Introduction of an Environmental Management and Auditing System (EMAS) in the Lake Balaton Region

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Location of Lake Balaton
Regional Organisations

- Lake Balaton Development Council
- Alliance of Lake Balaton Municipalities
- Association of Lake Balaton Civil Organisations
- Lake Balaton Development Coordination Agency
- Lake Balaton Tourism Board
- Lake Balaton Shipping Co.
- Lake Balaton Fishing Co.
- Balaton TV and Radio
- Etc.
Lake Balaton Development Council
/Organisation Structure/

MEMBERS:

- Number of members with voting right: 17
- Secretariat. Lake Balaton Development Coordination Agency

- Representative of the Government (1)
- Representatives of Ministries (5)
- Chairmen of regional and county development councils (6)
- Representative of National Development Agency (1)
- Representatives of development associations of municipal governments (3)
- Balaton Regional Tourism Board (1)
- Permanent Invitees: NGOs, chambers of trade and commerce, ...
Lake Balaton Development Council

Main Tasks:
• decides on the use of liquid assets and to enter agreements with the portfolios concerned in the financing of the development projects
• harmonizes the regional development activities of the 164 municipalities, the three counties, and the three regional development councils in the area
• *coordinates the measures, developments, and investments concerning the preservation of the resort's ecological conditions, improvement of the water quality and the development of tourism*
• prepares a financial plan and tries to find national and international sources for the operation of the council and the elaboration and performance of the development program
• takes part in the preparation and implementation of the foreign credit and support programs
Lake Balaton
Development Coordination Agency

- Established in 1st January 2000
- 100% owned by the Council
- Non-profit, public interest company
- 3 offices (Siófok HQ, Keszthely, Balatonfüred)
- 21 permanent staff
- 3 divisions (environment, socio-economy, grant-scheme management)
LBDCA - Activities

- management of grant-aid schemes (several hundred applicants annually)
- programming (Concept, Strategic Development Program, OP-s, project proposals)
- research and development (social sciences, environment, GIS)
- information dissemination, public involvement, PR (media, events, publications, internet)
- multilevel co-ordination (national, regional, municipal)
- project pipelineing (initiation, promotion, implementation)
- international cooperation (Living Lakes), projects (EU, UNEP, JICA, IISD ...)

LAKE BALATON - HUNGARY

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Lake Balaton programming documents

• Balaton Regional Development **Strategy** 2007-13
  – approved by LBDC December, 2005
• Balaton (detailed) **Development Program** 2007-13
  – approved by LBDC May, 2006
• Balaton **Flagship Programme** (*Balaton: the Year-Round Destination*)
Vision set in the strategy …

To make Lake Balaton and the surrounding region a uniquely attractive area of Europe that provides outstanding conditions for **living, working and leisure** by emphasising its unique natural beauty and cultural heritage.
Specific objectives of the strategy

To increase the competitiveness of the enterprises
1. Increasing employment and improving revenue-generating ability of enterprises

To improve the quality of the environment
2. Preserve natural and cultural values and develop economic activities that utilize and respect these assets

To increase regional cohesion
3. Increasing employment and development of economic activities away from the lakeshore
4. Encourage regional stakeholders to increase effective co-operation
Living Lakes Eastern Europe project

In the beginning of the project LBDCA – co-ordinating partner (support of project coordination between Hungarian partners and international partners)

In the second half year of 2006 to join in the activities of the implementation of an Environmental Management System (EMAS)

Documentation for the Lake Balaton Region (Baseline Review for the whole region, including the 164 municipalities) and created a Strategic Development Plan and Action plan for the region (using the methods of the Regional Strategy and Development Plan 2007-2013)

Approval by the Lake Balaton Development Council on October 26th, 2006.
Preparation of Environmental Management System
1.) To get to know the legal (national) REGULATION
• Contact with the Ministry of Environment and Water
• Contact with the National Accreditation Body
• To find a qualified company who assist in the implementation process

2.) To determine the framework and the method for an environmental management system
• Background: Baseline Review, Strategic Program and Action Plan
• Temporary arrangement: aim – to obtain the EMAS certification for the site of LBDCA (considering that the activities of LBDCA extend to the border of Lake Balaton Region)
• Using EMAS easy method for evaluation of the environmental aspects
PDCA cycle

Plan
- Environmental policy
- Environmental aspects
- Legal requirements
- Objectives and targets

Do, Development, implementation
- Resources, responsibilities
- Awareness, training, preparedness
- Communication
- EMS documentation
- Handling of documents
- Regulation of the functioning
- Preparation and reaction for emergency

Act, Adjustment
- Management audit
- External audit, reports
- Certification, registration

Check, Controlling, Auditing
- Follow with attention and measurement
- Evaluation of suitability/adequacy
- Prevention, non-adequacy, correction
- Notes, reports
- EMS internal audit

Environmental policy
Environmental aspects
Legal requirements
Objectives and targets

Prevention, non-adequacy, correction
Notes, reports
EMS internal audit

Awareness, training, preparedness
Communication
EMS documentation
Handling of documents
Regulation of the functioning
Preparation and reaction for emergency

Plan

Check, Controlling, Auditing

Do, Development, implementation

Act, Adjustment

PDCA cycle
In detail….

- Resources for the implementation of EMS (human, financial resources, infrastructure)
- Roles, responsibilities, powers, scope of activities (commitment of the staff)
- Preparation, training, awareness (capacity building, experience exchange)
- Communication (displaying of the environmental policy and environmental statement)
- Documentation (objectives, targets, proposed measures)
- Notes, reports (evaluation, internal audit, measurement, training)
- Handling of documents (controlling and analysing the document, approval of the document)
- Regulation of the functioning (external regulation – acts, legal regulation)
- Preparation for emergency (continually revision, correction, procedure for risk management)
Staged approach or straight forward?

• EMAS Easy is a smart way of implementing EMAS in small clusters straight forward
• It costs less, shares resources and is accessible for very small companies
• It requires adjustment and capacity building in consulting, public aid and subsidies and external audit practise
• EMAS easy is capturing informal management culture and practise moving it into a certifiable management system
Start from informal Ecomapping

- Draw & observe
- Evaluate & decide
- Document & evaluate
- Estimate & measure
- Costs & indicators

Urban maps

Site maps

Rank Environmental aspects and practice...
1. Shows environmental thematic
2. Identifies and evaluates environmental practise
3. Describes the setting
4. Pin points to legal requirements
5. Focus on environmental performance
6. Objectives and targets
7. List of immediate or short term action
8. Assigns responsibility
9. Capacity building and workers involvement
Our vision for Lake Balaton Region

Until today 10 organization are registered in Hungary (EMAS)
Our vision for Lake Balaton Region I.

Strategic target (LBR Development Plan):

1.4 Environmental management of the Lake Balaton Region

- Reducing of the risk of climate change and other external processes, protection of landscape values.
- Forming sustainable and landscape planning management systems.
- Standardised monitoring and information system.
- Stimulation and harmonisation of the regional social, economic and natural science.
Our vision for Lake Balaton Region II.

1.4.1 Establishing environmental/sustainable regional management

- Sustainable development for the sensitive environmental system of Lake Balaton.
- **Sustainable settlement development** (extend the environmental management system at the public institutions with involved community actors).
- Improving environmental awareness.

1.4.2 Establishing and using a uniform monitoring and information system

- Discovering and protecting local natural values.
- Monitoring the state of environmental (built and natural) elements.
- Establishing and sustaining ecological networks and green corridors.
Our vision for Lake Balaton Region III.

The main target of the LBDCA is to achieve the EMAS certification, the long-term goal is to reach the sustainable management of the region.

Sustainability

Coordinated development is very necessary when dealing with a sensitive area such as Lake Balaton. EMAS is an effective tool in continuing this development by ensuring that activities are sustainable and environmentally appropriate. The long-term sustainability of this project and EMAS certification are ensured as the project was developed in line with local legislation, policies and strategic development plans. These plans also promote sustainable management which will induce municipalities and organisations to adopt similar systems.
Balaton is more...
Thank you for your attention!

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