

What is the B7?

The B7 Baltic Islands Network is a cooperation of the seven largest islands in the Baltic Sea. The partners of the cooperation are, Bornholm, Gotland, Hiiumaa, Rügen, Saaremaa, Åland and Öland. B7 has an annual rotating Chairmanship and Secretariat. In 2009 Öland holds the Chairmanship and is responsible for the Secretariat and developing and implementing B7's plans for the year.



The principles of membership are:

Each member is a Baltic Sea Island.

Each Island contributes to the cooperation based on population size.

The B7 cooperation is a partner of equals.

The B7 aims to use its strengths as a cooperation network to promote the strategic goals of the Islands.

The B7 Islands believe that they can better serve the interests of our islanders and achieve more as a cooperation than alone.

ÖLAND CHAIRMANSHIP 2009

Chairmanship Programme 2009:

- Jan. 27-28 Boardmeeting in Stockholm
Arr. 27th of January at 12.00. Dep. 28th of January at 13.00*
- Mar. 23-26 SC & Boardmeeting in Brussels
Arr. 23rd of March at dinner-time. Dep. 26th of March at 13.00*
- June 1 - 3 SC & Board Summer Event on Öland
Arr. 1st of June at dinner-time and dep. 3rd of June at 13.00*
- Sep. 25-27 Ölands Skördefest. Harvest Festival
Arr. 24th of Sept. at dinner-time. Dep. 27th anytime.*
- Dec. 1-2 B7 Annual Conference
Arr. 30th of November dinner-time. Dep. 2nd of December after lunch.*

People to People Activities

- Youth Conference Week 19
- Youth Camp Week 26
- B7 days Week 39

Themes for B7 Öland Chairmanship:

- What can farmers do for a better environment in the Baltic Sea?
- Swedish EU Presidency
- 20th Anniversary of B7

Key External Events in 2009:

- Swedish EU presidency: Jul -Dec. 2009
- EU Baltic Sea Strategy
- EU Parliament Elections
- Climate Summit in Copenhagen: 30th of November - 11th of December.



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Dear friends of B7.

Öland has the honour of holding the B7 Chairmanship in 2009, a year we hope you will experience as exciting, challenging and prosperous. The Baltic Sea Strategy, Baltic Master II and Transplan are important projects for us, and they are also issues where we think B7 can move its positions forward.

We will also give you a taste of Öland, for instance our nature, our World Heritage and the Harvest Festival.

We will finish off the year with B7's 20th anniversary.

Please contact our B7 secretariat or www.b7.org for more information. We are all looking forward to see you on the Island of sun and wind.

Welcome

Tommy Eliasson

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www.b7.org