

A coordinated approach to shared priorities



3 June 2020

2021-2027 in the Baltic Sea region - A coordinated approach

Online





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Outline

The draft regulatory proposals for 2021-2027 Cohesion Policy underline cooperation as a horizontal objective. Synergies and complementarities across funding programmes are encouraged. Taking this into account, as a part of Interact's support to the post-2020 programming, Interact is organising meetings bringing together Interreg programmes (both CBC and transnational) as well as ENI programmes for a discussion on territorial impact and coordination. Such pilot events will be held in four different geographies in Europe, one of those being the Baltic Sea region.

The overall aim of this regional forum remains unchanged. On the one hand, it is to raise awareness among programmes on what other programmes will thematically focus on in 2021-2027. And on the other hand, to discuss possible synergies of programme contributions to the main thematic challenges for the Baltic Sea region.

Taking into account the changed situation, the meeting will be held online with slightly adjusted content (see in the agenda below) and encouraging more preparatory work by the event participants prior to the event.

Main target group for the meeting are the programmes' Managing Authorities. However, if considered relevant, the participation of Member States' or Joint Secretariat representatives is welcome.

Objective

The objective of the meeting is to enhance the exchange between programmes and to support coordination in programming Interreg 2021-2027 in the Baltic Sea region. It will provide an overview of thematic directions the different programmes intend to take in 2021-2027 and an initial exchange on possible complementarities.

In addition, it will be jointly discussed how the governance structures of the EUSBSR and other regional coordination and cooperation formats could be exploited in the coordination context.



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Preparations (Participants)

By Wednesday, 22 April: Survey on thematic directions

To serve us all as background for the discussion, we would like to compile an (updated) overview on the (preliminary) thematic directions of the 2021-2027 programmes in the BSR. Therefore we are appreciating if you could fill in, some of you again, the online survey (one input per programme) by 22 April. To access the online survey, [please click here](#).

By Wednesday, 29 April: Sharing replies received in the survey on thematic directions

Interact will compile the input to the survey into an overview and will share it with all registered event participants. It will provide us all preliminary identification on which funding programme in the BSR might consider tackling similar issues.

During May: Initial exchange among programmes

Building on the replies, during May we encourage programmes to proactively contact other programmes to elaborate cooperation possibilities and to exchange on possible overlaps, synergies and coordination. These initial exchanges could cover topics and questions as e.g. the specific focus of your programmes contributing to the same thematic objectives and which specific activities you intend to support; which thematic areas would benefit from a coordinated approach across programmes; what kind of coordination activities you have already established or plan to establish; how does the COVID crisis influences your thematic choices and supported activities in your future programme, etc.

Wednesday, 3 June 2020 (Central European Time)

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|---------------|---|
| 09.00 – 09.30 | Checking in and technical questions regarding online meeting (tool) |
| 09.30 – 09.40 | Welcome and Introduction to the meeting
<i>Interact</i> |
| 09.40 – 10.40 | (EUS)BSR and Interreg: Thematic relevance and potentials for closer coordination, taking into account lessons learnt from the COVID crisis for designing future programmes? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does (preliminary) thematic directions indicated in the survey connect to the territorial framework of the Baltic Sea region? What are common themes by programmes that link to to the EUSBSR?
<i>Maxi Nachtigall, EUSBSR PA Hazards / Swedish Environmental Protection Agency</i>• The coordinated approach in the Arctic in 2014-2020
<i>Päivi Ekdahl, Regional Council of Lapland / ENI CBC Kolarctic</i>• Questions and answers |



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Objectives of the session: this session will provide a reflection from the perspective of the EUSBSR (Policy Area Coordinators) on the thematic orientation of Interreg programmes present at the online event. Contribution of the programmes to and potentials for coordination with the help of the EUSBSR will be addressed.

In addition, experiences and lessons learnt from a coordinated approach in the Arctic in 2014-2020 will be shared and hereby inspirations provided for the Baltic Sea region in 2021-2027.

10.40 – 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30 (EUS)BSR and Interreg: Preliminary plans and ideas for thematics in Interreg programmes in 2021-2027

Tour de table by participants/programmes

- Short update on the programming progress
- Thematic discussion/prioritisation within the programme
- What are common themes programmes plan to focus on
- Answers to the three key questions discussed beforehand

Objectives of the session: this session will provide an overview on how far in the programming process the Interreg programmes in the Baltic Sea region are and what are, at this point of time, the thematic orientation of the future programmes. In addition, it will provide an opportunity to present and discuss the answers from the exchange among participants before the meeting on the three key questions (*see above*).

12.30 – 13.00 **W**rap-up of the discussions and Closure of the event

- How can Interact support coordination between Interreg programmes and EUSBSR in the Baltic Sea Region?
- Next steps and following activities (e.g. meeting in II/2020).

Interact



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Practicalities

Online meeting and meeting times

All times indicated in this agenda are CET (Brussels time).

We will meet online using our video conferencing tool Zoom. Accessing and using Zoom is very simple. Together with the confirmation of your registration, we will provide you with the link to the virtual meeting room and technical instructions.

To enable a swift start of the online meeting at 10:00 on 3 June, we will open the virtual room as of 09:30 and will be present for your (technical) assistance.

Registration

Please register your participation [here](#) by Friday, 22 May.

Other information

In case of questions, please do not hesitate to address Philipp Schwartz (philipp.schwartz@interact-eu.net, +358 40 556 4237) or Baiba Liepa (baiba.liepa@interact-eu.net, +358 40 159 9430).