

**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



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



Webinar

WebEx | 21 February 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

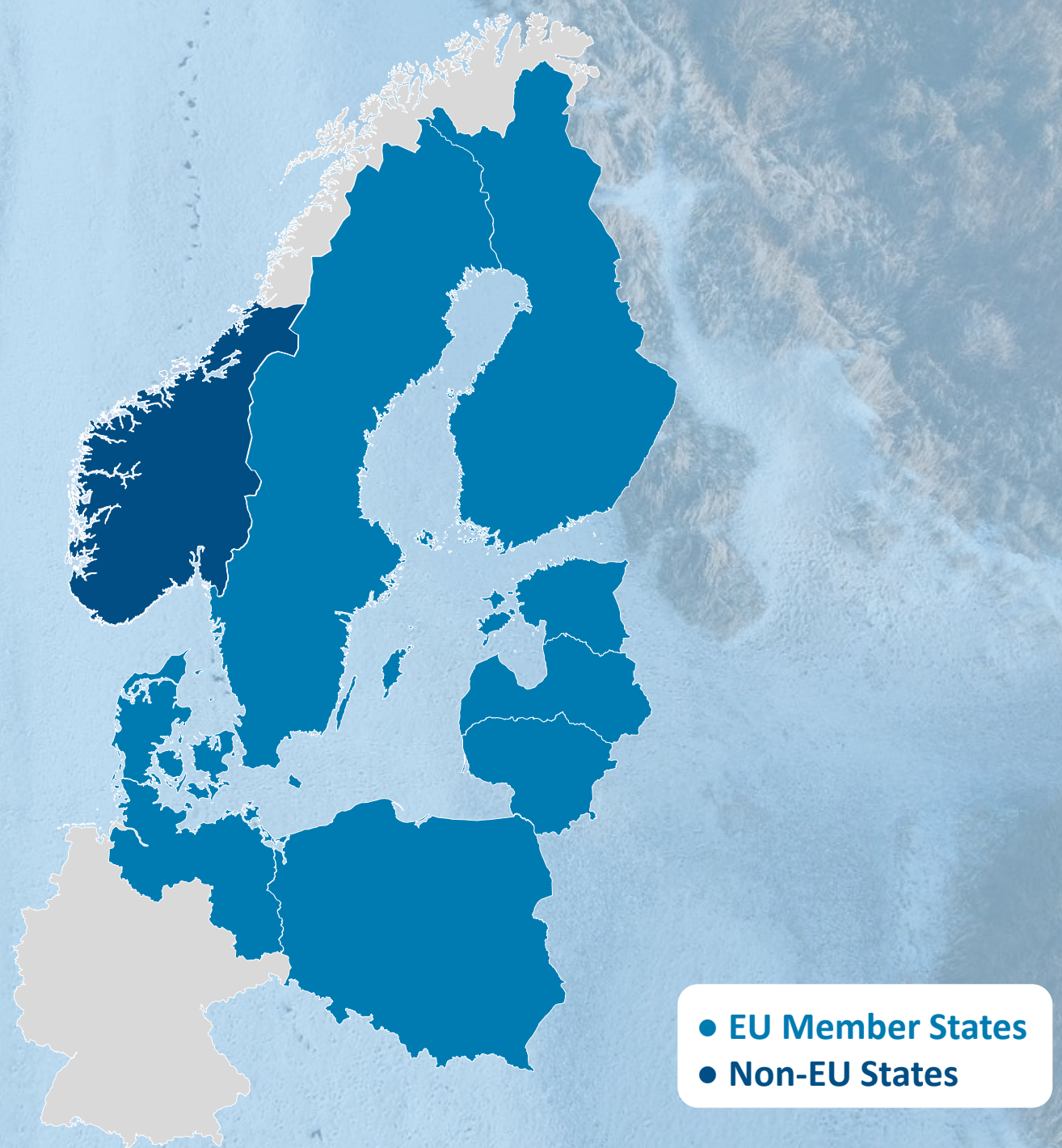
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**We put into practice innovative,  
water-smart and climate-neutral solutions  
through transnational cooperation  
for the benefit of citizens across  
the Baltic Sea region.**

# Programme area

- ✓ Denmark
- ✓ Estonia
- ✓ Finland
- ✓ Germany
- ✓ Latvia
- ✓ Lithuania
- ✓ Poland
- ✓ Sweden
- ✓ Norway



# We're on the mission

2021-27  
so far:

85

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# Distribution of projects per Priority













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[interreg-baltic.eu/projects](https://interreg-baltic.eu/projects)



# Our goals

## 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

# Third call for Priority 1 and Priority 3



# Core projects

Core changes for the region.

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





# Funds for projects in this call



ERDF

# Call for *great* ideas!

Gateway  
for applicants



## Timeline

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



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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**?

- 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...**



PRIORITY 1  
Innovative  
societies

- ✓ 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?

EMERGENCY  
PLAN



SOS

## Increase disaster preparedness

*Possible directions:*

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





What can  
you do?

COORDINATION

## Increase disaster preparedness

*Possible directions:*

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







What can  
you do?



## 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.



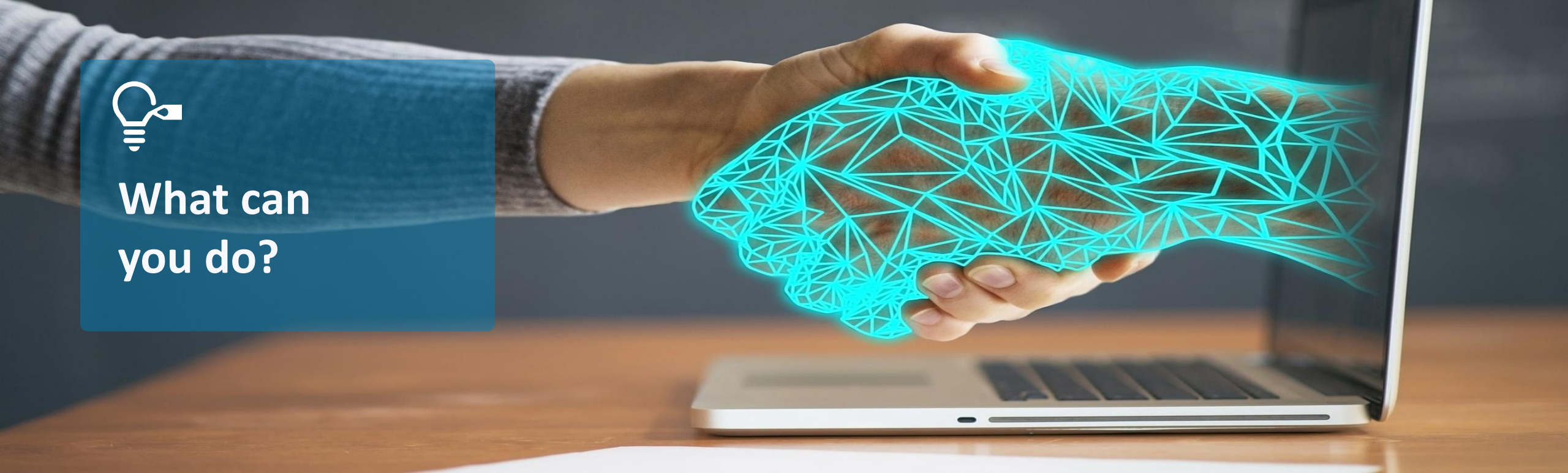


# Ensuring the communities' well-being and safety





What can  
you do?



## 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.





What can  
you do?

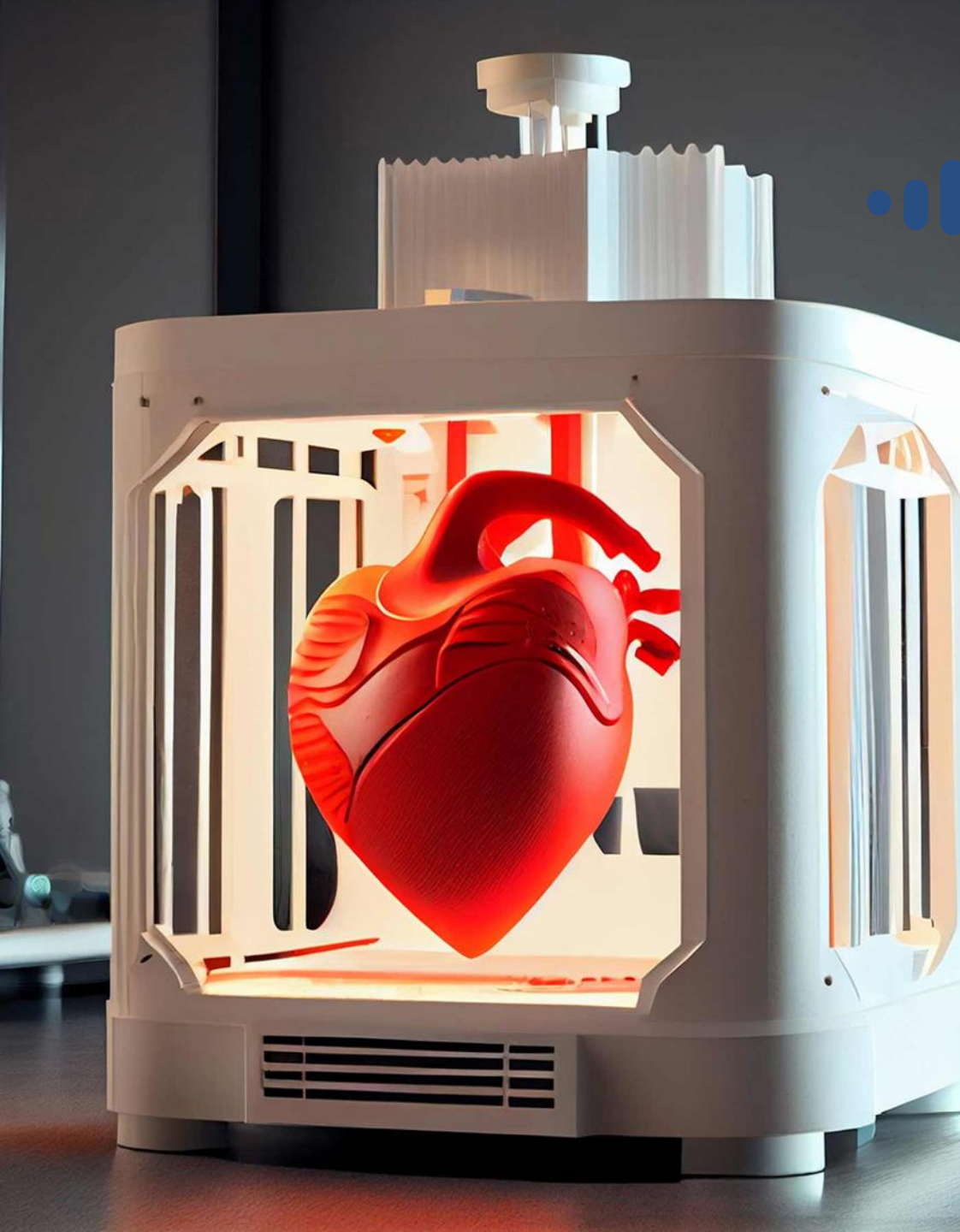
GAMIFICATION  
STRATEGY!

## Transform public services

*Possible directions:*

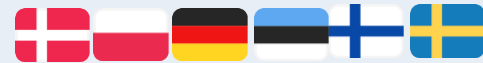
Test **gamification** approaches to strengthen the participation of marginalised groups in public life.





## Ongoing project example:

**CAIDX**



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



What can  
you do?

## 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](https://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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# Connect your project idea to the macro-region!

Find contacts at [interreg-baltic.eu/gateway](https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway)

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



[balticsea-region-strategy.eu](https://balticsea-region-strategy.eu)

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# EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

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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**

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





### 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/>

# EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

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## 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>





### 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>





# EUSBSR policy area coordinators supporting Interreg Baltic Sea Region applicants



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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

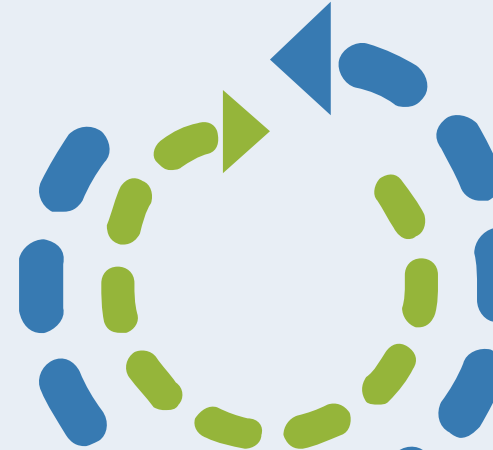
**Programme objective 3.2** Energy transition

**Programme objective 3.3** Smart green mobility



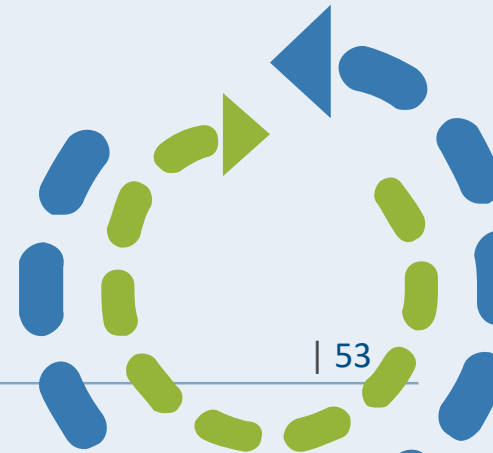
# Why do we address **circular economy**?

- 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



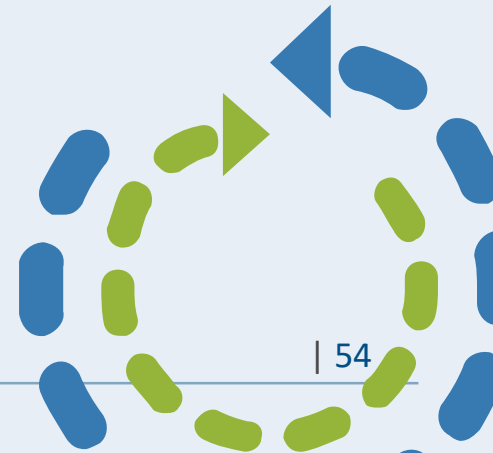
# Why do we address **energy transition**?

- 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**





# Focus exclusively on climate change

# Four specific thematic blocks



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



**Participatory and  
inclusive approaches**



**Generation,  
distribution and  
storage of energy**



**Promoting circular  
practices**







## 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





## Participatory and inclusive approaches

- Mainstreaming climate conscious 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







## 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**

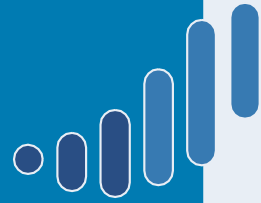


## Promoting circular practices

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



## Promoting circular practices



## Examples

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





## Promoting circular practices



## Examples

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





## Promoting circular practices



## 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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# EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

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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>





## 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>

# EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

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## Coordinators of the policy area Energy:



- Ministry of Climate and Energy, Latvia, **Marija Zjurikova, Ilze Prūse & Aija Timofejeva**
- 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>





### 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>

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## Coordinators of the policy area Transport:

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



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EU STRATEGY  
FOR THE BALTIC  
SEA REGION

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





### 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>



# EUSBSR policy area coordinators supporting Interreg Baltic Sea Region applicants





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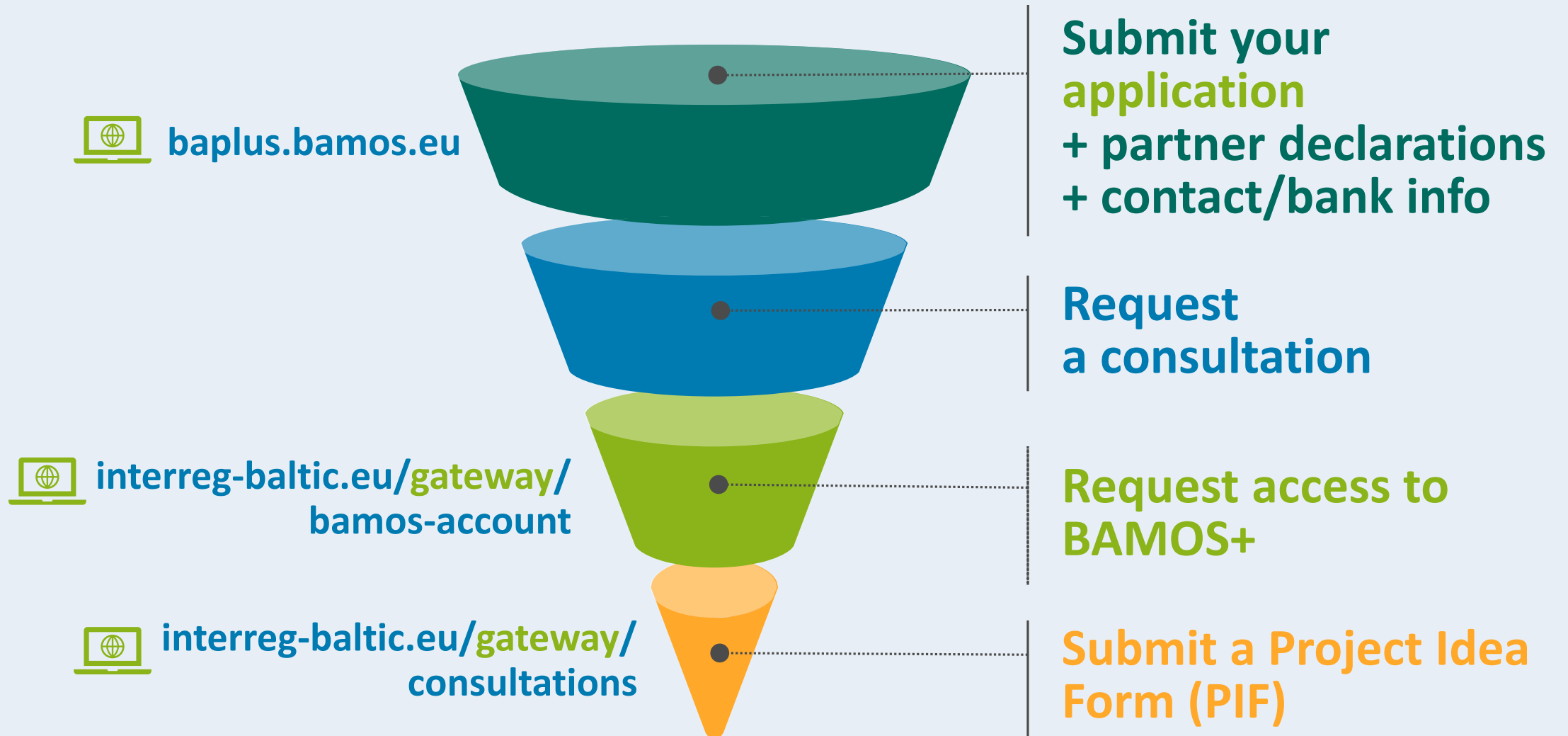
# Application process: support & next steps




Anna Zaccaro, Junior Communication Officer

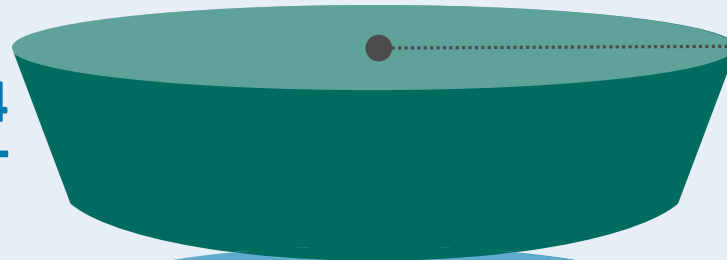
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# Application process



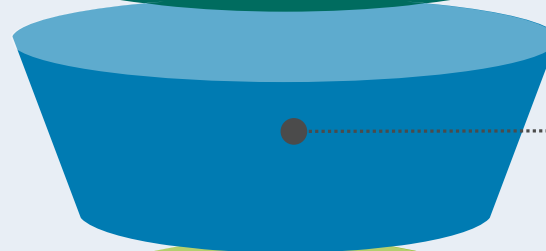
# Application process

 21 June 2024  
16:00 CEST



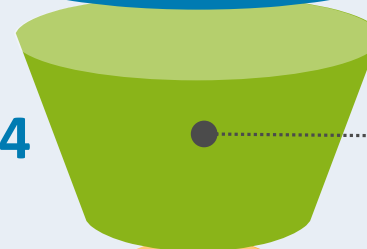
Submit your  
**application**  
+ partner declarations  
+ contact/bank info

 17 April 2024



Request  
a consultation

 17 April 2024



Request access to  
**BAMOS+**



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**;
- **Consultations**;
- **Guidance materials** (Programme Manual; info materials; video tutorials);
- Upcoming **webinars**.



# Checkpoints

## Good to know



Condense info for newcomers at [interreg-baltic.eu/funding](https://interreg-baltic.eu/funding)



Checklist to make sure you fit at [interreg-baltic.eu/funding/checklist](https://interreg-baltic.eu/funding/checklist)



## Video tutorials

[interreg baltic.eu/gateway/tutorials/](https://interreg-baltic.eu/gateway/tutorials/)

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



## Webinars on the way

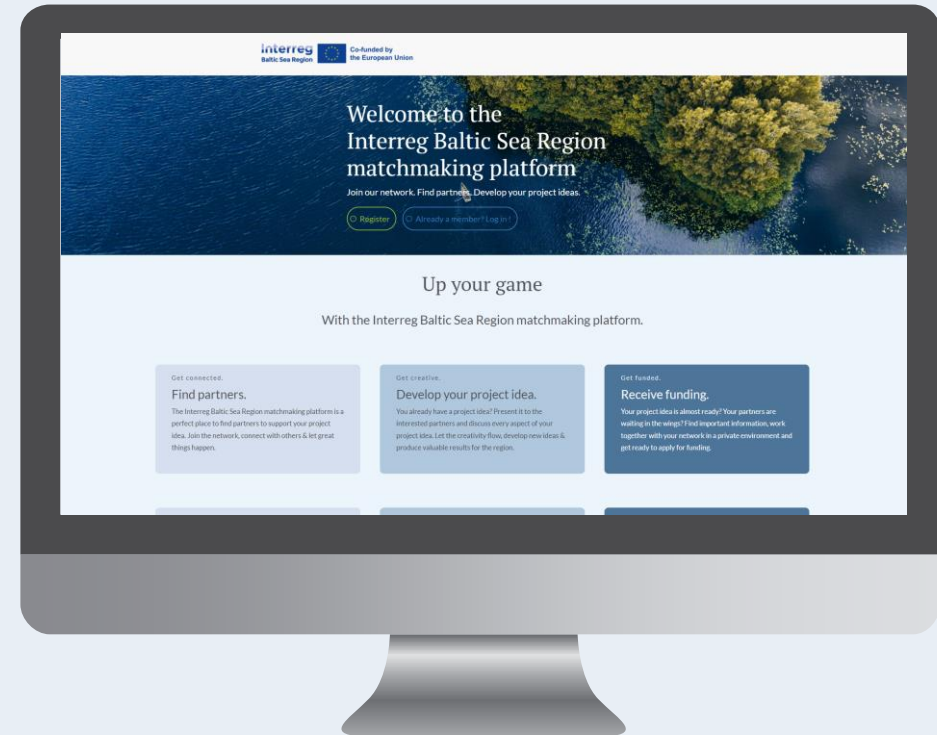
- **22 February** Info event for applicants (in Estonian)
- **27 February** UBC talks
- **28 and 29 February** Webinar on good quality projects: shaping content & planning finances  
*(repeated)*



# Matchmaking platform

## 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](https://matchmaking.interreg-baltic.eu)





# Next steps



Start of project  
implementation

21 June 2024

**Assessment**  
by MA/JS

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

**Approval  
& rejection  
letters** sent

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



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

**Monitoring  
Committee**  
analyses  
projects

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


**Contracting**  
starts

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



# Wrap-up

## 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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