

# Fact Sheet

## ENPI CBC Latvia/Lithuania/Belarus Programme

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

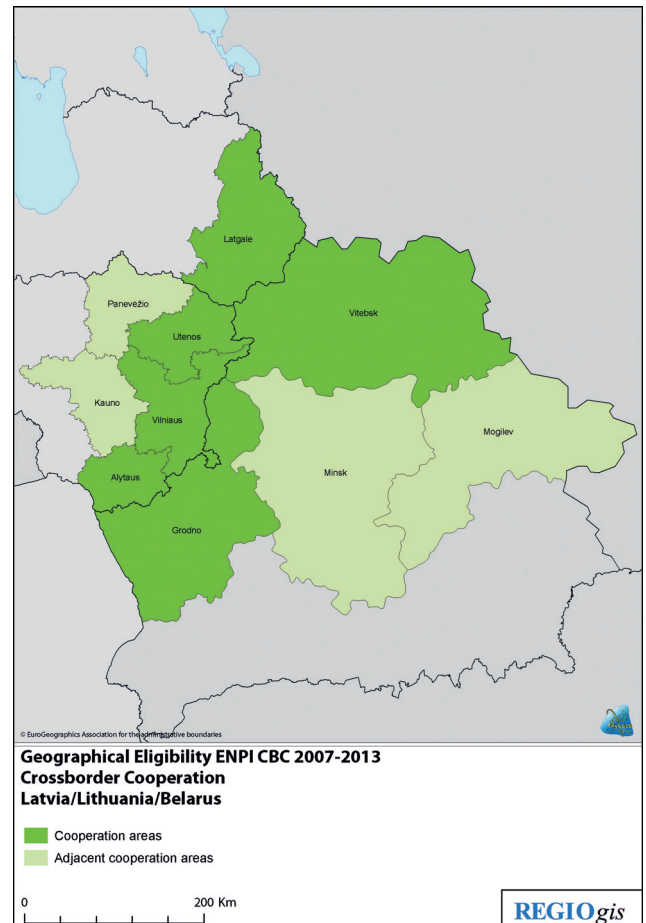
**ELIGIBLE REGIONS:**

**Latvia:** Latgale Region

**Lithuania:** Utenos, Vilniaus and Alytaus Apskritis (adjoining regions: Kaunas and Panevezys Counties - NUTS III)

**Belarus:** Hrodna and Vitebsk Oblasts (adjoining regions: Minsk and Mogilev Oblasts, Minsk City)

The strategic objective of the programme is to enhance the cohesion of the cross border area through reducing regional disparities and securing economic and social welfare and cultural identity of its inhabitants.

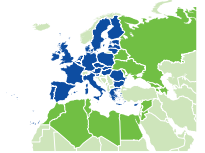


Source: European Commission

**PRIORITIES:**

**1. Promoting sustainable cross border development and social development.**

The sustainable economic and social development of the border region is a key objective of this Programme. Therefore, this priority shall try to turn these disparities into opportunities and use the potential of each country for the benefit of the whole region. The main areas to be addressed under the economic development are the promotion of business development and co-operation in order to increase the region’s competitiveness, and the common regional and local development/territorial planning. These areas will be facilitated by the improvement of accessibility/connectivity and the physical infrastructure (including tourism and cultural infrastructure) of the border region.



## Fact Sheet

### ENPI CBC Latvia/Lithuania/Belarus Programme

#### 2. Addressing common challenges.

The cross border region as a whole faces a number of serious challenges, mainly environmental, health and social, which could be best addressed by jointly coordinated and well planned actions. The rich natural resources of the region sometimes lack proper and equally balanced management by all countries. Of special concern is the insufficient and/or substandard environmental monitoring and economic activities in the protected territories, which do not always comply with EU/international conventions and programmes. Another environmental/health problem to be solved by joint efforts is related to the abundance of biting flies harming cattle and other animals and therefore creating a problem for people in Belarus and the southern part of Lithuania. Under this priority the focus should be placed on environmental monitoring, preservation of biodiversity and natural resources and limiting any possible negative impact of the increased intensity of economic activity in the region. This particularly concerns the balanced development of protected territories, NATURA 2000 sites and forested/water areas, and calls for a further decrease of pollution emissions by different measures, including the development of bio-energy.

#### STATE OF PLAY:

The Programme has been submitted to the European Commission for approval. The adoption of the programme is expected for the end of 2008. The first call for proposals will be launched soon after the programme approval. The first round of projects will probably be approved by autumn 2009.

#### CONTACT DETAILS:

##### Joint Managing Authority

Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Lithuania

Gediminas Cesonis

Head of Regional Development Division

Sventaragio street 2-418

LT-01510 Vilnius

t: +370 5 271 89 87

gediminas.cesonis@vrm.lt

Web site:

[www.enpi-cbc.eu](http://www.enpi-cbc.eu)

