Interreg Baltic Sea Region

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# Funding to build a greener and more resilient Baltic Sea region

## Webinar

**WebEx | 17 January 2024**

# Agenda

- Welcome and warm-up
- What have we reached so far?
- Priority 1: Towards more innovative BSR
- Inspirations from PACs
- Break
- Q&A
- Priority 3: Towards more climate-neutral  societies
- Inspirations from PACs
- Break
- Q&A
- Application process: Support and next steps

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# What have we reached so far?

Ekaterina Latysheva, Project Officer

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

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# 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 and for clearly defined users

56

# Core projects

Core changes for the region.

**Develop a solution to a challenge,** and bring it to the people in the Baltic Sea region.

30

# Small projects

Small steps for a big change.

Easier accessible funding.
A testing ground to learn Interreg,
working across borders with
partners from different countries.

# Distribution of projects per Priority

# Open call for best ideas!

## Interested in priority **Innovative societies?**

Show us how to best bring communities into new directions or boost digitalisation. Other ideas are also welcome.

## Interested in priority **Climate-neutral societies?**

Be sure to take climate change into account; no other option this time!

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**Your gateway for #EUfunding**

**interreg-baltic.eu/gateway**

# Funds for projects in this call

ERDF

# Connect your project idea **to the macro-region!**

Find contacts at
interreg-baltic.eu/gateway

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Talk to the coordinators of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

https://www.eusbsr.eu/

It's time to submit your project idea form ***very soon.***

# Call for *great* ideas!

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## Timeline

- **17 April 2024** — Submit your Project Idea Form
- **17 April 2024** — Request access to BAMOS+
- **21 June 2024** — Submit your Application via BAMOS+

Everything you need is here:
**interreg-baltic.eu/gateway**

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# Towards more innovative BSR

Agnieszka Lipińska, Senior Project Officer

Mateusz Ropiak, Project Officer

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# Innovative societies

**Programme objective 1.1** Resilient economies and communities

**Programme objective 1.2** Responsive public services

# Why do we address resilience?

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- We depend on **global developments**
- **Situation** is dynamic (post-pandemic challenges, war, energy crisis…)
- We want to prepare for **unexpected developments**
- We want to **recover quickly**

# Why and how do we want to make public services responsive?

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- Growing **demands**, decreasing **budgets**
- Overcoming **innovation barriers** and use of **new technologies**
- **Spotting, targeting,** and **better adjusting** to the needs of **residents**
- Considering different **regions** and **social groups**

# Surprise us with new ideas!

**for bringing communities into new directions or boosting the potential of digitalisation, like…**

- preparing responses to extreme weather events and other disasters
- ensuring the communities' well-being and safety
- helping businesses in transition
- introducing digital tools in public services
- introducing digital tools to monitor and respond to arising challenges

Other ideas are welcome, too!

# Preparing responses to extreme weather events and other disasters

## What can you do?

# Increase disaster preparedness

*Possible directions:*

**Assist public authorities** in enhancing their competences to develop strategies for managing extreme weather events.

# Increase disaster preparedness

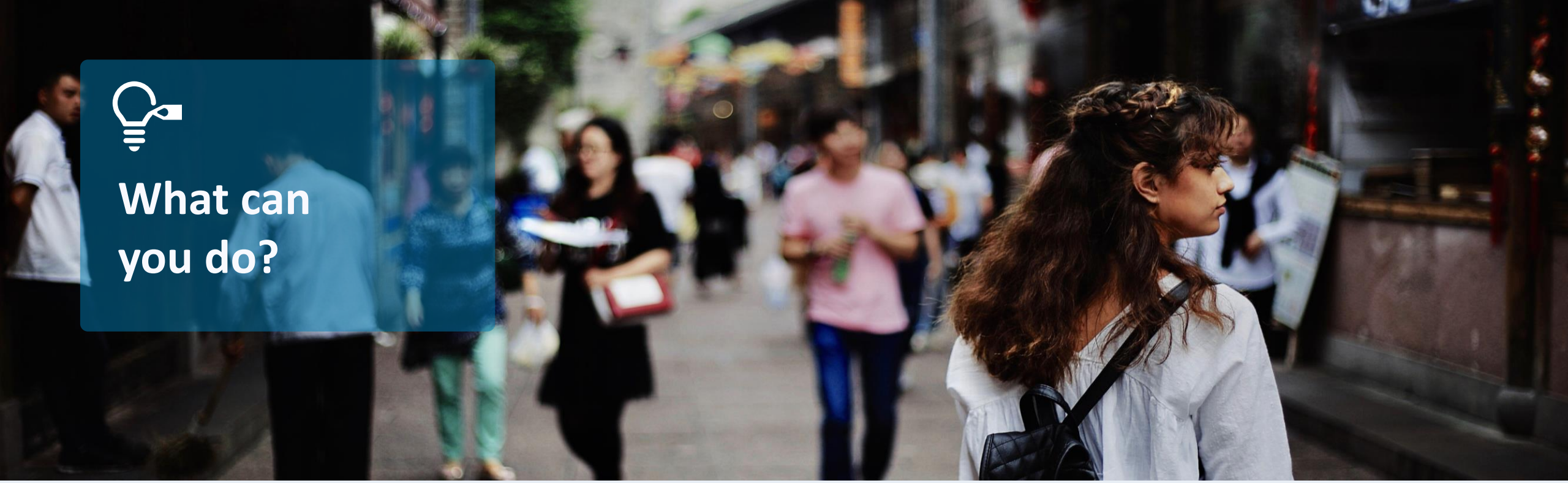
*Possible directions:*

**Optimise coordination** models among civil protection agencies for effective response to emergency situations.

# Increase active engagement of citizens

*Possible directions:*

Employ cutting-edge technologies to **foster community participation** in coordinating emergency responses.



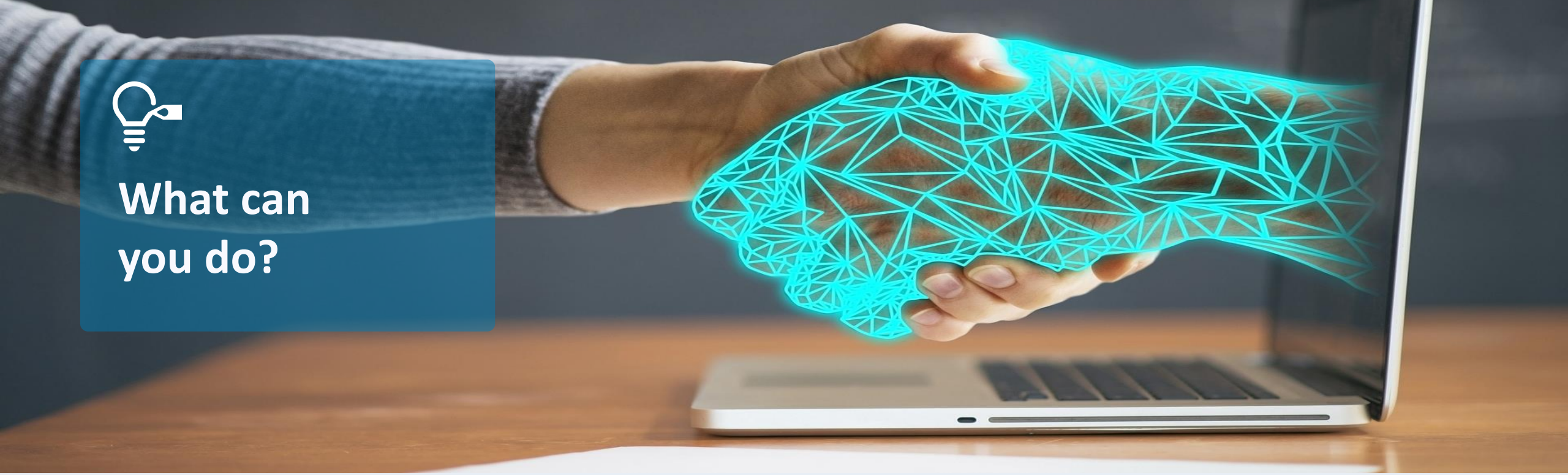
What can you do?

# Increase awareness of citizens

*Possible directions:*

**Empower citizens** with knowledge on how to react in the face of extreme weather events.

# Ensuring the communities' well-being and safety




# Introduce modern support models or services

*Possible directions:*

Use digitalisation to **connect volunteers with those in need** to foster care and support for vulnerable or isolated community members.

## Ongoing project example:

# Kids Like Us

Educators, public authorities and NGOs explore how contact with nature and appeal to all senses can improve mental well-being of children with traumatic experiences.

# Helping businesses in transition

## What can you do?

# Create models to reduce BSR's dependence on global supply chains

*Possible directions:*

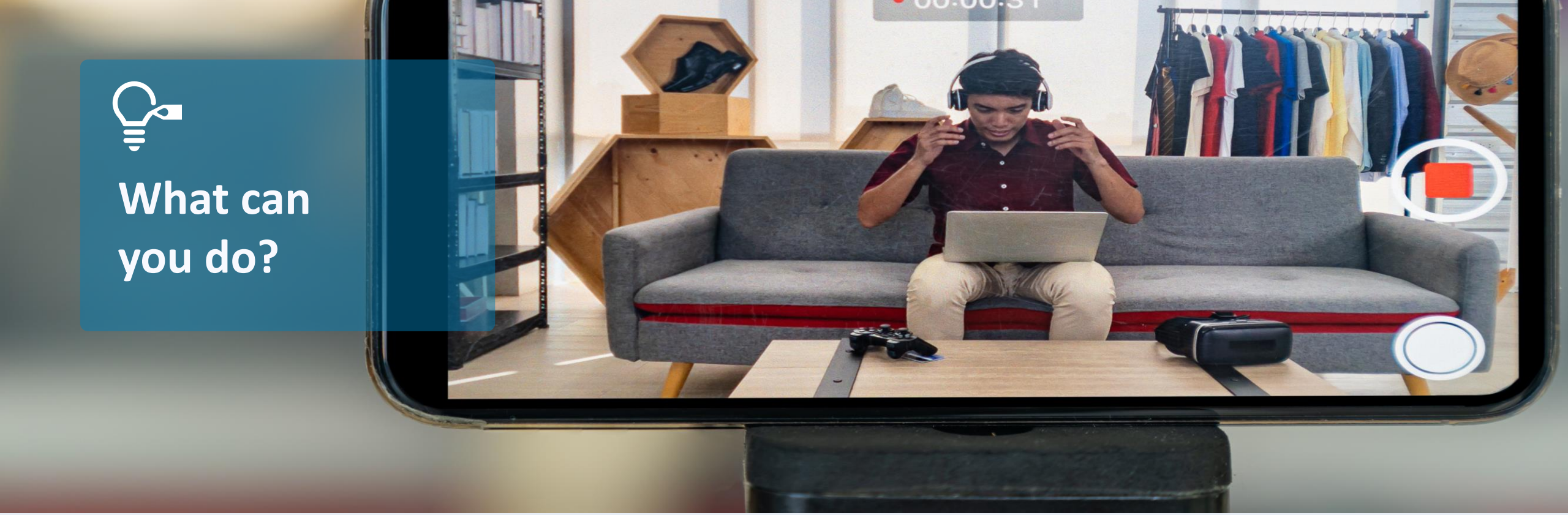
Establish programmes to facilitate **partnerships between businesses and regional suppliers.**

# Ongoing project example:

## MI-RAP

Helps local authorities, sectoral agencies and business support organisations attract talents to the music industry and ensure cross-sectoral cooperation and integration of emerging technologies and green practices.

# Introducing digital tools in public services



**What can you do?**

# Design inclusive services

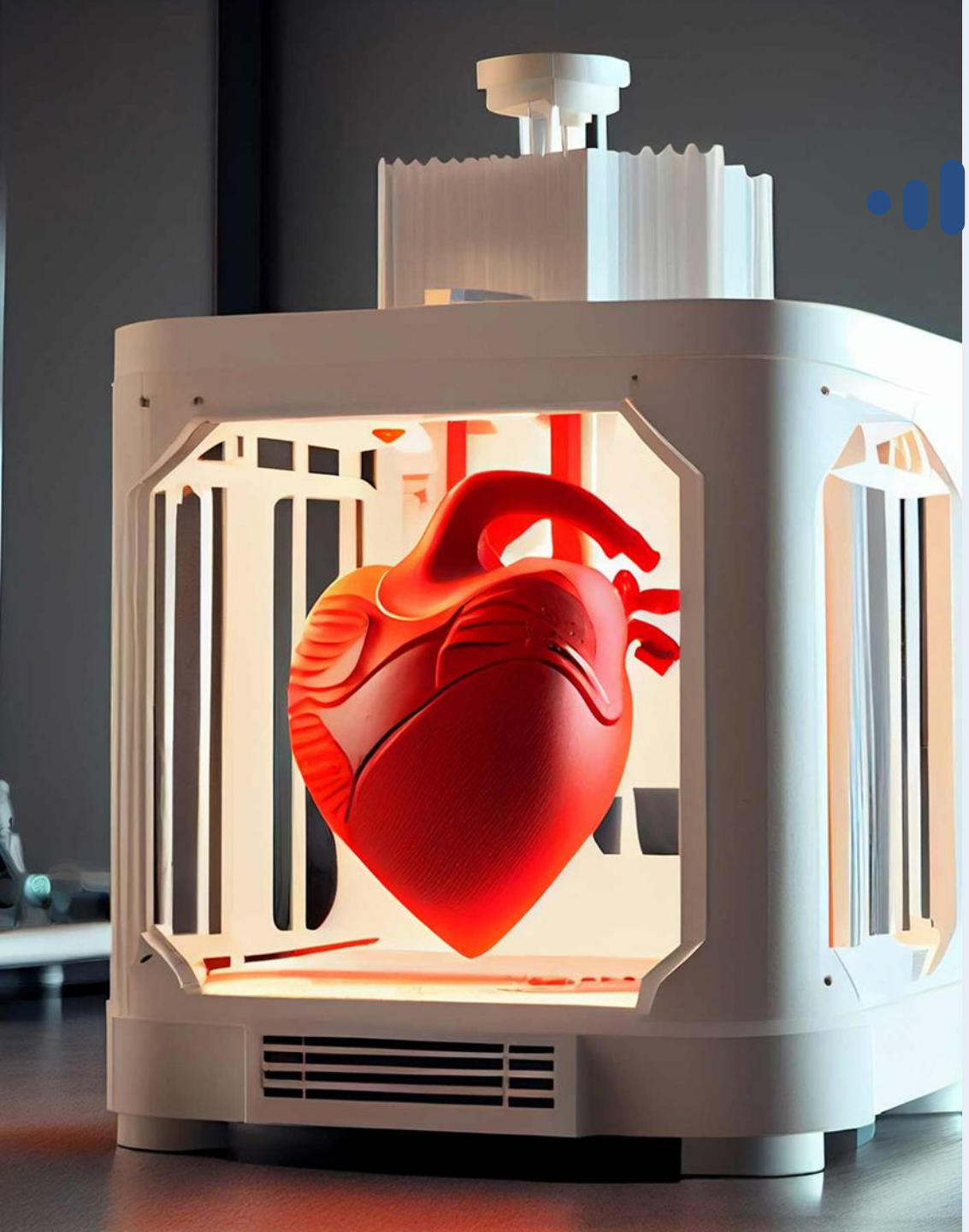
*Possible directions:*

Facilitate inclusion of vulnerable groups via **improved digital access to social services** and administrative requirements.

# Transform public services

*Possible directions:*

Test **gamification** approaches **to strengthen the participation** of marginalised groups in public life.



# Ongoing project example:

## CAIDX

Artificial intelligence (AI) providers and healthcare institutions work on helping healthcare professionals integrate AI, and thus improve diagnostics and treatment.

# Develop trustworthy digital services

*Possible directions:*

Improve **secure data exchange** between various public authorities databases to streamline e-services provision.

# Introducing digital tools to monitor and respond to arising challenges

## What can you do?

# Upgrading authorities responsiveness

*Possible directions:*

Optimise **digital surveillance models** to enable fast and informed decision-making to tackle biodiversity challenges.

**What can you do?**

# Enhancing climate change monitoring

*Possible directions:*

Pilot citizens-supported **online monitoring systems** to swiftly identify risks related to climate change.

What can you do?

# Harmonising systems

*Possible directions:*

**Harmonise data collection systems** to enable rapid responses to emergency events and environmental threats.

**Something else on your mind?**
No problem, we accept other good ideas for building Resilient economies and communities & Responsive public services, too.

**For details & examples of what we fund, go to the interreg-baltic.eu/gateway**

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# Inspirations from the EUSBSR policy area coordinators

Elena Kolosova, Senior Advisor For External Cooperation

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EUSBSR EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

## Coordinators of the policy area Innovation:

- The Baltic Institute of Finland, **Esa Kokkonen**
- Ministry of Education and Science, Poland, **Zuzanna Kozłowska**
- Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Estonia, **Kristi Aruküla**

https://www.eusbsr.eu/contacts/eusbsr-actors

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# Inspiration from policy area Innovation

**Digitalisation of public services**, by developing

- interoperable and open digital solutions in public services (e.g. in smart cities/villages context/domains)
- human-centered digital transformation

For example, by focusing on

- safe and ethical adoption of AI (ref. the new EU AI Act) and digital trust
- digitally enhanced citizen-participation, e.g. through the use of XR technologies related to real urban/public spaces and services

**Digitally enabled green transition and climate actions**, e.g. through

- AI and data-driven urban solutions like local digital twins and IoT platforms (e.g. in smart infrastructure development and monitoring, optimized resource allocation, environmental and disaster risk management)
- digital transformation of bio/circular/blue economy
- collaborative (digital) BSR climate actions under EU climate and cities missions

https://www.eusbsr.eu/pa-innovation-about

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## Coordinators of the policy area Secure:

- Council of the Baltic Sea States Secretariat (CBSS), **Andriy Martynenko & Vineta Polatside**

- Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, **Julia Fredriksson**

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# Inspiration from policy area Secure

**Theme 1: Increasing the region's resilience to the consequences of climate change through improved capacity of national governments and local administrations in:**

- Integration of climate risks into national risk assessments
- Improved understanding of current, emergent, and future risks at the local level

**Theme 2: Whole-of-society approach in preparedness, prevention and response to disasters**

- Forming cross-sectoral, multi-disciplinary platforms consisting of administrations, NGOs, businesses, civil protection agencies, academia, youth and volunteer organisations
- Inclusion of vulnerable groups (minorities, elderly, children, disabled) into the disaster risk reduction activities
- Crisis and risk communication to society (with special focus on vulnerable groups)

**Theme 3: Increasing the supply chain resilience in the region**

- Building the platforms in the region consisting of the supply chain authorities, businesses and other relevant actors

https://www.eusbsr.eu/policy-areas/pa-secure

https://www.bsr-secure.eu/

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# EUSBSR policy area coordinators supporting Interreg Baltic Sea Region applicants

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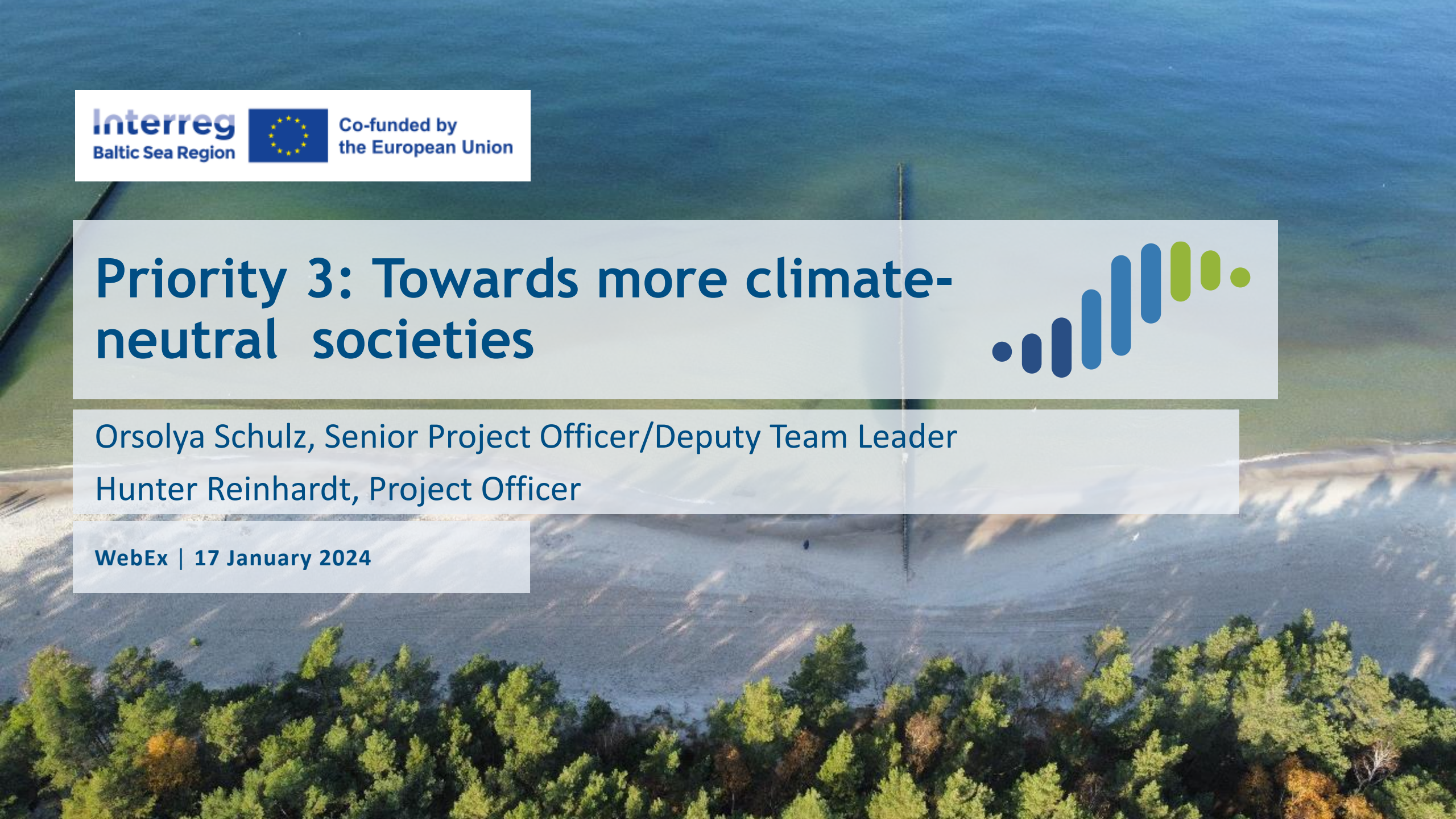

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# Priority 3: Towards more climate-neutral societies

Orsolya Schulz, Senior Project Officer/Deputy Team Leader

Hunter Reinhardt, Project Officer

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# Climate-neutral societies

**Programme objective 3.1** Circular economy

**Programme objective 3.2** Energy transition

**Programme objective 3.3** Smart green mobility

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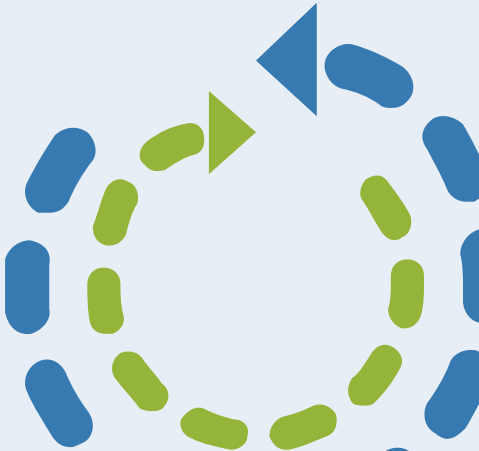
# Why do we address circular economy?

- Growing ecological **footprint** of the region and waste production
- **Overexploitation** of the **natural resources**
- Gap in creating **norms and standards** for circular use of resources
- Solutions to **develop circular strategies** across different sectors



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# Why do we address energy transition?

- Realise **green transition**
- **Decarbonisation**, reduction of greenhouse emissions & supporting **renewable energy**
- Reaction to the **energy crisis**
- Different levels of **energy production & consumption**

# Why do we address mobility?

- Need to **mitigate greenhouse gas emission** and other pollution stemming from **increasing passenger and freight mobility**
- Need for **further support to urban areas** and their **hinterlands**
- Need to change to **green and alternative fuels** and **multimodal mobility**
- Need for better **use of information in mobility systems**

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# Focus exclusively on climate change

# Four specific thematic blocks

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- Planning processes in sectors key to mitigating climate change
- Participatory and inclusive approaches
- Generation, distribution and storage of energy
- Promoting circular practices

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# Planning processes in sectors key to mitigating climate change

- **Adopting** and **implementing** integrated and systemic approaches
- E.g. transport, energy, building and constructions, waste management sectors etc.

**Planning processes in sectors key to mitigating climate change**

# Examples

- Developing and testing a “material bank” or marketplace to improve resource management and match construction and demolition waste producers with possible consumers

**Planning processes in sectors key to mitigating climate change**

# Examples

- **Work with national authorities on the integration of bio-gas into their energy strategy and boost the legal framework in line with the needs of the users and producers**

**Planning processes in sectors key to mitigating climate change**

# Examples

- **Develop and test innovative planning and collaboration solutions for municipalities and businesses to develop last mile cargo bike logistic plans**

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# Participatory and inclusive approaches

- Mainstreaming climate concious solutions with specific attention on **vulnerable users** and **territories**
- Ensuring a **fair transition**

## Participatory and inclusive approaches

# Examples

- Establish long lasting collaboration among municipalities, NGOs, and citizens to e.g. create and maintain a digital tool for collecting and redistributing functioning or repairable household objects

## Participatory and inclusive approaches

# Examples

- **Equip municipalities with knowledge and planning processes on initiating and creating positive energy districts with special focus on the more vulnerable neighbourhoods.**

## Participatory and inclusive approaches

# Examples

- Implementing solutions to help municipalities set up sharing economy initiatives with entrepreneur and citizen support at circular hubs

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# Generation, distribution and storage of energy

- Implementing effective strategies in transforming the energy sector

- harbours as green energy hubs

Generation, Distribution and storage of energy

# Examples

- Assist cities in implementing systems for balancing energy loads in residential areas, such as smart metering systems

Generation, Distribution and storage of energy

# Examples

- Coordinating energy policies across borders, connecting regional and national authorities to develop a more integrated, pan-BSR energy generation system, and aligning national frameworks

Generation, Distribution and storage of energy

# Examples

- **Building citizens' or infrastructural energy resilience in the face of climate change, especially in underserviced or disadvantaged regions**

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# Promoting circular practices

- Supporting **businesses** and **communities** in taking up circular practicies
- E.g. Encourage the uptake of norms and standards by cities or businesses

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# Examples

- Developing and applying pathways incl. policies and incentives to restrict single use products in a selected area of public procurement

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# Examples

- Testing and applying circular solutions to storm- and waste water in municipal or regional water infrastructural systems

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# Examples

- Develop pathways for industrial symbiosis in carbon-intensive industries like cement-making, helping cities and regions plan for district heating.

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# Inspirations from the EUSBSR policy area coordinators

Elena Kolosova, Senior Advisor For External Cooperation

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## Coordinators of the policy area Bioeconomy:

- Nordic Council of Ministers Secretariat, **Kristian Ersbøll Berg Poulsen & Torfi Jóhannesson**
- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland, **Leena Anttila**
- Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania, **Dalia Miniataite & Vitalija Fokienė**
- Swedish Board of Agriculture, **Fredric Nilsson**

https://www.eusbsr.eu/contacts/eusbsr-actors

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# Inspiration from policy area Bioeconomy

Overall focus: **Circular Bioeconomy**

Areas:

- **Urban agriculture**
- Development of **closed circulatory production systems** based on insects, hydroponics, micro-organisms (yeast, algae, bacteria), aquaculture
- **Industrial symbiosis**

https://www.eusbsr.eu/policy-areas/pa-bioeconomy

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- Ministry of Climate, Estonia, **Reesi Runnel**
- Lithuanian Energy Agency, **Vytenis Barkauskas & Aušra Piliuvienė**
- European Commission, DG Energy, **Anca-Iulia Cimpeanu**

https://www.eusbsr.eu/contacts/eusbsr-actors

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# Inspiration from policy area Energy

- Developing plans to **utilize local renewable energy sources**, e.g. in agriculture, industry, and defence
- Analysing and testing **solutions for security of energy supply** challenges related to increasing the share of renewable energy sources
- Strengthening of **an integrated and more systematic approach to energy policy planning**, including strengthening analytical competence and tools, local and municipality level of National Energy and Climate Plans
- Piloting actions that strengthen the **involvement of citizens** such as accelerating the deployment of demand response solutions and development of energy hubs and green energy communities;
- Piloting actions that strengthen the **acceptance of development of renewable energy** among citizens;
- Development of solutions that increase **energy efficiency** in particular in buildings and in industrial production processes (e.g. addressing different existing barriers to speed up a '**renovation wave**').

https://www.eusbsr.eu/pa-energy-about

# EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

## Coordinators of the policy area Transport:

- Ministry of Climate, Estonia, **Tarmo Ots**
- Association of Transport Innovations, Lithuania, **Inga Ablingienė**

https://www.eusbsr.eu/contacts/eusbsr-actors

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# Inspiration from policy area Transport

PA Transport recommendations are based on the **European Commission Communication on the New EU Urban Mobility Framework** :

- Developing **heat/emission maps with real-time mobility data** for promoting clean transport modes, i.e. electric vehicles, walkers, bicycles, public transport, etc.
- Development of **alternative transport concepts for regions or towns**, replacing inefficient approaches, for instance – urban logistics and last-mile delivery projects.
- Integration of **new and innovative modes of transport into existing traffic**/mobility systems using 5G, CCAM (cooperative, connected and automated mobility) etc. which replace more polluting approaches.
- **Exploration of Urban Air Mobility**, encouraging municipalities to experiment with different use cases and formulate a UAM vision and strategy.

https://www.eusbsr.eu/pa-transport-about

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# EUSBSR policy area coordinators supporting Interreg Baltic Sea Region applicants

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# Application process: support & next steps

Anna Gałyga, Senior Communication Officer/ Deputy Team Leader

**WebEx | 17 January 2024**

# Application process

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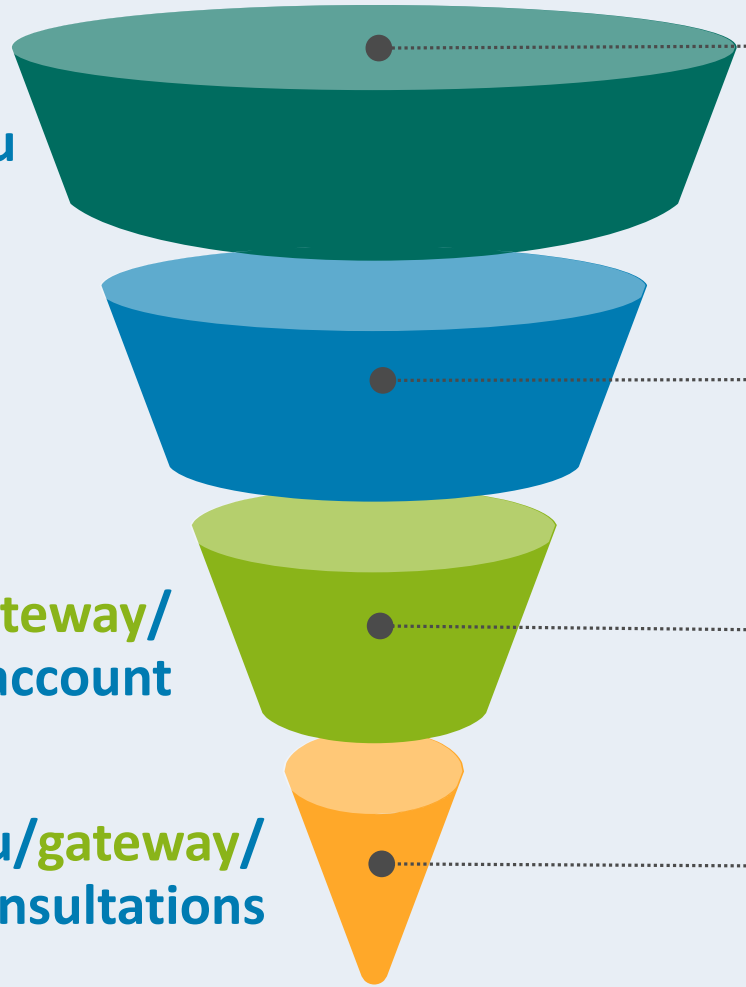
baplus.bamos.eu



**Submit your application + partner declarations + contact/bank info**

**Request a consultation**

interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/bamos-account

**Request access to BAMOS+**

interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/consultations

**Submit a Project Idea Form (PIF)**

# Application process

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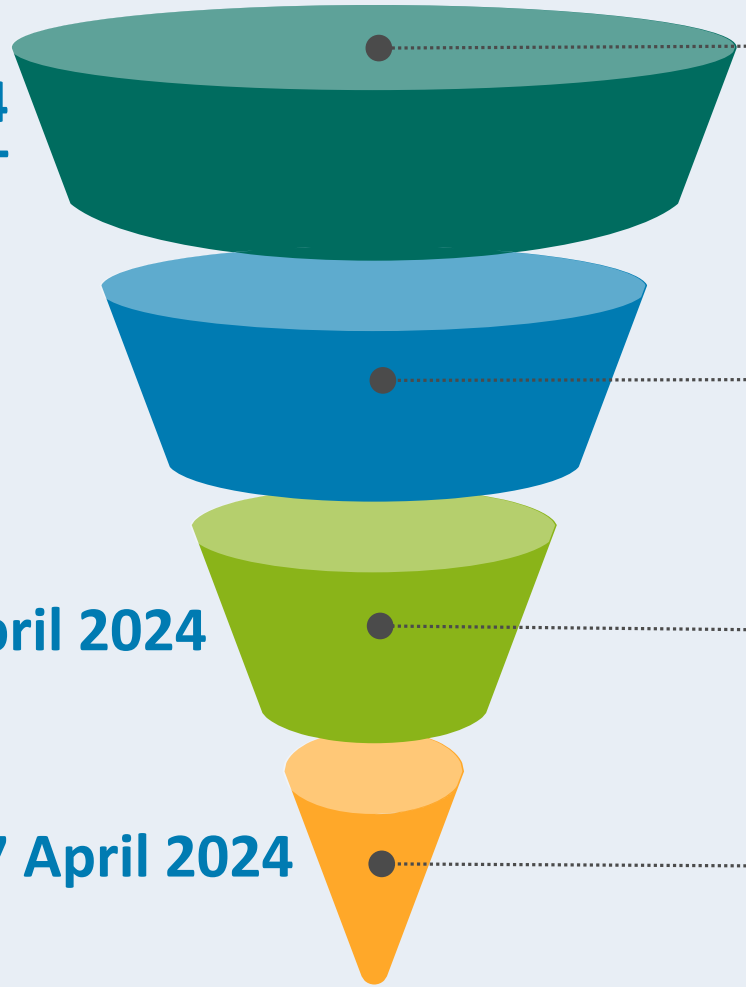
21 June 2024
16:00 CEST



Submit your application
+ partner declarations
+ contact/bank info

Request a consultation

17 April 2024

Request access to BAMOS+

17 April 2024

Submit a Project Idea Form (PIF)

# Your gateway

## Your support package

- **Documents** you need to get access to BAMOS+ and to apply for funding;
- Application **process & timelines;**
- **Consulations;**
- **Guidance materials** (Programme Manual; info materials; video tutorials);
- Upcoming **webinars.**

# Checkpoints

## Good to know

Condense info for newcomers at interreg-baltic.eu/**funding**

Checklist to make sure you fit at interreg-baltic.eu/funding/**checklist**

# Video tutorials

**interreg baltic.eu/gateway/tutorials/**

- On Programme **objectives;**
- On **the budget** and simplified cost options;
- On **good quality** core projects;
- On **how to apply** *(coming soon);*
- On **matchmaking** platform.

# Webinars on the way

- **24 and 25 January** — Webinar on good quality projects: shaping content & planning finances
- **31 January** — Info event for Latvian applicants
- **8 February** — Info event for Polish applicants

# Webinars on the way

- **21 February** Thematic webinar (repeated)
- **27 February** UBC talks
- **28 and 29 February** Webinar on good quality projects: shaping content & planning finances (repeated)

# Matchmaking platform

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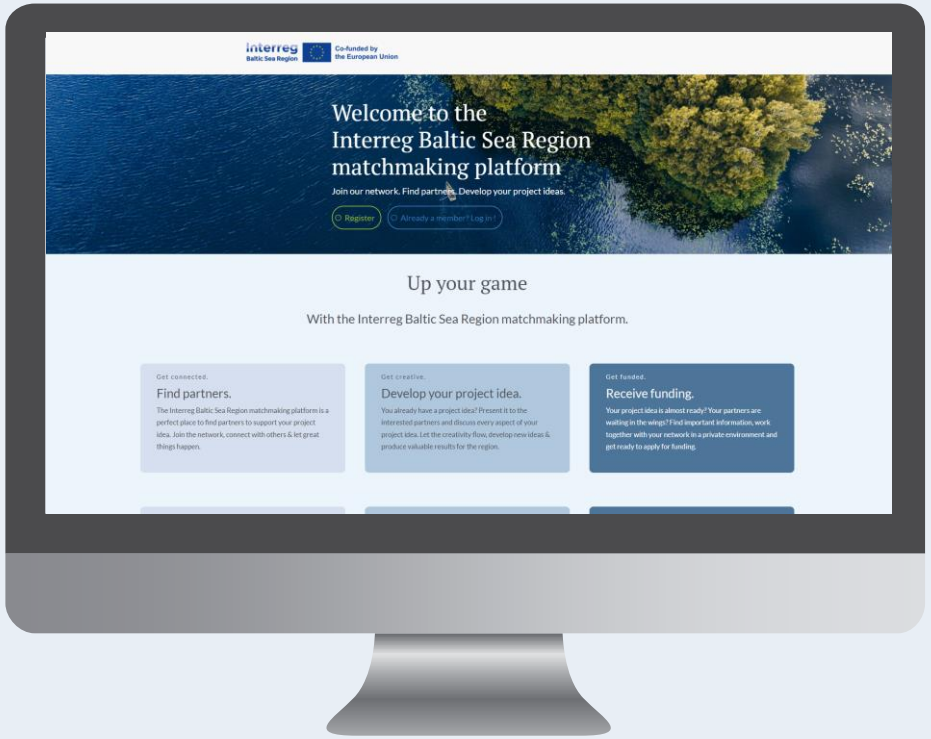
## Join the community

- Secure environment & **strong community** of ca. 1400 people;
- Platform to **search for and connect with** relevant partners;
- **Project idea groups** for joint development of project applications;
- Flexible setting of visibility & access.




**matchmaking.interreg-baltic.eu**

# Next steps

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**21 June 2024**

**Admissibility check**
Note: we may contact you

**Assessment**
by MA/JS

**Monitoring Committee**
analyses projects

**13-14 Nov 2024**
**Monitoring Committee**
selects projects

**Results published at**
interreg-baltic.eu

**Approval & rejection letters** sent

**Contracting**
starts

**Clarification in BAMOS+**
Note: we will contact you

**Contracting**
Ends (approx. 3 months)

**Start of project implementation**

# Wrap-up

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## Information:

Gateway for applicants

Matchmaking platform

## Deadlines:

| | |
|---|---|
| Submit PIF | 17 April 2024 |
| Request access to BAMOS+ | 17 April 2024 |
| Submit application (& co.) | 21 June 2024 16:00 CEST |

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