

## Final Seminar of the Baltic Sea Region weather radar network project BALTRAD

**On Wednesday 7 December 2011, the BALTRAD partnership will celebrate its achievements at its Final Seminar at the Swissôtel in Tallinn, Estonia. The seminar will conclude the experiences from the project with help of several examples and finally introduce the extension project BALTRAD+.**

Weather forecasts that warn of hazardous conditions, e.g. snow storms or floods, help save lives and property. Accurate and timely forecasts also help optimize activities for several sectors of the economy. Weather radar systems are capable of monitoring rain, snow, hail, and wind over large geographical areas with high resolution in both time and space. Several weather radar systems can be networked to cover countries, regions, and even continents.

The BALTRAD partnership has delivered the world's first international weather radar network supporting the latest generation of advanced radar technology. This has been achieved for the Baltic Sea Region by the project team consisting of partners from national weather and hydrological institutes in Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Denmark, and Belarus, along with the Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority in Finland.

Examples will be presented at the seminar of how BALTRAD is supporting weather forecasting, radiation and nuclear safety, aviation, disaster management, and urban water management. The Final Seminar is an open event. The programme is available from the project website at [www.baltrad.eu](http://www.baltrad.eu).

At the Final Seminar, the partnership will sign the BALTRAD Cooperation Agreement that will place both the region and the partnership at the leading edge of weather radar networking globally.

The BALTRAD project has been partly funded by the European Union's Baltic Sea Region programme. Due to our successes thus far, the partnership has received renewed confidence in the form of an extension-stage project called BALTRAD+. This new project will see an enlarged partnership, with new members from Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, and Norway. The new partnership will comprise all countries in the region, and the enlarged thematic scope will include using the BALTRAD system with local-area weather radars supporting municipal activities such as water management.

The outcomes of the BALTRAD Seminar as well as further information on BALTRAD and BALTRAD+ will be available on [www.baltrad.eu](http://www.baltrad.eu).

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