated by the CBSS Secretariat and the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB). PA Secure focuses on protection from land-based emergencies, accidents and cross-border crime.

**THE PARTICIPANTS,** selected for a BLP, are individuals who hold key strategic leadership positions in their organisations, and work directly, or indirectly, with civil protection or law enforcement. They are committed to positive change and in a position to make a difference. Furthermore, the candidates should be actively involved in regional cooperation and appreciate the value of seeking new perspectives on critical and complex issues and maintaining a proactive and creative dialogue with key stakeholders. The BLP is a course for future leaders and consequently the focus is on the strategic level, not on operational matters. The participants are encouraged to consider long-term concerns and consequences, to think outside the box, and to reflect over and beyond operational matters.

“Our goal is to build trust and long-term working relationships, to create a network of civil security professionals, who would not hesitate to contact each other if a crisis comes”

(EUSBSR PA Secure)

**THE BLP WAS PILOTED IN 2012,** with two modules in Stockholm and Brussels, and was specifically designed for project managers. The pilot was a great success and received flagship status in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. Thereafter, the Programme expanded to include high-level participants in strategic leadership positions.

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**EUSBSR**

EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

**EUSBSR POLICY AREA SECURE**
THE BLP OFFERS A COMBINATION OF THEORY AND PRACTICE where carefully-selected professionals in key positions dealing with civil security work with their colleagues from the Baltic Sea region to strengthen their intercultural and strategic leadership skills. The initiative is institutionalised within the CBSS Civil Protection Network (CPN), which is used for disseminating invitations and nominating candidates for the courses. The BLP was endorsed by the Directors General for Civil Protection in the Baltic Sea Region during their annual meeting in 2016. The Directors General decided to continue the initiative under the name of Baltic Excellence Programme (BEP) when courses, seminars or other events are organised by the CPN member organisations. However, when the Swedish institute contributes to the Programme, it is still under the BLP flag.

The BLP has been designed for civil protection and law enforcement professionals from the 11 Member States of the CBSS Civil Protection Network.

To date

82 PEOPLE TRAINED

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<td>Iceland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The BLP Map

Sweden, Stockholm (2012)
Sweden, Sigtuna (2017)
Estonia, Tallin (2014)
Latvia, Riga (2018)
Poland, Warsaw (2015)
Denmark, Tinglev (2019)
Belgium, Brussels (2012)
THE FIRST BALTIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM IN CIVIL PROTECTION KICKED OFF IN TALLINN IN DECEMBER 2014 under the Estonian CBSS Presidency, where a particular emphasis was put on the use of social media during crisis, leadership challenges and solutions, as well as the comparison of exercises.

“Our challenges are structural but also cultural. I think that people are having national minds and in that sense international cooperation is not as established in civil protection as it is in other areas. With this kind of programme you can bring ideas from other countries into your national planning of strategies. Very useful in the sense that when you hear about experience of different people from different countries you also get a regional perspective.”

Veera Parko,
Director of Unit of International Affairs Department for Rescue Services of the Ministry of the Interior, Finland
BLP 2014

THE SECOND BLP TOOK PLACE IN WARSAW IN NOVEMBER 2015 under the Polish CBSS Presidency, with around 30 Civil Protection professionals from the 11 CBSS member states. The four days were filled with workshops, exercises and scenario group work for the participants.

“There are quite a lot new refreshed topics I can bring back home, and of course I will inform the head of Hamburg Fire Rescue Service about the things we learnt here. For my daily work it is important because if there will be any problems to be solved in the future, I’ve got new contact points, new partners, and I will be able to contact them directly so that we are able to solve our problems together.”

Jürgen Krempin,
Head of Department for International Cooperation at the Hamburg Fire and Rescue Service, Germany
BLP 2015

IN NOVEMBER 2017, REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL 11 CBSS MEMBER STATES, GATHERED IN SIGTUNA (SWEDEN), during the Swedish Presidency of the CBSS, to take part in the third Baltic Leadership Programme in Civil Security. All 25 participants of the Programme were nominated by their respective civil protection and law enforcement organisation, because of their leadership potential. In 2017, the course focused on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The three main features of the Programme were: building leadership abilities, creating a shared security culture, and strengthening regional cooperation.

“For myself, I brought interesting experience and useful knowledge to do my work better. of course, it was very exciting to meet many good people from different organizations and other countries. As for my organization, I can say that EMERCOM of Russia, which I represented, is a very big organization and its staff has a lot of experience in Civil Security in our country, and it is very important to get new information from other countries and use it in future. Baltic Leadership Programme is a perfect base for it.”

Sergey Ilnitskiy,
Chief of Press Group, International Department at St. Petersburg University, State Fire Service of EMERCOM of Russia
BLP 2017

THE UPCOMING BALTIC EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME WILL TAKE PLACE IN TINGLEV, DENMARK ON 18-20 NOVEMBER 2019 during the Danish Presidency of the CBSS. The course will be hosted at the Danish Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) Emergency Services College.
TO ENSURE THE LONG-TERM BENEFITS AND CONTINUITY OF THE BLP it is important to keep the network of practitioners and decision-makers active and engaged. The State Fire and Rescue Service of Latvia, as the chair of the CBSS Civil Protection Network (2018 - 2019) made this a priority during the Latvian Presidency in the CBSS.

In November 2018, the State Fire and Rescue Service of Latvia, in cooperation with the CBSS Secretariat, the Swedish Institute, MSB and Riga Stradiņš University, hosted the first Baltic Leadership Programme Alumni Outreach Event, which gathered previous participants for the conference “Societal Security in the Baltic Sea Region: Challenges and Solutions”.

THE ALUMNI CONFERENCE PROVIDED COMPREHENSIVE INSIGHTS INTO VARIOUS SOLUTIONS TO SOCIETAL SECURITY CHALLENGES TODAY. One part of the discussion focused on public education and the importance of the inclusion of public safety information in curricula, supported by new technologies and approaches for public safety. Public education has an important role in shaping safety and security behaviour through all levels of education - from pre-school to university. Discussions also touched upon how complex and difficult-to-understand information on societal security can be delivered in an understandable and informative way.
THE ALUMNI CONFERENCE PRODUCED CONCRETE RESULTS that can be used by any country in the Baltic Sea region. For example, during one of the workshops, participants discussed challenges to regional awareness raising campaigns and proposed a brief roadmap with solutions.

Another discussion, during the conference, focused on crisis communication and the role of new technologies in informing the population about the best course of action when a disaster strikes. Countries in the Baltic Sea region have developed various informative brochures about the actions to take in times of crisis or a disaster. New technologies could be used in brochures to achieve a wider outreach. In preparation for the conference, the State Fire and Rescue Service of Latvia, in cooperation with Overly Ltd., prepared an augmented reality demonstration based on their brochure “How to act in times of disasters.”
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