



Small project factsheet

Definition and aims

Small projects are aimed at facilitating easier access to the Programme, in particular for those partners that have not previously participated in the Programme. Applying for a small project and implementing a small project is much simpler when compared to the core projects. For example, the budget of a small project is smaller than of a core project. The work plan consists of one work package (WP) and it may be implemented by small partnerships.

In small projects, partners are encouraged to develop **practical and durable outputs** and solutions for challenges in the region. These challenges need to correspond to one of the Programme objectives. Small projects should **increase capacity of the target groups** to deal with the identified challenges during and after the end of the project implementation.

The development of solutions is not obligatory in small projects. However, activities need to go beyond pure networking and knowledge exchange.

In addition, small projects have to address at least one of the following specific aims:

- building trust that could lead to further cooperation initiatives,
- initiating and keeping networks that are important for the BSR,
- bringing the Programme closer to the citizens,
- allowing a swift response to unpredictable and urgent challenges.

Project outcomes

The activities leading to the project outcomes are organised in one WP. The activities need to go beyond pure networking and knowledge exchange. They can include, for example, the integration of management schemes in municipalities or the adaptation of developed action plans on the regional level. The activities should lead to the development of at least **one output** addressing the challenges which the applicants identified together with the target groups of the project. Such outputs can be, for example local cooperation models or harmonised procedures in a particular



sector. Pilots are not obligatory in small projects. However, the partners can pilot, for example, practical solutions or measures in a particular field or actions for citizens involvement

Duration

The duration of a small project consists of three phases:

- **Contracting phase**
this phase usually lasts **three months**. The announcement note will include further information regarding each call for applications.
- **Implementation phase**
this phase may last up to 24 months.
- **Project closure phase**
this phase lasts three months.

Partnership

General rules **for project partnerships** in Interreg Baltic Sea Region are described in chapter C. When applying for a small project, applicants need to follow these formal rules. The partnership of a small project should be composed primarily of local and/or regional and/or national authorities, as well as NGOs. Furthermore, applicants should keep in mind the limited budget of small projects and plan their partnership accordingly. Organisations that have not previously participated in the Programme or for a long time are encouraged to take part as partners in small projects.

Budget

The total budget of a small project must **not exceed EUR 500,000** (including preparation costs). The budget has to clearly reflect the involvement of partners and the implementation of planned activities. It also needs to be in proportion to the outputs, that will be developed for the selected target groups. Small projects are implemented exclusively under the simplified cost options scheme. Further details about eligibility rules can be found in chapter [E.3](#).