Antimicrobial resistance and pharmaceuticals in the BSR environment

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Policy Area ‘Health’

• PA ‘Health’ focuses on improving and promoting people’s health, including its social aspects

• Six health-related actions in the EUSBSR Action Plan
  • Reduce impact of HIV/AIDS, TB and associated infections among populations at risk
  • Contain antimicrobial resistance
  • Adequately address health needs of chronically ill patients and needs related to demographic change
  • Reduce impact of non-communicable diseases
  • Reduce social and health harm from alcohol, tobacco and illicit use of drugs
  • Strengthen occupational safety and health and well-being at work

• The Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being is the PA ‘Health’ Coordinator
Policy Area ‘Hazards’

- **Prevent pollution and reduce use of hazardous substances**
  - Action objective: Develop and implement non-regulatory measures and BSR-wide policies to reduce the use and emissions of hazardous substances to the Baltic
  - Process/activity: Baltic Sea Pharma Platform
  - Supporting flagships: CHANGE, NonHazCity, BLASTIC, Morpheus, CW Pharma, GrePPP, MicroWasteBaltic, BSR Water platform

- **Mitigate and remediate contamination**
  - Action objective: Mitigation and remediation of primarily historic contamination in the Baltic Sea Region which still cause negative effects in the Baltic ecosystem
  - Process/activity: DAIMON, BUMP platform

- **Facilitate implementation of regulatory frameworks and conventions**
  - Action objective: Support implementation and compliance with EU regulations and international agreements
  - Process/activity: Support updating of HELCOM BSAP
  - Supporting flagships: HAZBREF

- **Promote research and innovative management**
  - Action objective: Increase knowledge about effects and sources of emerging pollution problems relevant for the Baltic Sea, and support the development of innovative and cost-effective management options
  - Process/activity: Focus area PFAS
What is Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)?

**Antimicrobial Resistance:**

- Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) means that bacteria become resistant to antibiotics and, therefore, infections caused by those bacteria cannot be treated.
- 33,000 people in the EU die every year from infections due to antibiotic resistant bacteria.
- Major causes of AMR:
  - Over-prescription of antibiotics and patients not using them as prescribed
  - Over-use of antibiotics in agriculture
  - Poor infection control in healthcare facilities
  - Poor hygiene and sanitation
  - Development of new antibiotics has decreased
  - Pollution from drug manufacturing - release of antibiotics into the environment during pharmaceutical production processes
Previous EUSBSR flagship project: NoDARS

- **Aim**: to provide health-care professionals, authorities and policy makers with comparable data that accurately reflect antibiotic resistance levels and the penetration of antibiotic resistance in the healthy population
- **Partners**: Finland, Germany, Latvia, Poland, Russia, Sweden
- **Total budget**: 414,000 EUR
- **Duration**: October 2014 – September 2017
Antimicrobial resistance and pharmaceuticals in the BSR region

Pharmaceuticals in the environment (PIE) – a Baltic Sea Region cooperation platform

- Projects
  - Morpheus
  - CWPharma
  - GrePPP
  - MicroWasteBaltic

- Supporting activities
  - Regional status report(s)
  - Project development
  - Stakeholder network

- Policy development
  - PA Hazards HELCOM joint process
  - CG PHARMA
  - Policy briefs
  - EU PIE strategy (pilot area)?
Thank you for your attention!