



**INTERact**

*Sharing Expertise ENPI CBC*



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## Cross Border Co-operation Neighbourhood Programmes 2004-2006 Lessons Learnt

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## Objectives of the evaluation

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- Evaluate the quality, relevance and impact of the NPs at the programme and project levels
- Focus on the findings relevant for ENPI CBC in view of improving the management and implementation of the on-going programmes

## Geography of the evaluation

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- The evaluation focused on the partner countries: Russia, Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova
- and covered the following neighbourhood programmes:
  - Nord
  - Euregio Karelia
  - South-East Finland - Russia
  - Estonia – Latvia - Russia
  - Latvia- Lithuania - Belarus
  - Lithuania- Poland –Russia
  - Poland – Ukraine - Belarus
  - Hungary – Slovakia - Ukraine
  - Romania -Ukraine
  - Romania - Republic of Moldova

## Main Findings: Programme level

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- Centralised decision-making in partner countries reduces project ownership and continuity at local and regional levels
- Insufficient communication and co-ordination among countries in joint structures is detrimental to the programmes
- Low level of co-ordination between various joint structures (JMA and JTS) affects reporting and increases administrative burden
- Project Selection Committee should pose sufficient level of technical skills in order to properly evaluate projects

## Main Findings: Project level

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- Lack of support from local / regional authorities and low awareness affects projects' sustainability and diminishes ownership of project results
- Applicants have difficulties in identifying potential project partners on both sides of the border
- Project partners have insufficient technical skills to apply programme rules
- Cumbersome visa procedures and high costs create technical barriers

## Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

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- Continue encouraging participation of local and regional authorities in cross-border co-operation at programme and project levels in order to increase efficiency, ownership and sustainability of CBC achievements
- Continue streamlining communication and work procedures within joint management structures
- Continue reinforcing awareness-building and improving information dissemination
- Continue information and training sessions for potential applicants (and the staff of the joint management structures)

## Practical information:

EuropeAid

### Mailbox address:

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### WEB:

[http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/neighbourhood/regional-cooperation/enpi-cross-border/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/neighbourhood/regional-cooperation/enpi-cross-border/index_en.htm)

<http://www.interact-eu.net>

<http://www.rcbi.info>