

Dear Project Partners,

Time has come!

Time to start working on one of the most interesting, complicated and challenging maritime topics - turning the IMO – Ballast Water Management Convention into an opportunity for the North Sea region.

Interreg North Sea Region Programme co-finances our project to reach the Programma objective –

**‘Investing in the future by working together for a sustainable and competitive future’**

At the moment we are the largest Interreg NSR in size as well as budget wise, off course we are talking about:

## **Ballast Water Opportunities**



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After receiving the good news from the Interreg North Sea Programme Secretariat, the project Work Group (WP1) came together to discuss the WP programmes for the First year.

The kick-off meeting of the project Working Group (WP1) was held at the Bundesamt für SeeSchifffahrt und Hydrographie (BSH) in Hamburg on 29 and 30 January 2009.

During this meeting project management was discussed and put in retrospect. One of the first things discussed considered the 2009 work programme per Work Package. All work package leaders presented their view on how they are planning to start the First year of the project. During the project kick-off (as described below) we will elaborate on the contents of the 2009 work plans per work packages.

Also basic administrative and financial matters will be explained during these days.

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