



## **Assistance to the policy area coordinators of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region**

### **Activities and funding**

#### **1. Activities and deliverables**

The first call for applications will be open for the assistance to the policy area coordinators of the EUSBSR. The Programme provides funding to the policy area coordinators (PACs) to coordinate the policy areas and facilitate implementation of actions defined in the EUSBSR action plan. The PACs engage stakeholders in their policy areas and support project implementation. They communicate progress and achievements of their policy areas. They may also support generation of new projects and work with project idea developers. This funding is provided in addition to the own resources of the organisation to coordinate the policy area.

The PACs may apply for Programme funding to:

- a. Coordinate their policy area of the EUSBSR, and
- b. Support project idea generation and development in their policy area of the EUSBSR.

#### **a. Coordination of the policy area of the EUSBSR**

The PACs may plan the following activities to be implemented with the Programme funding:

- Ensuring a general overview in the policy areas;
- Planning, coordinating and developing the policy areas under the guidance of the respective steering groups;
- Facilitating implementation of actions defined in the EUSBSR action plan, including support to projects and other modes of operation;
- Analysing needs for policy changes and improvements in relevant thematic areas;
- Initiating and coordinating policy discussions and other cooperation activities;
- Involving stakeholders relevant for the policy areas, including local, regional and national authorities, agencies and businesses as well as civil society groups;
- Building up networks and engaging stakeholders in the processes in the policy areas in a systematic way;
- Addressing common priorities of the EU and partner countries in the respective thematic areas;
- Monitoring progress and evaluating whether agreed targets in the policy areas are reached;





- Reviewing objectives in the work plan of the policy area, processes, actions and results, amending and updating them in consultation with the PA steering group;
- Communicating progress, achievements and results in the policy areas;
- Other tasks in line with the action plan of the EUSBSR.

The PACs may plan various activities and deliverables in the projects to be co-financed by the Programme. Examples of activities are as follows: steering group discussions, meetings with stakeholders, thematic seminars, workshops, conferences, training sessions, surveys, studies and policy discussions. Examples of deliverables are as follows: studies, recommendations or reports from events.

The PACs should involve their steering groups in defining tasks and activities of PACs when developing project applications. The PACs need to describe the role of the steering group of their policy area in these activities. When applying for Programme funding, the coordinators of each policy area need to submit a letter of support from the steering group of the policy area to the activities planned in the application.

#### **b. Support to project idea generation and development in the policy area of the EUSBSR**

In addition to the funding for coordination of the policy areas, the PACs may apply for additional funding to work on project idea generation in the relevant thematic areas.

The PACs may plan the following activities to be implemented with the Programme funding:

- Analysing needs for project idea generation and development in a particular area in line with the actions of the policy areas in the EUSBSR action plan;
- Providing information on focus of project ideas to be generated and developed in the policy areas;
- Attracting and engaging relevant stakeholders for developing project ideas in line with the actions in the policy areas;
- Facilitating generation of project ideas and interaction among stakeholders;
- Supporting stakeholders in developing their project ideas;
- Communicating and interacting with authorities managing EU and other funds relevant for project ideas to be developed in the policy areas.

The PACs need to plan the process and activities how they support generation of project ideas and development of projects according to the needs in their policy area. They may plan various activities and deliverables in the projects to be co-financed by the Programme. Examples of activities are as follows: carrying out studies and surveys, producing information materials and disseminating them, arranging seminars, other events and meetings with stakeholders and project idea developers. The PACs applying for this additional funding should report an overview of project ideas generated and organisations involved in the development of those ideas. The PACs may prepare other deliverables according to their needs as well.



## 2. Programme funding

The PACs may apply for the **Programme funding** amounting:

Assistance to PACs:	a. Coordination of the policy area of the EUSBSR	b. Support to project idea generation and development in the policy area of the EUSBSR
<b>PAs: Culture, Education, Energy, Hazards, Health, Nutri, Safe, Secure, Ship, Spatial Planning, Tourism and Transport</b>	up to EUR 234 000 each PA	up to EUR 50 000 each PA
<b>PAs: Bioeconomy and Innovation</b>	up to EUR 315 000 each PA	up to EUR 70 000 each PA

The PACs have to provide their own contribution to receive Programme funding. They are entitled to receive up to **80% co-financing from ERDF** (European Regional Development Fund).

*For advice on the Programme matters please contact at e-mail: [governance@interreg-baltic.eu](mailto:governance@interreg-baltic.eu).*

