



First “Szczecin Lagoon” Stakeholder Working Group meeting

Overview	
Date	17.02.2020
Location	Świnoujście
Aim of the event	Forming the Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) on the circular bioeconomy development strategy in the Szczecin Lagoon Region

Short summary

The meeting was organised by the Fishery Local Action Group (FLAG) “Zalew Szczeciński” and coordinated by the National Marine Fisheries Research Institute (NMFRI) project team. This meeting was preceded by individual phone calls and two meetings between NMFRI employees to coordinate this Open Innovation Platform (OIP) with stakeholders. Representatives from all four communities - members of FLAG - were invited to participate in the first SWG meeting. In addition, five members of local community authorities were present in the meeting.

NMFRI prepared the agenda of this meeting and served a coordination role. Not all participants of this meeting participated in the information meeting in May 2019, so the project assumptions and SWG tasks were briefly recalled, then the tasks for the next six months were discussed.

Following the agenda, it was first discussed which seminars will be organised in the OIP and in which events it is planned to actively promote the BE-Rural project. Then, the discussion focused on the organisation of the webinar planned in March, which main topics would be the presentation of the regions, as well as interactive and mutual learning between participants. It was suggested by the participants, that the webinar format is not popular in Poland and there is a need for physical meetings organised and coordinated by NMFRI in the region where all interested stakeholders will be able to participate. FLAG reported its readiness to support the organisation of such meeting.

Later on, information was provided as to the participation and registration of teachers in the Summer School in Glasgow. Information on reports expected from this Summer School project upon return of the teachers to Poland was also shared. FLAG partners informed NMFRI partners and the other meeting participants about the progress made in spreading information on this Summer School. A phone call

was even made with an organisation interested in sending two teachers to Glasgow to gain more knowledge on circular economy.

SWG membership has been informed about the mid-term workshop in Cluj, Romania, and they have been asked to appoint a delegate for this event. Participants of this meeting agreed that it will be decided by the end of March. There was as well a discussion on the pop-up store and seminar planned in Świnoujście at the beginning of July. Based on the harbour infrastructure belonging to the Producer Organization, FLAG proposed a venue place. It will be organised in synergy with the “Fishermen Day” in Świnoujście, which will increase the number of visitors in the pop-up store. NMFRI informed about the project requirements according to the pop-up store and asked for support on spreading information about this event in local mass media.

Further topics of discussion were connected to the formal organisation of the SWG. Since it was the first meeting, a few administrative hurdles in forming SWG occurred. They were related to financial aspects of organisation of the SWG. The financing mechanism this group is based on membership fees and subsidies from the operational programme for fisheries. Participants of this meeting were interested in forming the SWG as a working group of FLAG, but a few of them are authority members, and they need to be delegated by communities. The conclusion was that the SWG cannot be formed during this meeting, and the resolution on the creation of the SWG would be adopted in the shortest possible timeframe.



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