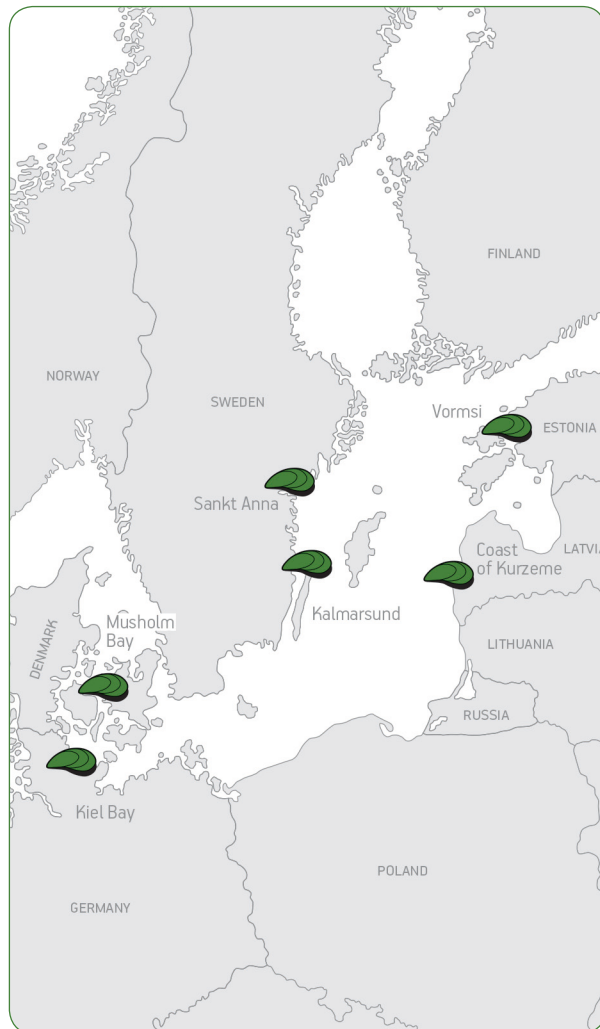


The mussel farms in Baltic Blue Growth

Six farms in different parts of the Baltic Sea (see map) form the basis for the Baltic Blue Growth project. The farms have been selected with the aim of covering different environmental conditions (locations both in the open sea and the archipelago) and different cultivation techniques (both long-line and net systems)..



→ PROJECT PARTNERS:

Region Östergötland (SE)
County Administrative Board of Kalmar (SE)
East regional Aquaculture Center (SE)
Kalmar municipality (SE)
Kurzeme Planning Region (LV)
Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology (LV)
Maritime Institute in Gdańsk (PL)
Ministry of Energy, Agriculture, the Environment,
Nature and Digitalisation Schleswig-Holstein (DE)
Municipality of Borgholm (SE)
SUBMARINER Network for Blue Growth (DE)
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SE)
County Administrative Board of Östergötland (SE)
University of Tartu (EE)
Coastal Research and Management (DE)
Orbicon (DK)
Musholm A/S (DK)
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COVER PHOTO: Malin Gustafsson / Kalmar municipality

Baltic Blue Growth



*Initiating full scale
mussel farming
in the Baltic Sea*

Lead Partner:



A SUBMARINER Network project



A PA Nutri flagship project



Part-financed by:



The challenge

Cultivating and harvesting blue mussels in the Baltic Sea can substantially improve the water quality locally as mussels take up nutrients through their food intake. At the same time, it can contribute to blue growth by providing new business models for the feed industry, which can use mussel meal as an ingredient in animal feed, replacing e.g. imported fish and soybean meal.

However, mussel farming in the Baltic Sea Proper is still on an experimental scale.

To build up a commercially viable mussel farming value chain, it is necessary to develop suitable farming techniques for Baltic Sea conditions, as well as to develop accepted mechanisms to compensate for the ecosystem services provided by mussel farming.



What we want to achieve

Our aim is to advance mussel farming in the Baltic Sea from experimental to full scale.

More specifically, we want to achieve:

- The recognition of blue mussels as an efficient way of counteracting eutrophication, complementing legally required land-based, source-related measures,
- The acceptance of a compensation scheme for the ecosystem service provided by the mussels,
- The establishment of mussel farming as an attractive business for entrepreneurs
- The production of mussel meal as an ingredient in animal feed.

Outputs to be produced

To pave the way for full-scale mussel farming, the project partners will clarify environmental, legal and regulatory aspects of mussel farming.

Based on data and experiences collected at the fully operational mussel farms established by Baltic Blue Growth, the project's main outputs will include:

- Models and functional decision support tools on suitable farming sites and their production potential,
- Business plans and farming manuals for large-scale mussel farms,
- A demonstration line for processing mussels into fish and poultry feed,
- A guide on licensing processes for mussel farming in the Baltic Sea Region,
- Recommendations on harmonised maritime spatial planning and ecosystem service compensation measures.

