

A Fact Sheet for Student Ambassadors

Dear Student,

Warm greetings from the Baltic University Programme Coordinating Secretariat in Uppsala, Sweden! We were delighted to see that you are one of the new Student Ambassadors for the Programme. In this fact sheet, you will find detailed information about the position and the opportunities it represents. Being a Student Ambassador is a flexible role, so it is up to you to decide, based on this fact sheet, what you find most exciting!

First things first: you are perfect for this

We have chosen you as a BUP Student Ambassador because you are the kind of person whose participation we would highly appreciate and for whom the Programme has a lot to offer in return. Active and enthusiastic people like you are always in high demand and, as a student at one of our Participating Universities, you are in the position to contribute a lot of value in several areas of the BUP.

To pick only a couple, you can get your colleagues interested in the Programme like no information leaflet we issue – an enthusiastic student has a much greater persuasive power! You also bring a student perspective into e.g., planning of conferences and other events, and can conduct important local projects as you know your university/ city/ region in ways that are not easily accessible for people from elsewhere.

At the same time, we believe that you would enjoy the perks of your position! On the last page you will find an overview of Ambassadors' benefits, which range from getting a place at our student events, through networking, to receiving a valuable recommendation letter. Let us grow together!

Choose what kind of Ambassador you want to be

What would you enjoy most?

Is it communication? Putting together a team for an international environmental tournament? Or would you like to support us to develop our research network?

You can do some or all of the above and it is up to you. Choosing your path is both fun and an important career skill.

1. Promoting the BUP

The Programme organises events and activities, such as conferences and summer schools, for students and young scientists and offers them various kinds of support, from a PhD tutorship to grants. But do your classmates and colleagues know this? You can help us gain a greater impact by

- **Strengthening our presence in social media**

The BUP has its own Facebook and Instagram accounts. You can share our events and posts in e.g., Facebook groups for students from fields related to the BUP's focus areas (Sustainable Development, and related). Accompanied

by your own short motivating comment, they have a greater potential to catch the attention of your colleagues! You are also free to create and maintain a BUP social media account for your university or your country. Please, let us know if you do so.

- **Giving a presentation at a bigger event**

Every university has an International Office (or similar) that organises and promotes internationalisation, such as different kinds of student mobilities (Erasmus+ and many more). You could discuss with the Office what events (such as “Mobility Day” or similar) they are launching the upcoming semester/year and whether you could join and present the BUP to the audience. These events are likely to take place online in 2021 due to Covid-19, at least for a part of the year, but do not let this discourage you. Internationalisation lives!

- **Organising your own event**

Being a Student Ambassador is a creative mission! Even though in 2021 you might need to be, due to Covid-19, even more creative, feel free to organise whatever small – or bigger – BUP promotion events that you would enjoy doing.

To help you out, we would:

- ✓ send you promotion materials you can hand out,
- ✓ send you a PowerPoint presentation containing everything about the BUP that is of interest to students with several blank pages attached – those pages are there for your own content, for what you think your colleagues would find interesting and fun,
- ✓ answer your questions and assist you whenever you need.

IMPORTANT: We have a **small budget available to support you!** We can e.g., order promotion materials, pay for your transportation, or cover small costs associated with campaigns.

First steps:

- ✓ **Get yourself familiar with what the BUP does** – we will send you a concise leaflet where you will find all the basic information and you can browse a bit through our website and read up on things that you find most interesting and most relevant to your fellow students.
- ✓ **Get in touch with the BUP contact person(s) from your university and contact the BUP National Centre in your country** – we will send you more information on how to proceed and the contact details needed once you confirm your interest with us.

2. Assisting the National Centre

There are (usually) at least several universities in every country of the Baltic Sea Drainage Area that participate in the BUP. As of 2021, there are 91 Participating Universities in total. In each country there is therefore a BUP National Centre which helps, among other things, coordinate the extensive cooperation. The people at the National Centre can assist you with your Ambassador projects and you can be of a great help to them as well. We would therefore like to ask you to

- ✓ contact the National Centre in your country and find out in what ways you could cooperate (you can find your Centre here:

<https://www.balticuniv.uu.se/contacts-and-network/national-centra/>).

3. Putting together a team for Clean Games Baltic Cup tournament

Clean Games Baltic Cup is “an international environmental tournament in which participants compete in collecting and sorting waste in littered areas” (see details here: <http://balticcleancup.com/#rec212387761> and here: <https://cleangames.org/>). Sounds fun, doesn't it? It would be wonderful if you decided to put together a team and join the tournament in September 2021! Contact us for help and assistance.

Please note: The Clean Games Baltic Cup is **not** a BUP activity. It is a separate organisation which the BUP could cooperate with through your engagement.

4. Small (or bigger) data collection / research project

There are various research projects taking place within the BUP at any given time. Sometimes, the people behind the project could really appreciate help with the collection of data. If this is the case, we would approach you with the offer to participate, potentially for a financial reward from the BUP. Or, if you have your own research project idea that you would like to realise as an Ambassador, share it with us, and we will see in what ways we could support you.

5. Disseminating research conducted at your home university

The BUP helps researchers reach a greater impact in several ways: by featuring their personal profiles on our website, publishing Research Notes Letters which inform about current findings, and more. If you recognize by chance or on purpose that a lecturer or other researcher works on topics that fit the BUP Themes (check out the website: <https://www.balticuniv.uu.se/about-us/themes/>), you can be the linking person to enable the researcher greater international reach and find potential research partners. Tell us if this is something that intrigues you.

6. Helping the BUP network

As a student at your university and a citizen of your town/ city/ region, you have know-how that we have a hard time to access. You could act as a mediator in starting a new cooperation that would not even occur to us without you. For instance,

- there are, no doubt, **various relevant student organisations** active at your home university, faculty, or department – you could get in touch with them

and start a cooperation between them and the BUP while meeting some nice folks.

- The BUP would also like to cooperate more with local stakeholders. Do you know e.g., **an NGO** whose focus is related to ours? Thanks to you the BUP and the organisation could join forces.

7. Or do you have your own idea unlike all the above?

Fantastic! Bring it up with us and we will see how we can support you.

Your reward

Apart from getting a unique chance to experience working in an international academic organisation with 91 Participating Universities and to take part in events focusing on a sustainable Baltic Sea Region, you will:

- ✓ be offered a place at one of our 2021 events (with your travelling and accommodation costs covered; if the event is moved online due to circumstances, you will be offered a place at more than one event as a substitute),
- ✓ get a unique chance to network and, apart from making new (international) friends, meet your future research and/or business partners,
- ✓ cooperate and have fun with other Ambassadors,
- ✓ and receive an official certificate and a letter of recommendation acknowledging your work for the BUP.

Motivated to get going?

You can start your work as a BUP Student Ambassador today, if you are up to it. If you are not familiar with the BUP and what it does, we suggest to begin with:

- ✓ Checking out our website: <https://www.balticuniv.uu.se/>
- ✓ And the upcoming events: <https://www.balticuniv.uu.se/activities/upcoming-activitis/>
- ✓ Taking part one or two offered online events to get an idea of the BUP community and meet other BUP supporters.

Gather your ideas and collect them in your Action Plan for your period of mandate. And absolutely bring them to the **kick-off meeting on April 9th, 2021** (*the exact times of the meeting will be announced soon*).

We are excited to see you there! All the best & warm regards,

The BUP Student Ambassador Team