



**Adapting to Climate Change -
Case Studies from the Baltic Sea Region
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Abstracts and Speaker Profiles

Session 1: The Science Base

Scientific evidence on climate change in the Baltic Sea Region

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A regional climate change assessment report for the Baltic Sea basin was published in January 2008. The so called BACC (BALTEX Assessment of Climate Change for the Baltic Sea Basin) report was compiled by a consortium of 84 scientists from 13 countries around the Baltic Sea and covers various disciplines related to climate research and ecological impacts. The report shows that a warming trend in the Baltic Sea region is clearly detectable, as well as a resulting decrease in river, lake and sea ice, and changes in marine and terrestrial ecosystems. Scenarios derived from computer models for the time until 2100 project a continuing warming and related changes in precipitation and sea ice cover, with consequences for ecosystems and the socio-economic realm.

Prof. Dr. Dr. Hans von Storch is a Director of the Institute of Coastal Research of the Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht and Professor at the Meteorological Institute of the University of Hamburg. His research interests are coastal climate and impact (wind, storm surges and waves) in recent times and in possible futures, and methodical issues of statistical climatology (such as detection and attribution of anthropogenic climate change, or utility of proxy data). He is also engaged in transdisciplinary research with social and cultural scientists since many years. He has been initiating assessments of scientific knowledge about climate and climate change in specific regions, such as the Baltic Sea drainage basin (BACC), the metropolitan region of Hamburg and the North Sea.