Project idea form - small projects

Version 2.1

Registration no. (filled in by MA/JS only) _____

Project Idea Form

Date of submission   *dd/mm/yyyy*

1. Project idea identification

Project idea name	NonHazHinterland
Short name of the project	NonHazHinterland
Previous calls	yes ⦿ no ○
Short name of the previous project	NonHazCity3
Seed money support	yes ○ no ⦿

2. Programme priority

2. Water-smart societies

3. Programme objective

2.1. Sustainable waters

4. Potential lead applicant

Name of the organisation (original)	Rīgas valstspilsētas pašvaldība
Name of the organisation (English)	Riga State City Municipality
Website	www.riga.lv

Country	LV
Type of Partner	Local public authority
	municipality, etc.

Contact person 1

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Contact person 2

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Which organisation(s) in the planned partnership take part in a project within the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme for the first time? Please list the respective partners.

- 2-3 small municipalities of South West Finland Region - concrete actor to be named within the full scale application
- the 2-3 parishes of Riga Planning Region will be involved in the project - concrete actor to be named within the full scale application
- KWB Bauberatungs GmBH (PP)
- Region Ludwigslust-Parchim in Mecklenburg-Westpommerania (MV) (proposed as AO)
- Werkraum Mecklenburg e.V., NGO of the „Kreativzentrums in Plau am See" (PP)
- Rural municipality "Plau am See" (PP or AO, tbc)

5.1 Specific challenge to be adressed

The outputs and deliverables from the NHC3 projects are too extensive for small municipalities to manage effectively. We need straightforward, simplified guidance that is accessible without requiring background knowledge. For instance, while the catalogue and training module are too comprehensive for small municipalities, they are impractical for them who rather need easy and actionable steps.

The challenges for a Small Municipality in Chemical Management:
1. . **Characteristics and Resources**
- Small municipalities have limited resources; focusing on the essentials of chemical management is crucial.
- Training should be concise and connected to relevant local issues, avoiding examples from larger

cities.
2. **Technical Management**
 - The technical department is vital in managing chemicals rather than procurement officers.
 - Chemical issues should be integrated into existing processes, particularly in renovation projects.
3. **Communication and Networks**
 - Small municipalities prefer broad, practical topics instead of events focused solely on hazardous substances.
- Engaging with voluntary and NGO groups active in renovations can be beneficial.
4. **Green Claims and Credibility**
- Municipalities need to communicate their sustainable choices confidently and accurately, ensuring claims are verifiable to build trust.
5. **Concrete Actions**
 - With limited chemical expertise, decision on the use of certified materials is difficult
- Small municipalities lack operational models and clear pathways for procurement, material selection, and design, ideally in a five-step format to address hazardous substances progressively.

5.2 Focus of the call

Focus of the call is to downscale the NonHazCity 3 outputs on hazardous substances in construction materials and buildings and make them applicable for small municipalities in the "hinterland" of bigger cities.
What we could produce and what small municipalities would test could be "creation of 3 Pathways for chemical smart construction for small municipalities". Each pathway would introduce a maximum five-step model that gradually increases the municipality's capacity to address hazardous substances in construction. Each step will:
• Build on the previous one, allowing flexible adoption based on available resources.
• Include concrete actions.

For example:
1. Procurement Pathway
2. Material Selection Pathway
3. Design Pathway

Each pathway would illustrate the minimum steps that municipality should take. For example our current step-by-step guide is much too complicated to be adapted into the operations. With the municipalities we should identify what is actually possible and in which bigger issue the HS should be incorporated so that it is not as a "separate" issue.

6. Transnational relevance

The NonHazCity 3 project has revealed that the exchange on practices and thoughts among different actors from different municipalities and countries has a high value for capacity building by learning from each other about implementation challenges or practical solutions for common problems.

The understanding that one is not alone and the tips and tricks from others are indeed important benefits of transnational cooperation, including study visits to objects or locations of actions.
A bit of labor division on solving complex tasks by dividing them within an international consortium is also an imprtant value.

7. Specific aims to be adressed

Building trust that could lead to further cooperation initiatives

Small municipalities do not only lack resources and knowledge, they lack self-confidence in their ability to act, they lack rust in themselves, their communication skills and their stakeholders. NonHazCity3 is a challenging project, the thematic focus is complex and it is heavily determined by cities, large urban areas that face a lot of building and refurbishment activities. Small municipalities so far have faced challenges in our NonHazCity (1-3) projects. It is not so easy to get them involved in such complex activities. A small grant actually would fit the need to build trust and give them a bit more time to mature.

Initiating and keeping networks that are important for the BSR

NonHazCity3 is one of the core projects that build currently the HAZGONE platform. NonHazHinterland could hook on this network and its partners and associated organisation can become a part of the platform, too. The simplified outputs of NonHazHinterland project fit well into the HAZGONE portals internet platform (hosted by the Union of the Baltic Cities) be get promoted by it proactively to more players.

Bringing the Programme closer to the citizens

NA

Allowing a swift response to unpredictable and urgent challenges

NA

8. Target groups

Key target group are stakeholders involved in building and construction sector and in the environmental protection sector at small municipalities and/or regional entities: the relevant staff of the public authorities itself, sub-ordinate agencies or municipal companies such as housing or construction companies. Housing associations. Local planners, architects and construction engineers (the latter not necessary local, but probably regional, for Latvia even national). Representatives of the health sector - regarding hazardous substances impacts on health of inhabitants. Local NGOs working

on environmental issues, living environment, health issues. Inhabitants (of the flats, houses, day cares) as key interest group.

Please use the drop-down list to define up to five target groups that you will involve through your project's activities.	Please define a field of responsibility or an economic sector of the selected target group	Specify the countries and regions that the representatives of this target group come from.
1. Local public authority	Local authorities' construction and housing units if applicable: environmental units (or person) in charge of exposure risk, circularity and climate neutrality of building sector.	We will involve actors from Finland, Latvia and Germany - from a few rural municipalities from Southwest Finland, Riga Planning Region and Mecklenburg West Pommerania.
2. Regional public authority	The Regional authorities do have a multiplier function, in particular for small municipalities; they are in charge of economic development - the housing/building sector is an important player here.	Regions: Southwest Finland, Riga Planning Region and Mecklenburg West Pommerania.
3. Small and medium enterprise	Local planners, architects and construction engineers service providers managing construction works and construction sites, suppliers of construction materials.	The location does not play an important role - these companies operate not only locally, but local players at the project regions/municipalities would be important to involve.
4. Interest group	Civil Society representatives (sustainability, health, environment), interest groups (house owner/ renters unions), associations of local authorities and the inhabitants at large	Here we want to address the very local actors and inhabitants of the local municipalities that will be involved in the project with a little awareness campaign.

9. Contribution to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

Please indicate if your project idea has the potential to contribute to the implementation of the Action Plan of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (https://eusbsr.eu/implementation/).

yes ● no ○

Please select which policy area(s) of the EUSBSR your project idea contributes to most.

PA Hazards

The MA/JS may share your project idea form with the respective policy area coordinator(s) of the EUSBSR. You can find contacts of PACs at the EUSBSR website (https://eusbsr.eu/contact-us/).

☐ If you disagree, please tick here.

10. Partnership

1. Riga State City Municipality as Lead, carrying the NHC idea to the "Riga Hinterland";
2. Riga Planning Region (tbc) - the territory of the Riga planning region includes two cities of national significance – Riga and Jūrmala, as well as 7 parishes of different size – Ādaži, Ropaži, Salaspils, Sigulda, Ķekava, Olaine, Mārupe. We intend to involve the regional entity as AO.
2. We intend to involve 2 or 3 of the small parishes as potential partners and/or associated organisations from the following (more rural) parishes: Ropaži, Mārupe, Ādaži, Ķekava or Olaine.
3. Turku University of Applied Sciences (TUAS) - carrying the NHC idea to the Region of Southwest Finland
4. The Region Southwest Finland with 2-3 small municipalities (tbc) out of 23 small municipalities in that region
5. BEF DE (NGO) carrying the NHC idea to Mecklenburg Westpommerania
6. Region Ludwigslust-Parchim in Mecklenburg-Westpommerania (MV) with the lowest population density in the Federal State MV). The regional has 15 administrative offices with 142 small municipalities altogether.
7. Municipality "Plau am See" (7000 inhabitants) together with the "Regional Office Parchim" (proposal has been introduced to the Mayors office).
8. Werkraum Mecklenburg e.V., NGO of the „Kreativzentrums in Plau am See", they foster the development of climate-neutral societies and are interested in NonHazCity.
9. KWB Bauberatungs GmBH (construction advisory service for climate neutral buildings), the owner has been involved as architect-trainer by NHC3 Partner Auraplan Architects. He would like to carry the idea further to the hinterland – he is resident in Plau am See and has good local contacts.

11. Workplan

A1 - Getting acquainted with the NonHazCity 3 outputs: workshop for the local actors in each country (local language). The expert team from former NHC3 (LP Riga, PP2 TUAS, PP3 BEF-DE) screens the products, discusses what are the essentials to present and prepares a common presentation. At the workshops the understanding but also the needs of the target groups will be looked at. (Period1). (Output: workshop report with pin-pointed materials)

A2 - Development of operational models for small municipalities: Creation of 3 pathways - procurement pathway, material pathway, design pathway. Elaboration of a five-step model for each pathway. Co-creation workshop among the expert team, in written and online. Interviews with the target groups at the involved municipalities. for backstopping on level of complexity (Period 1-2) (Output: the 3 model pathways)

A3 - Testing the operation model of the 3 pathways at different target groups within the small municipalities participating in the project: understandability, easiness of application, resources needed. Small info campaign for inhabitants to raise awareness on the issue of health related to indoor environment (Period 3) (Output: Report from the testing activities)

A4 - Dissemination and Outreach to a larger target audience. Via HAZGONE Platform and regional authorities. (Period 4) (Output: Model ready for HAZGONE platform)

12. Planned budget

ERDF budget (planned expenditure of partners from the EU)	EUR 500,000.00
Norwegian budget (planned expenditure of partners from Norway)	EUR XXX
Total budget (including preparatory costs)	EUR 500,000.00

13. Project consultation

Please indicate if you wish to have a consultation (online meeting) with the MA/JS to discuss your project idea

yes ⦿   no ◯

14. Questions to the MA/JS

Questions related to the content of the planned project	We need to think.
Questions related to	NA

budgeting and expenditure

Any other questions *(max. 1.000 characters incl. spaces)*

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15. Additional information

(max. 1.000 characters incl. spaces)

Your account in BAMOS+

Please remember that to officially submit your application you need to access our electronic data exchange system BAMOS+. More information about the process of applying for your account in BAMOS+ you will find here:
https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/bamos-account