



# Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021-2027 aid scheme

Scheme reference number: SA.103695

## 1. Legal basis

The Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021-2027 aid scheme (the 'scheme') operates under Commission Regulation (EU) 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Article 107 and 108 of the Treaty<sup>1</sup> (the 'GBER').

The legal basis for the scheme is the Interreg programme "Interreg Baltic Sea Region" (CCI 2021TC16FFTN003) (the 'Programme'), approved by the European Commission according to Article 18(4) of the Interreg Regulation (Commission Implementing Decision C(2022) C(2022) 3769 of 2 June 2022).

## 2. Objective

The objective of the scheme is to support undertakings participating in Interreg Baltic Sea Region projects.

## 3. Eligible area

This scheme is available in the EU Member States covered by the Programme: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden.

## 4. Duration

1/1/2021-31/12/2029

### Duration clause: period of validity

The duration of this aid scheme shall be equal to the eligibility period as defined in Article 63(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 187, 26.6.2014, p. 1

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, p.159



It is limited until the expiry of its legal basis for state aid, the GBER, plus an adjustment period of six months, i.e. until 30/6/2024. If the period of application of the GBER is extended without relevant changes to the content of the aid scheme, the duration of this aid scheme will be extended accordingly, but not beyond 31/12/2029. If the GBER is not extended and replaced by a new GBER, or if relevant changes to the content of the current GBER are made, a follow-up funding guideline corresponding to the then applicable exemption provisions will come into force at least until 30/6/2024.

## 5. Definitions

The definitions set out in Article 2 of the GBER shall apply to this scheme.

## 6. Exclusions

This scheme respects exclusions set out in Article 1(2) to (5) of the GBER.

## 7. Categories of aid

This scheme will provide support under the following categories of aid as set out in Chapter III of the GBER:

- Aid for costs incurred by undertakings participating in European Territorial Cooperation projects (Article 20)
- Limited amounts of aid to undertakings for participation in European Territorial Cooperation projects (Article 20a)

## 8. Aid amounts/aid intensity

The aid amount granted under Article 20 of the GBER shall not exceed EUR 2 million per undertaking, per project. The aid intensity shall not exceed 80%.

The total amount of aid under Article 20a of the GBER shall not exceed EUR 20,000.

The aid amounts are the maximum levels of support that may be offered. In practice, lower levels may be applied.

## 9. Form of aid and eligible costs

In compliance with the GBER, Article 5, this scheme shall offer only forms of aid that are considered transparent.



Aid will be awarded only to the eligible costs for European Territorial cooperation projects as set out in Article 20 and Article 20a of GBER. Moreover, the type of project and partner supported and the scope of eligible expenditure must also meet the requirements of Interreg Baltic Sea Region.

There is no automatic entitlement to support under this scheme.

## **10. Incentive effect**

In compliance with the GBER, Article 6, this scheme shall apply only to aid which has an incentive effect. Aid for undertakings participating in European Territorial Cooperation projects shall be deemed to have an incentive effect if the relevant conditions in Article 20 or Article 20a are fulfilled.

## **11. Cumulation**

Aid under this scheme may be cumulated with other State aid under conditions laid down in the GBER, Article 8.

State aid exempted under this scheme shall not be cumulated with any de minimis aid in respect of the same eligible costs if such cumulation would result in an aid intensity exceeding those laid down in Chapter III of the GBER.

## **12. Publication and information**

The Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat of Interreg Baltic Sea Region together with the Member State in which the Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat is located will assure compliance with the publication and information requirements as set out in the GBER, Article 9.

## **13. Reporting**

The Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat of Interreg Baltic Sea Region together with the Member State in which the Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat is located will assure compliance with the reporting requirements as set out in the GBER, Article 11.

## **14. Monitoring**

In compliance with the GBER, Article 12, the Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat will assure the maintenance of detailed records with the information and supporting documentation necessary to



establish that all the conditions laid down in the GBER are fulfilled. Such records shall be kept for 10 years from the date on which the last aid was granted under the scheme.

The Managing Authority will ensure to provide all the information and supporting documentation which the Commission considers necessary to monitor the application of the GBER within the terms set in the GBER, Article 12.