

# Baltic ports leading the way: the DeCoInter project and the future of green energy

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**The Baltic Sea region (BSR) is taking a decisive step towards a sustainable maritime future through the Decarbonization of the Maritime Sector and its Impact on Green Energy Transition (DeCoInter) project. This EU-funded initiative brings together key stakeholders to rev up the energy transition within port ecosystems. Several BPO member ports are playing a pivotal role in this transformation, serving as hubs for innovation and strategic development.**

**A**n international initiative spanning Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, and Sweden, DeCoInter's ambition is to support the transformation of ports into active contributors to the green energy transition by promoting renewable energy sources and alternative fuels in line with the European Green Deal. By combining research, digital tools, and pilot initiatives, the project will build the capacity of port authorities, energy providers, and academia to develop sustainable strategies that leverage seaports as energy hubs – for storage and distribution, as well as for innovation.

BPO member ports' involvement will be central to the project's success. The Port of Szczecin-Świnoujście is working on an energy transition programme, including the development of an onshore power supply system. Cold ironing is also the

Port of Rønne's central thread, plus the Danish island seaport supports knowledge-exchange seminars targeted at harmonising the procedures for bunkering green fuels. The Port of Klaipėda's focus is on identifying transition needs and adapting energy strategies to meet the complex challenges of both port operations and the surrounding hinterland. Together, they are blueprinting the green port of tomorrow, which will include creating a digital mapping and prioritisation tool that supports location plans for renewable energy sources and alternative fuels infrastructure. These efforts will culminate in detailed implementation reports and strategy modules, ensuring a robust framework for future transshipment activities.

Operating under the Interreg South Baltic Programme 2021-2027, the project focuses on promoting the green and blue economy. With a total budget of

€2,134,730 (including €1,707,784 in co-financing from the European Regional Development Fund), the initiative officially launched on 1 January 2025 and is scheduled to run until 31 December 2027. This cross-border cooperation ensures that port authorities, regional policy-makers, logistics companies, the energy sector, and local municipalities across the South Baltic region benefit from a coordinated transition towards green energy. ■

## Be the expert voice of the green future!



Your professional input will be invaluable in ensuring that the outputs of the DeCoInter project are aligned with the actual needs of the maritime industry. Help shape the tools and strategies developed by the initiative by taking just a few moments to complete our industry survey – your expertise will directly influence the roadmap for energy transition in the BSR. We count on you!