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How to stay resilient in turbulent times and responsive to public needs

Webinar: New funding to build innovative societies

Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021-2027 | 17 November 2021

Agenda



- Warm-up Ο
- What's new? Ο
- Towards resilient economies and communities Ο
- Your questions Ο
- Towards responsive public services Ο
- Your questions Ο
- Meet the Policy Area Coordinators Ο
- What's next? Ο



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Marta Ślężak Warszycka, Team Leader Project Unit

Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021-2027 | 17 November 2021

Our focus



Supporting transition

Towards greener and more resilient societies and economies

Supporting public authorities

In meeting needs of communities and companies etc.

Creating practical solutions

To challenges in the Baltic Sea region



We put into practice innovative, water-smart and climate-neutral solutions through transnational cooperation for the benefit of citizens across the Baltic Sea region.

Thematic framework







Thematic framework







What's new?



3

Practical solutions through

core projects

3

Easier access through

small projects



What's new?



9

Further digitalisation of processes

3

Wide use of simplified cost options Unified cofinancing rate:
80%





the European Union

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Innovative societies

Programme objective 1.1 Resilient economies and communities

Programme objective 1.2 Responsive public services

Note: The Programme priorities and objectives are subject to approval by the Programme countries & the European Commission



Agnieszka Lipińska and Sebastian Hentsch, Project Officers

Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021-2027 | 17.11.2021



Building sustainable, fair, innovative and resilient economies and communities across the Baltic Sea region.



What does <u>resilience mean</u> for our Programme?

- **respond** to unexpected external disturbances
- o avoid the unwanted external impacts, withstand them or recover quickly from them
- **detect** and **monitor** potential vulnerabilities
- find right balance between global value and supply chains as well as local and regional production patterns and services
- o society characterised by strong social cohesion and a shared system of values





Why do we <u>address</u> resilience?

- **Dependency** of the Baltic Sea region on global developments
- **New** socio-economic **situation** due to pandemic
- Need for tools supporting adaptation to unforeseen developments
- Need to **increase engagement** of civil society





What does <u>innovative</u> resilience mean?

- Develop **solutions** increasing the innovativeness of the region to avoid external impacts, withstand them or recover quickly from them
- Experimentation, "thinking outside the box", working across different sectors
- Improve smart specialisation capacities
- Untap the potential of **digitalisation**





A variety of target groups, e.g.

- Public authorities
- Communities
- Specialised agencies, service providers
- Business support organisations
- Businesses



Examples of actions

Supporting development of mechanisms to manage challenges

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- Introducing more sustainable regional consumption
- Strengthening cohesion and identity through social inclusion
- Oriving innovative development through smart specialisation



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Examples of actions

- Assisting businesses in diversification or risk management
- Developing solutions that enable adaptation
- Reducing dependency on global developments





Laura Ligazzolo and Elea Nova Sondag, Project Officers

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Experimenting with **new ways of delivering public services** using innovative, data-driven and participatory methods to improve the lives of citizens.



What does "<u>public</u> services" mean for our Programme?

PUBLIC = to serve all members of the community

(health care, urban planning, social services...)





What are the <u>challenges</u>? Some examples:

- **Budgetary** constrains, but pressure for improvements
- Lack of **tools and abilities**
- Limiting organisational culture. Modernisation shift
- Digitalisation
- Engagement. Accessibility
- Coordination. Interoperability





Why do we have this Programme objective?

Address challenges, making steps forward for more effective services: more efficient, less bureaucratic, able to adapt to societal challenges

What does "<u>responsive</u> public services" mean for our Programme?

RESPONSIVE = demand-driven (based on actual societal needs and challenges) tailor-made (to fit the actual recipients, they should serve)





What does "innovative responsive public services" mean for our Programme?

• Implementing **participatory processes** to plan services

(ensuring responsiveness, motivating and empowering citizens)

- Using digital technologies to deliver better, faster, personalised services
 (AI, blockchain...)
- Putting in practice **green solutions** to deliver resources&cost-efficient services





Target groups

- Public authorities
- Communities
- Specialised agencies, service providers
- Business support organisations
- Businesses





Some examples of actions:



Establishing innovation partnerships

Harmonising **systems** and **standards** between countries

Making public services more accessible in **rural or remote areas**





Some examples of actions:



Increasing green public offers

Testing **unconventional approaches**



Using **cultural approaches** to motivate different generations to participate in public life





Meet the Policy Area Coordinators EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region



Elena Kolosova, Advisor for external cooperation

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EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region



Agreement between **eight EU Member States** and the European Commission to strengthen cooperation in the Baltic Sea region

- ✓ **Objectives**: save the sea, connect the region and increase prosperity
- ✓ Action plan: most important actions for implementation
- ✓ **Policy areas**: actions thematically organised in 14 policy areas

https://balticsea-region-strategy.eu/



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EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region



Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021-2027



Priority 1 'Innovative societies'



1.1 Resilient economies and communities

EUSBSR policy area Innovation



1.2 Responsive public services

EUSBSR policy areas Innovation, Health, Spatial Planning





EUSBSR policy area Innovation Coordinators (PACs)

Esa Kokkonen, Baltic Institute of Finland **Reet Reismaa**, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications of Estonia

EUSBSR Policy Area Innovation: relevant actions/topics in 2021-2027

Action 1: Challenge-driven innovation

Macroregional challenge-driven innovation policies and actions aiming at fostering disruptive, breakthrough and market-shaping innovations to respond to the 21st century social, environmental, and economic grand challenges in the BSR.

Potential topics

- Sector/S3 priority-specific S3/4 initiatives (e.g. on blue growth, circular economy/industrial symbiosis, health, industry 4.0, smart cities, low carbon energy) having the potential to solve BSR challenges, to generate new business, and to encourage the development of BSR value chains
- Promotion of stronger BSR value/supply chains that would be able to respond to future undesired external disruptions
- Methods and tools for the facilitation of the systemic change needed for green transition and sustainable and inclusive growth
- Initiatives on public procurement for innovation (challenge-based procurement)

Action 2: Digital innovation and transformation

Digital transformation is a societal change in BSR.

Potential topics

- Real-Time Economy; Development of common standards for interoperable public and private solutions
- Joint development and implementation of Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs)
- Digital, data-driven solutions for sustainable business and growth in BSR (promoting the twin transition in BSR), e.g. Digital transformation of (blue) bioeconomy /circular economy in BSR

EUSBSR Policy Area Innovation: relevant actions/topics in 2021-2027

Action 3: Co-creative innovation

Ecosystems and platforms are emerging as key frameworks for economic and innovation activity also in BSR. **Transnational platforms and change agents are needed to connect Baltic Sea region innovation ecosystems** and having access to public, research and business groups, to engage them in the collaborative process of co-creation to bridge the existing knowledge, skills and market access gaps for SMEs.

Potential topics

Co-creation as a horizontal theme / overarching approach to all EUSBSR PA INNO actions, it can be applied in any topic/project

- To scale up the use of co-creation among BSR SMEs through improving their capabilities and absorptive capacities to efficiently turn market demand driven ideas into innovations
- **To connect innovation ecosystems across BSR** through developing and piloting systematic models and practices to engage BSR SMEs, researchers, test facilities and end users in co-creation activities
- To facilitate the understanding and change of mindset among policy-makers and SMEs to scale up practical co-creation activities in BSR and
- **To promote transnational cooperation and SMEs access to RDI infra**, and transnational exchange and joint development between Innovation Infrastructure Organisations and incubators.





EUSBSR policy area Innovation Advice from PACs

What else to consider when developing applications?

Contacts of PACs at <u>https://www.balticsea-</u> region-strategy.eu/contacts/eusbsr-actors



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Anna Gałyga, Communication Officer

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The timeline



Mid-Nov 2021

Pre-launch of the call First events and intensified communication about calls

8 Feb 2022

Calls officially open* (provided the Programme is submitted to the European Commission)

From Dec 2021

- Submission of **Project Idea Forms**
- Consultations
- Requests for access to BAMOS+

From Feb 2022

Granting access to BAMOS+

How to get started?





interreg-baltic.eu/ gateway

Visit the Programme portal for regular updates and guidance.



Start working on your application

Request access to BAMOS+

Submit Project Idea Form & request a consultation



interreg-baltic.eu/gateway



Growing info package

interreg-baltic.eu/gateway

- $\,\circ\,$ Details about open calls: soon
- Programme manual: soon
- Information material: stay tuned
- Video tutorials: check the latest!



Welcome to the Interreg Baltic Sea Region matchmaking platform

Join our network. Find partners. Develop your project ideas.

O Already a member? Log in

O Register

More on matchmaking.

matchmaking.interreg-baltic.eu

- \circ Join the community
- Create a profile
- Find relevant partners for your project
- **Build a project idea group** and cooperate with others!





Webinars to come

- Water-smart societies on 25 November
- Climate-neutral societies on 8 December
- Good quality projects on 12 January

You cannot attend?

Stay tuned for more events early next year.



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Thank you and goodbye!