

# A coordinated approach to shared priorities



**11 December 2020**

**Cross-border cooperation programmes aiming for more territorial impact in the Baltic Sea region**

Online 9:00-11:00 and 13:00-15:00 CET





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### **Outline**

The EUSBSR is established to identify common needs, problems and opportunities that can be fully exploited only by building and strengthening cooperation that goes beyond borders, sectors and governance levels. The EUSBSR offer an agile and strategic framework for long-term cooperation on clearly defined priorities and actions. The macro-regional strategy as a policy-action framework intended to tackle common complex challenges in an integrated manner, i.e. through alignment of policy, funding and action.

The draft regulatory proposals for 2021-2027 Cohesion Policy underline cooperation as a horizontal objective. The EUSBSR and strategies of partner countries serve well the purpose of building complementarities and synergies across the programmes. Taking this into account, in 2020, Interact organised Interreg programmes' meetings discussing territorial impact and coordination.

The overall aim of this regional forum is to raise awareness among the programmes on thematic focus of other programmes in 2021-2027, and to discuss potentials for synergies in the Baltic Sea Region. Building on earlier exchanges, this meeting will share ideas and discuss ways on how cross-border cooperation programmes can meaningfully and purposefully contribute to shared territorial challenges of the Baltic Sea Region.

Main target groups for the meeting are Interreg and ENI cross-border cooperation programmes representatives (National Authorities, Managing Authorities or Joint Secretariats) and the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) policy area coordinators.

### **Objective**

The objective of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for the programmes and policy area coordinators of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) to get together.

The event will invite participants to exchange practical ways on how cross-border cooperation programmes can play a more active role in implementing shared priorities of the EUSBSR and the strategies of the partner countries. Participants will have an opportunity to raise awareness and clarify uncertainties related to the embedding of the EUSBSR to meet the requirements of the Art 17.4 iv of the draft Interreg regulation.



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**Friday, 11 December 2020 (Central European Time)**

**08.45 – 09.00** Checking in and technical questions regarding online meeting (tool)

**09.00 – 09.30** **Joint session: Welcome and Introduction to the meeting**

*Baiba Liepa, Interact*

*Anders Bergström, EUSBSR Horizontal Action 'Capacity'*

Objectives of the session: The session will set the scene for the event. The objectives of the event, as well as a technical setup of the event, will be introduced to all participants.

**09.30 – 10.45** **Parallel sessions: EUSBSR and Interreg: Let's be introduced**

*Interact will introduce the discussion in both groups:*

*Group 1 – CBC programmes: Baiba Liepa, Interact and Anders Bergström, EUSBSR Horizontal Action 'Capacity'*

*Group 2 – Strategy stakeholders: Ilze Ciganska and Philipp Schwartz, Interact*

Objectives of the session: The session has a two-fold aim which will be addressed by the CBC programme representatives and the Strategy stakeholders in two parallel sessions (breakout rooms). Firstly (for the CBC programmes), it aims to build a common understanding of how strategic frameworks: the EUSBSR and strategies of the partner countries can help to amplify the cross-border cooperation programme impact. Secondly (for strategy stakeholders), the session allows to build knowledge and understanding of Interreg and ENI cross-border cooperation programmes. Both groups will be invited to formulate suggestions for closer collaboration and define open questions to the other group to be discussed jointly. These inputs will shape the discussion during the afternoon session.

**10.45 – 11.00** **Joint session: A summary of the group discussions and sketching open questions**

*Moderated by Interact*

**11.00 – 12.45** *Virtual lunch break*

**12.45 – 13.00** Checking in and technical questions regarding online meeting (tool)

**13.00 – 14.45** **Joint session: EUSBSR and Interreg: Cooperation brings value-added for the entire Baltic Sea Region**

*Moderated by Interact*

Objectives of the session: This joint session is aiming to answer questions identified during the parallel sessions. In addition, participants will have an opportunity to brainstorm about how to



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collaborate between Interreg and ENI cross-border cooperation programmes and existing strategies on shared priorities.

**14.45 – 15.00**

### **Joint session: Wrap-up of the discussion and Closure of the event**

*Baiba Liepa and Philipp Schwartz, Interact*

*Anders Bergström, EUSBSR Horizontal Action 'Capacity'*



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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, we will open the virtual room as of 08:30 and again from 12:45 to 13:00 and will be present for your (technical) assistance.

#### **Registration**

Please register your participation [here](#) by Monday, 7 December.

#### **Other information**

In case of questions, please do not hesitate to address Philipp Schwartz ([philipp.schwartz@interact-eu.net](mailto:philipp.schwartz@interact-eu.net), +358 40 556 4237) or Baiba Liepa ([baiba.liepa@interact-eu.net](mailto:baiba.liepa@interact-eu.net), +358 401599430).