

## Fact Sheet

### ENPI CBC Baltic Sea Region Programme

**TOTAL EU ALLOCATION (2007-2013):**  
22.608 million EUR

**ELIGIBLE REGIONS:**

The whole country of Belarus; Denmark; Estonia; Finland; Latvia; Lithuania; Norway; Poland and Sweden

**Germany:** the States (Länder) of Berlin, Brandenburg, Bremen, Hamburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Schleswig-Holstein and Niedersachsen (only NUTS II area Regierungsbezirk Lüneburg)

**Russia:** St Petersburg and the surrounding Leningrad Oblast, Republic of Karelia, the Oblasts of Kaliningrad, Murmansk, Novgorod and Pskov; for projects addressing the Barents Region, also co-operation with Archangelsk Oblast, Komi Republic and Nenetsky Autonomous Okrug is envisaged.

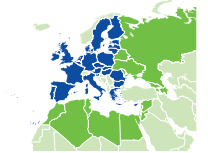


Source: European Commission

The strategic objective of the programme is to strengthen the development towards a sustainable, competitive and territorially integrated Baltic Sea region by connecting potentials over the borders. As part of Europe, also the Baltic Sea region is expected to become a better place for its citizens to invest, work and live. The programme will thus address the European Union’s Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies in order to boost knowledge based socio-economic competitiveness of the Baltic Sea region and its further territorial cohesion.

**PRIORITIES:**

- 1. The first priority is focused on facilitating generation and dissemination of innovations across the BSR.**  
It is dedicated to core innovations in the field of natural and technical science but also to selected non-technical innovations, such as business services, design and other market-related skills. Actions will be targeted at the performance of innovation sources and their links to SMEs, facilitation of transnational transfer of technology and knowledge as well as at making special social groups of citizens fitter for generating and absorbing knowledge.
- 2. The second priority is dedicated to improving the external and internal accessibility of the Baltic Sea region.**  
Priority topics highlights promotion and preparation of joint transnational solutions in the field of transport and information and communication technology (ICT), in particular those overcoming functional barriers to both, diffusion of innovation, and to traffic flows. Also further integration of already existing strategic development zones, spread along the transnational transport corridors in the BSR, will be promoted, as well as creating new transnational links.



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**3. The third priority concentrates on environmental pollution of the Baltic Sea in a broader framework of a sustainable management of the sea resources.**

It supports operations aiming at limiting pollution inputs into and pollution impacts on the marine environment. Special emphasis is put on enhanced maritime safety.

The priority also promotes economic management of open sea areas by means of best available technologies and practices. Attention is given to an integrated development of offshore and coastal areas in the BSR in the context of climate change tendencies.

**4. The fourth priority promotes co-operation of metropolitan regions, cities and rural areas enhancing its attractiveness for citizens and investors.**

It features action programmes and policies at BSR level to make cities and regions more competitive engines for economic development. At the same time, ideas will be promoted strengthening urban-rural partnerships, and supporting a viable economic transformation of BSR areas with smaller and less dense settlements. The priority is also open for preparation of pan-Baltic strategies, action programmes, policies and subsequent investments. A special feature under this priority is joint actions dedicated to the social sphere of regional and city development. These will be particularly promoted in cooperation projects with Russia and Belarus.

#### STATE OF PLAY:

The Commission adopted the programme as the first ENPI CBC programme in December 2007. The first call for proposals has already been launched in spring 2008 with a suspensive clause for the partner countries Russia and Belarus and a second call will be launched in the first quarter of 2009. The CBC projects are likely to start beginning of 2009 provided that Russia or Belarus has signed the Financing Agreement with the Commission (deadline is end of 2008).

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