

## BSSSC Annual Conference

### Workshop No. 5

# Regional cooperation as driving force behind the development of offshore wind energy in the Baltic Sea

**Event location:** ATLANTIC Hotel Kiel, Board Room 2  
**Date:** Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> Sep. 2024 15:15-16:45 h  
**Moderation:** **Mr Maciej Mierzwiński**, CEO of CEE Energy Group  
**Online:** <https://zitsh.webex.com/zitsh-de/j.php?MTID=m3545c6afbbc8df3a7cb1b81e27847590>

## ABSTRACT

An overview of regional and national activities related to the development of offshore wind energy in the Baltic Sea area and an expert discussion on the role of local governments and initiatives integrating the main stakeholders in the implementation of investments in offshore wind farms.

Energy transformation and achieving ambitious EU goals related to the implementation of Green Deal will not come true without active actions in the Baltic Sea Region. The implementation of individual policies must be fully coordinated and should not focus on specific sectors and power sources but on their mutual synergy and interpenetration. Hydrogen, offshore, photovoltaics, nuclear energy and energy islands are interconnected and interdependent systems of connected vessels. It is crucial for the Baltic Sea Region to focus on building long-lasting foundations for energy independence, educational and market transformations. Actions taken so far in individual regions are insufficient. Greater mobilization and coordination are needed. How to strengthen the impact of local practices and initiatives? How to coordinate these activities effectively so that they do not duplicate each other but mutually strengthen the entire system? What is the role of regional authorities vs. industry organizations? Are economically strong regions natural transformation leaders?

The offshore wind energy industry is at the forefront of these green changes. Investments in the Polish economic zone are starting to gain momentum and the first phase of the implementation of almost 6 GW is already a fact. The second phase, with a major role for national champions, will not take place without cooperation with experienced foreign partners. Offshore is primarily a base of factories that will be built and will constitute a production base not only for this industry but also for other sectors and branches. The machines in these factories have multi-functional uses. How to effectively build Baltic content in fair mutual cooperation? What role can regional authorities play in this process and what activities should be coordinated at the national level or across state borders?

## Speaker / Panellists

- Karolina Lipińska, Vice President of ENERGA OPERATOR S.A. (online)
- Adam Kowalski, President of the Management Board at Industrial Development Agency (ARP) (online)
- Tom Schumacher, Baltic Sea Strategy Point (BSP) / EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)
- Stefan Musiolik, Secretary General of Baltic Sea States Subregional Cooperation (BSSSC)
- Anu Eslas, Offshore Wind Development manager for Baltic States at Ignitis Renewables

You can use this link to register for the BSSSC Annual Conference and the Workshop or use the QR Code.

<https://www.bsssc.com/event-details/bsssc-annual-conference-2024>





Anu Eslas is a distinguished leader in the Baltic Sea and Baltic States energy sector, known for her passionate advocacy of offshore wind energy. Over the past decade, she has played a pivotal role in enhancing energy cooperation in the region. Anu has held prominent positions including CEO of the Wind Energy Association in Estonia, Head of Offshore Wind at the Estonian Ministry of Communication, and VP for Offshore Wind Development in the Baltic States at RWE. She has also spearheaded the ELWIND offshore wind project, a groundbreaking cross-border initiative between Estonia and Latvia, and represented Estonia in the Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan (BEMIP) initiatives. Currently, Anu serves as the Head of International Business Development at Ignitis Renewables, a leading green energy company in the Baltics based in Lithuania. Her work focuses on strengthening collaboration among Baltic Sea countries as they navigate the transformative changes in the region's energy landscape

Stefan Musiolik | Head of Unit Baltic Sea Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Affairs, European Affairs and Consumer Protection of Land Schleswig-Holstein



Stefan Musiolik (born 1959) is responsible for Baltic Sea Cooperation within the department for European Affairs for many years – among other things engaged for the INTERREG Baltic Sea Region Program or the STRING cooperation. Since 2004 he is a member of the BSSSC Board. He holds diplomas in finance, political science and advanced European Studies (College of Europe, Bruges). He lives with his wife in Kiel and has two adult daughters.

Dr. Karolina Lipińska – Vice President of the Management Board of ENERGA-OPERATOR SA, Poland



Innovation architect, local government officer with over 20 years of experience responsible for the development of entrepreneurship and innovation and energy in the Pomeranian Voivodeship.

Since 2020, she has coordinated the activities of the Pomeranian Platform for Offshore Wind Energy Development in the Baltic Sea, which brings together more than 140 signatories, mostly entrepreneurs. Initiator and leader of Poland's first Educational Career Fair EDU OFFSHORE WIND consolidating the offshore renewable energy industry, taking into account prospective areas of development, such as hydrogen technology and cyber security.

She served as a rapporteur on the Board of the Baltic Sea States States' Organisation (BSSSC) being responsible for presenting the current situation on the international market with a special focus on offshore. She coordinated work related to the implementation of the first regional cluster development policy in Poland. The support models and good practices introduced in the Pomorskie Voivodeship were later implemented at the national level (National Key Clusters).

She is a member of the cluster policy team at the Ministry of Labour, Development and Technology and the Expert Group on Smart Specialisation Strategy appointed by the European Commission DG REGIO. For several years, she coordinated work related to the Regional Innovation Strategy, a key element of which was eco-efficient technologies and energy based on renewable energy sources.

She publishes and lectures at the Gdansk University of Technology and the University of Gdansk on offshore wind energy, project management and innovation processes in English.

## **MACIEJ MIERZWIŃSKI**

**CEO, CEE Energy Group**



Economist, graduate and fellow of the Warsaw School of Economics and the University of Cologne. Since 2003 involved in supply chain projects for the energy sectors (mainly offshore / onshore), in many segments - including metallurgy, shipyards, trafostations, foundations, offshore engineering technologies. Expert in so-called local content strategies. Head of the group responsible for the development of regional offshore wind farm supply chain development initiatives at the Office of the Marshal of the Pomorskie Voivodeship from 2021 to 2023. Member of the Programme Board of the Wind Industry Hub, an organisation supporting supply chain development. Area of expertise in projects - development strategies, industrial policy, management of development, restructuring and financing projects, education for the industry.

Tom Schumacher | Baltic Sea Strategy Point, Development Officer



Tom Schumacher (58) has been working for the Senate of Hamburg since 2019. Since October 2022 the Senate Chancellery hosts (together with Centrum Balticum in Turku/Finland) the Baltic Sea Strategy Point, which serves as a Support Unit for the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. As development officer Tom Schumacher coordinates the monitoring and evaluation of the EUSBSR and facilitates its further institutional development. Prior to joining the Hamburg Senate, he worked as a political scientist at the Universities of Kiel and Frankfurt/Main and as a political consultant in Hamburg. Tom Schumacher holds a doctorate in Political Science from Humboldt University Berlin.