



Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013 - state of preparations

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BSR INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat

CPMR BSC Conference, Karlskrona, 1-2 June 2006

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Guiding thread in the programming labyrinth

- Heritage of Interreg IIC and Interreg IIIB co-operation in the BSR
- Key priorities put forward by the Commission
- Better focus!
- Distinguishable profile and political visibility
- Simpler language and less complicated procedures





Preparations in a nutshell...

- Preparation started in November 2005
- Joint Programming Committee, two Drafting Teams (on contents and implementation) and the Partnership Dialogue Network (pan-Baltic organisations)
- First draft to be released in late June 2006 for public consultations
- The agreed document to be submitted to COM in October
- Approx. similar financial size as the present programme
- Thematic scope and implementation features of the programme following the experience of Interreg IIC and IIIB programmes in the BSR with some modifications (lessons learned) and adjustment to Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies
- ENPI component to be incorporated





To easily identify the programme...

- The programme wants to create the Baltic Sea Region profile of the Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies
- The programme will address only these issues, which need intervention at the transnational level
- The programme – contrary to other programmes – will demonstrate the BSR dimension of envisaged actions
- The programme unites three fields:
 - (1) territorial cohesion of the Baltic Sea Region
 - (2) socio-economic competitiveness of the whole area and its individual parts
 - (3) management of the resources in a sustainable way



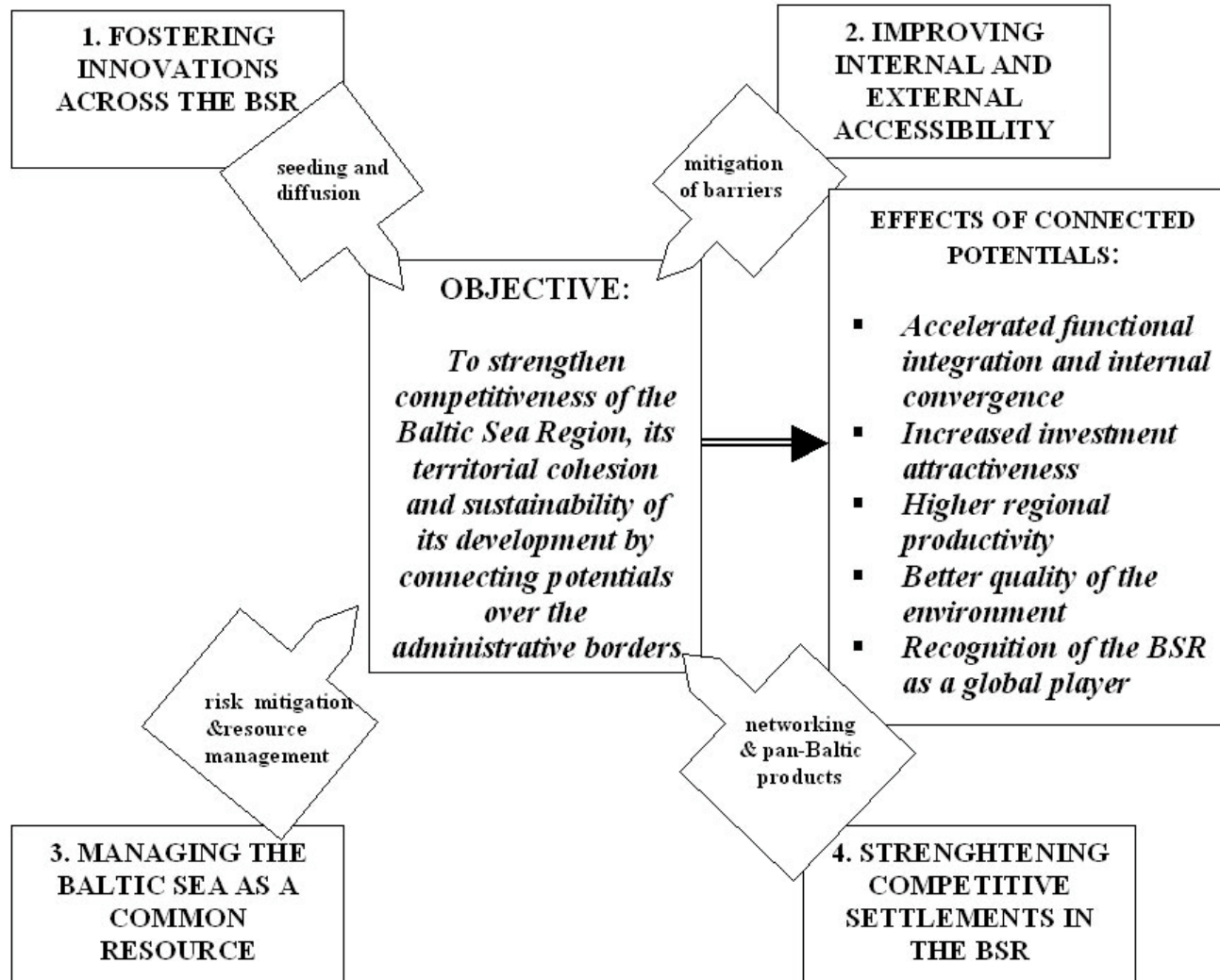


Clear objective intended

- *‘To strengthen competitiveness of the Baltic Sea Region, its territorial cohesion and sustainability of its development by connecting potentials over the administrative borders’*



Objective and priorities





Draft priorities for the BSR Programme 2007-2013

- ① Fostering innovations across the BSR
- ② Improving internal and external accessibility
- ③ Managing the Baltic Sea as a common resource
- Promoting attractive and competitive cities and
- regions





Transnational focus and quality requirements for future projects

- principle of transnationality and definition of transnational investments to be laid down
- explanations on the anticipated quality of the envisaged actions
- 6 specific quality elements:
 - contribution to sustainable development
 - integrated territorial approach
 - region building
 - added value
 - competence building
 - durability
- accent on transferable results (blueprints) & learning experience to be produced, preparation of future investments and vertical partnership (involvement of national institutions)





Who can apply?

- Public authorities from national, regional and local level
- Public equivalent bodies (e.g. research and training institutions, business development institutions and other non-profit organisations)
- Private sector involvement is appreciated, modalities still under discussion, options:
 - Participation of private partners as additional partners with own financing
 - Participation of private partners as eligible partners in case private co-funding will be eligible co-financing
- Lead Partner Principle to be continued





Pro-active support for project generation, application and implementation

I. Proposed instruments to be used for support provided by Joint Secretariat for project generation phase

- Programme info days (arranged by National Sub-committees/ national contact persons / Joint Secretariat)
- Programme homepage; FAQ site
- Filled-in project idea form – submitted to the JS (in addition: project idea database at the programme homepage)
- Lead Applicant seminar (replacing earlier Partner Search Forums) followed by on-the-spot project consultations by Joint Secretariat
- Financial support for preparation of project applications under discussion





Pro-active support for project generation, application and implementation

II. Instruments proposed for project implementation phase

- Series of Lead Partner seminars organised by the Joint Secretariat with different focus
- Ad-hoc meetings with project/financial managers of the Joint Secretariat
- Quality workshops/ training for ongoing projects, either thematic or cross-thematic
- Programme community website
- Intensive use of various mailings lists and feedback channels





Schedule for 1st call in 2007

- Open calls for application as main instrument within application procedure will be launched on a regular basis
- Max. two calls per year from 2007-2013
- Calls will be open and advertised for appr. 3-4 month
- Envisaged schedule for 1st call:
 - Programme info days: April-May 2007
 - Opening of the 1st call: June 2007
 - Thematic workshops, lead applicant seminars, project consultations: July – September 2007
 - Closure of the call: October 2007
 - Decisions on projects: December 2007





Thank you for your attention

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