



## Working Together to Save the Baltic Sea and Secure a Prosperous Future

25 January 2016  
Baltic Sea City Accelerator Commitment Letter

***'The Baltic Sea City Accelerator is a platform for public and private actors to explore and co-create innovative approaches to local water challenges, and meet sustainability objectives. Together, we aim to develop new opportunities for growth and create attractive communities for citizens and businesses.'***

We, the municipality of Kalmar, declare our support and participation in the Baltic Sea City Accelerator programme, an initiative of Zennström Philanthropies/Race For The Baltic. We declare that we want to be a Baltic Sea City Pioneer/pilot site and will follow the main principles of the programme according to the programme documents received on December 18<sup>th</sup> 2015.

We declare that our municipality is **dedicated** to do our part to improve the Baltic Sea environment, and as pioneers of the Baltic Sea City Accelerator programme we are dedicated to creating a successful programme model that can be scaled up in the future to include more of the region's municipalities.

We have the **ambition** to create a political vision and action plan for our municipality through the Accelerator programme period (February 2015-April 2017). This work will focus on improving the Baltic Sea environment while increasing prosperity in our community.

We are **committed** to sharing our learnings and experiences with the international community in order to help catalyze a more robust collective effort in the Baltic Sea Region for clean and healthy waters.

As a Pioneer of the Baltic Sea City Accelerator programme, we will have access to the Accelerator international network, connect with peers to learn and share best practices, discuss potential projects with funders and be recognized for doing our part in contributing to a healthy Baltic Sea.

Concretely:

- √ We will work to create or further develop a municipal vision for Baltic Sea action
- √ We will begin work on an action plan that includes 2-3 initiatives or activities that demonstrate our efforts in reducing nutrients and capturing economic/social benefits
- √ We commit to sharing our experiences and insights with municipalities and other actors throughout the region on a monthly basis during the programme period (Feb 2016-April 2017), and we will contribute to the development of a municipal innovation agenda/road-map, to be published in Quarter 1 2017.
- √ We will participate in Accelerator activities (3 workshops, 4 webinars, expert meetings, and monthly phone calls) and would like to create a short film to be shared with other cities (in cooperation with Race For the Baltic)
- √ When possible we will work to encourage other municipalities and the public to make commitments to improve the Baltic Sea environment through sharing our progress via websites, media, newsletters, high-level events

Currently, we are considering the following action/project/initiative:

KSK believes that the problem with eutrophication in the Baltic Sea can be turned into possibilities for new technology and develop into new services and job opportunities. KSK has recently included the private sector into the network and 2016 this collaboration will develop into joint actions for the Baltic Sea. Mussel farming, recycling aquatic systems for landbased fishfarming, and guidance to farmers for increased yields but decreased loss of nutrient are three examples that KSK will try to focus on during the program period. These actions will both improve the quality of the Baltic sea but also create benefits for the private sector. KSK operate a broad spectra of actions for the Baltic Sea and to be cost efficient we will start to use the staircase model from BCG report and model our goals of nutrient reduction with coast analyses for reducing nutrient (in applied LIFE-project).

We will develop this vision, idea, and activities further in February and March 2016 and attend the Baltic Sea City Innovation Lab in the spring of 2016 (preliminary dates April 20-21)

This decision has been approved by the highest political authority and we will participate to the best of our ability. We will assign one main person to be the contact person for the City Accelerator programme.

**Place**

**Date**

[Municipality Name], [Country]

25 January 2016

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Signature

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Title

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Niklas Zennström  
Founder, Race For The Baltic

Director, Race For The Baltic

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Barbara Jackson

