Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021-2027

Programme presentation

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Programme presentation

Place | Date

Presenter(s)

Interreg Baltic Sea Region is a **source of EU funding** for those with **smart ideas** of how to **shape the region**.

Interreg Baltic Sea Region is a source of EU funding for those with smart ideas of how to shape the region.

We provide **more than money:**
We create an environment
for **working together**
to **let great solutions**
become **common practice.**

Value statements.

Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021-2027

Supporting transition

Towards greener and more resilient societies and economies through transnational cooperation

Transfer of knowledge and capacity building

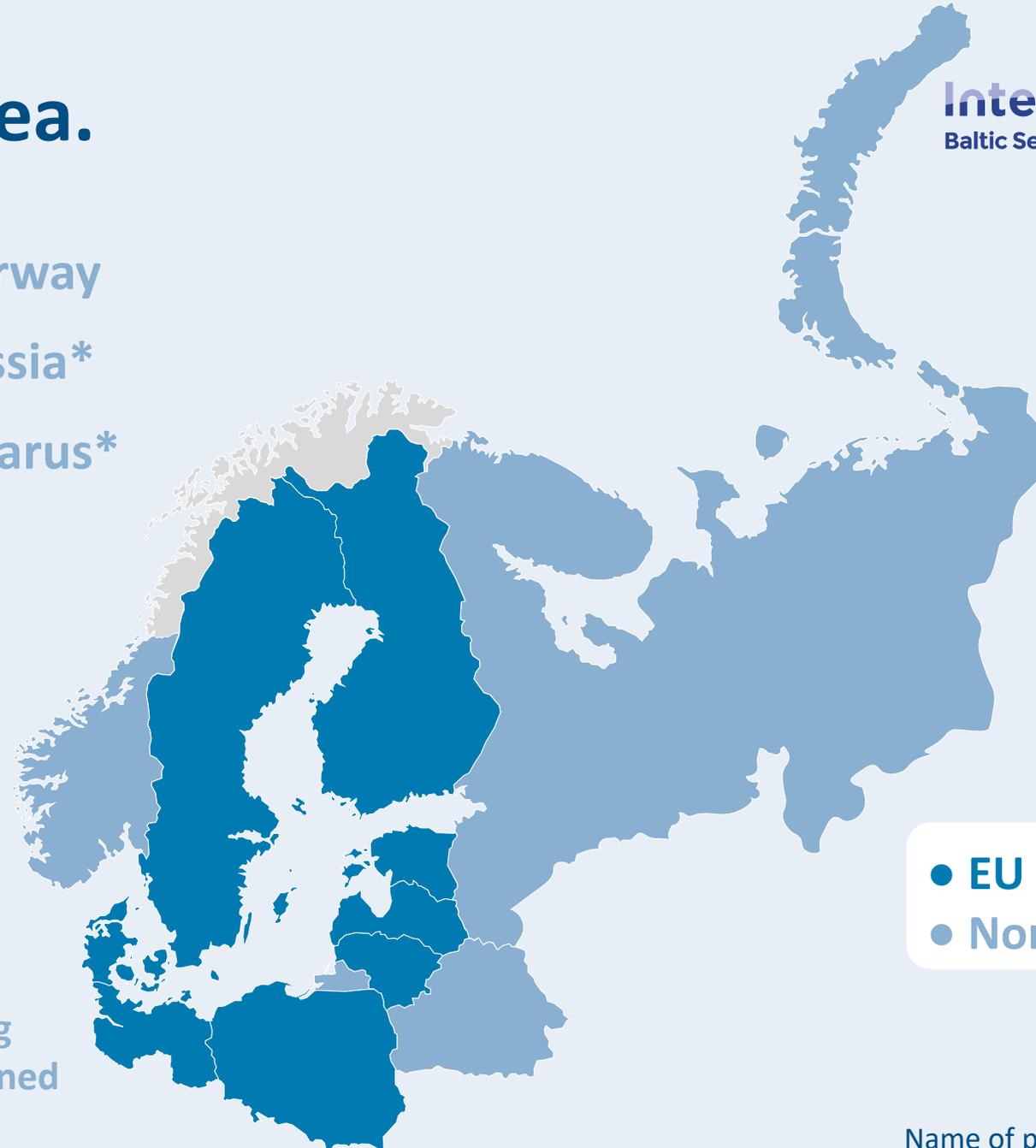### Customer orientation

focusing on the needs of public authorities

Programme area.

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region

Co-funded by
the European Union

✓ **Denmark**   ✓ Norway

✓ **Estonia**   ✓ Russia*

✓ **Finland**   ✓ Belarus*

✓ **Germany**

✓ **Latvia**

✓ **Lithuania**

✓ **Poland**

✓ **Sweden**

*on the condition that financing
agreements with the EU are signed

● **EU Member States**
● **Non-EU Member States**

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Topics for cooperation

Programme objective.

4 priorities including
9 Programme **objectives**

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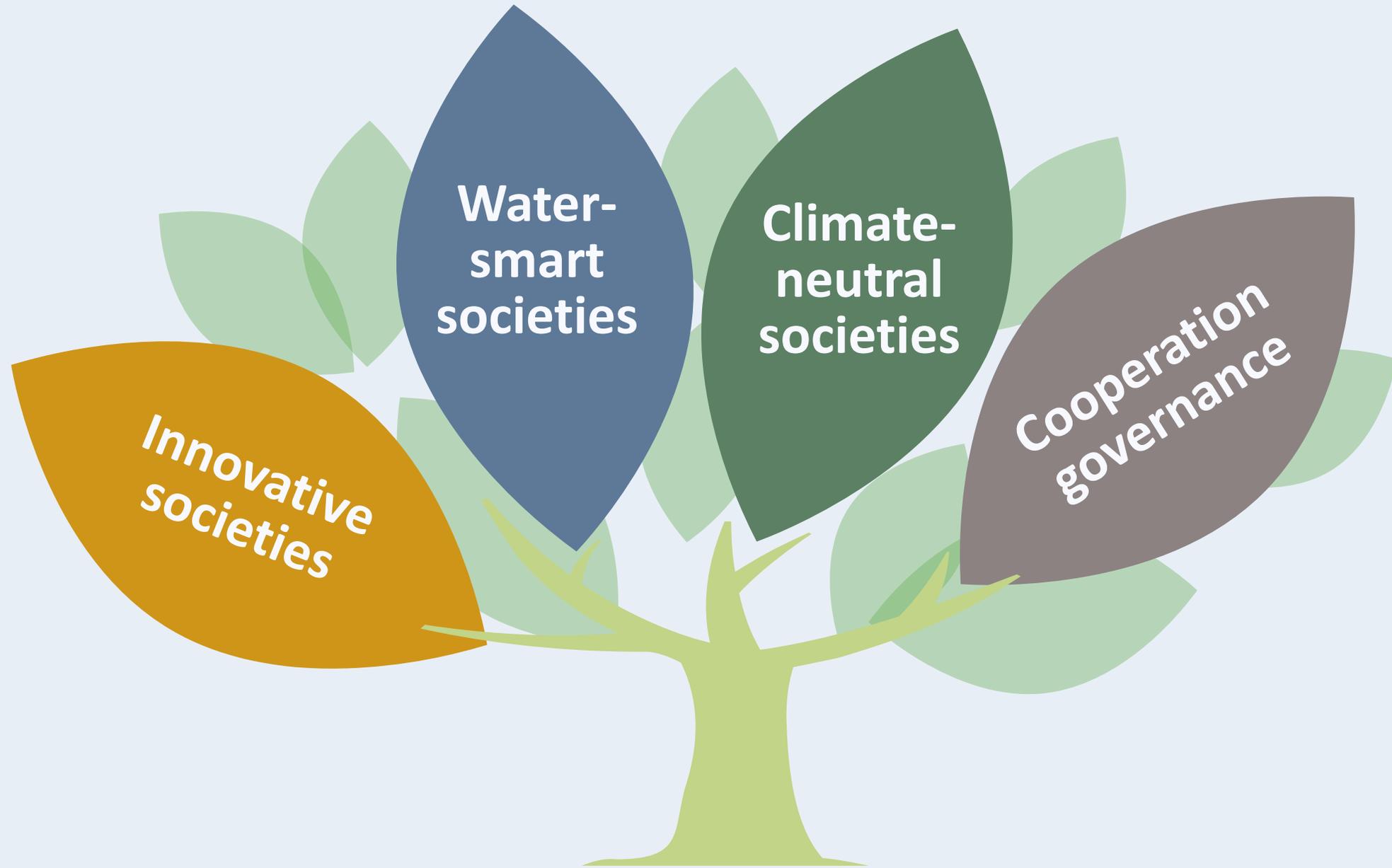for the **benefit of citizens** across
the Baltic Sea region."

Thematic framework.

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Innovative societies

PRIORITY 1

Programme objective: 1.1
Resilient economies and communities

Programme objective: 1.2
Responsive public services

Water-smart societies

PRIORITY 2

Programme objective: 2.1
Sustainable waters

Programme objective: 2.2
Blue economy

Climate-neutral societies

PRIORITY 3

Programme objective: 3.1
Circular economy

Programme objective: 3.2
Energy transition

Programme objective: 3.3
Smart green mobility

Cooperation governance

PRIORITY 4

Programme objective: 4.1
Project platforms

Programme objective: 4.2
Macro-regional governance

Innovative societies

Programme objective 1.1 Resilient economies and communities

Programme objective 1.2 Responsive public services

Note: The Programme priorities and objectives are subject to approval by the Programme countries & the European Commission

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1.1
Resilient economies and communities

Building **sustainable**, **fair**, **innovative** and **resilient economies and communities** across the Baltic Sea region.

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1.1 Resilient economies and communities

Resilience is understood as the **ability to respond to external disturbances** such as severe recessions and financial crises, downturns of particular industries or major health crises.

The Programme encourages actions that **help to avoid unwanted external impacts**, **withstand them or recover** quickly from them.

- strengthen European identity based on common values, culture and heritage
- increase innovativeness of the region
- adapt smart specialisation approaches
- adjust innovation ecosystems
- untap digitalisation
- consider uneven territorial development

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1.2
Responsive public services

Experimenting with **new ways of delivering public services** using innovative, data-driven and participatory methods to improve the lives of citizens.

1.2 Responsive public services

In relation to a growing complexity of societal challenges, the Programme supports actions that improve organisational set-ups and processes to **respond to public needs** and to deliver **less bureaucratic** and **more cost-efficient public services.**

- o deliver tailor-made, needs-based and cost efficient services

- o harmonise systems and standards

- o develop solutions responsive to change

- o apply emerging digital technologies

- o trigger interactions between service providers and the community

- o develop public responses across sectors and borders

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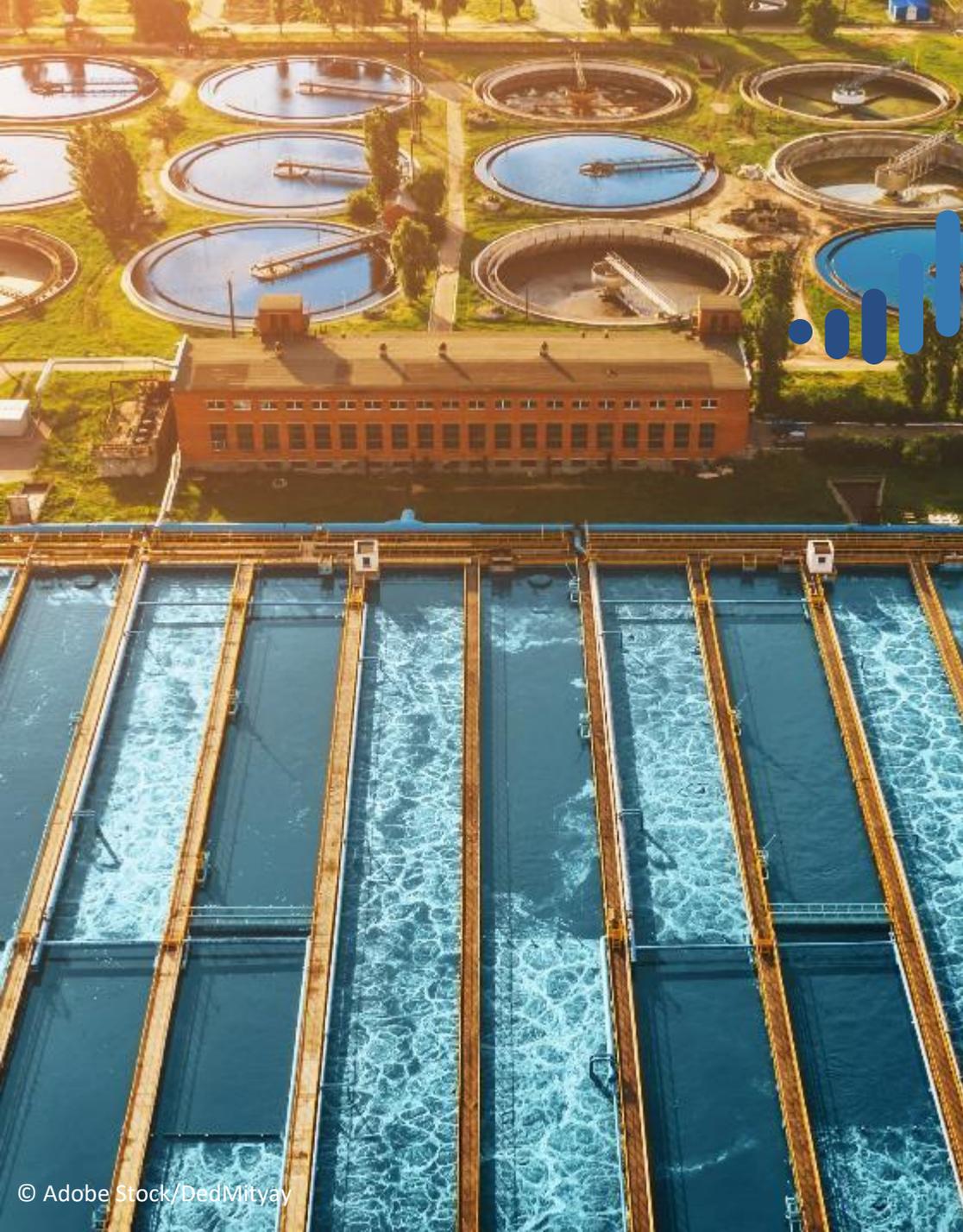
Water-smart societies

Programme objective 2.1 Sustainable waters

Programme objective 2.2 Blue economy

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2.1
Sustainable waters

Intensifying **implementation of good practices** by public authorities, industries and local communities to make the Baltic Sea and **regional water resources cleaner** and **adapted to the impacts of climate change.**
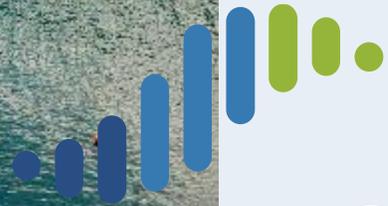
2.1 Sustainable waters

The Programme supports actions that **improve the state of water** in the region and make its **management more sustainable**.

These waters include the Baltic Sea, coastal waters and inland waters like rivers, lakes and groundwater.

- adapt existing solutions, develop and implement new solutions in order to prevent and reduce water pollution

- adapt water management practices to the changing climate

- implement cross-sectoral actions

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2.2
Blue economy

Strengthening **blue economy** and mitigating potential conflicts among users of the sea space to enable **sustainable use of water** and **marine resources** adapting to the changing climate.

2.2 Blue economy

The Programme supports actions on **sustainable use of fresh and sea waters** as well as **marine resources** in **innovative business development** in the whole region in emerging and established sectors.

These include aquaculture, blue biotechnology, shipping, fishery, and coastal and maritime tourism.

- o facilitate joint use of sea space and help mitigate potential conflicts
- o encourages actions for blue businesses
- o strengthen resilience of blue businesses
- o mitigate impact of blue businesses on climate change

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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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3.1
Circular economy

Moving towards **circular economy** through strengthening the **role of the cities and regions** and re-thinking **contribution of business.**

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3.1 Circular economy

The Programme supports actions on **sustainable use of fresh and sea waters** as well as **marine resources** in **innovative business development** in the whole region in emerging and established sectors.

These include aquaculture, blue biotechnology, shipping, fishery, and coastal and maritime tourism.

o facilitate joint use of sea space and help mitigate potential conflicts

o encourages actions for blue businesses

o strengthen resilience of blue businesses

o mitigate impact of blue businesses on climate change

3.2

Energy transition

Moving towards **decarbonisation of energy systems** through increasing **energy efficiency** and investing in **renewable energy** in urban and rural areas.

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3.3 Energy transition

The Programme supports actions for the **decarbonisation of energy systems** in the region in order to **reduce greenhouse gas emissions**.

The solutions shall increase **energy efficiency in industrial production** processes as well as in public and private building stock.

The Programme also encourages actions to **increase renewable energy production** from **locally available resources.**

- o increase distribution of renewable energy across sectors

- o adapt and update policies

- o coordinate plans and share solutions across borders

- o mobilise industry and citizens to apply energy solutions

3.3
Smart green mobility

Moving towards **more efficient**, **intelligent** and **low-carbon transport** and **mobility** systems.
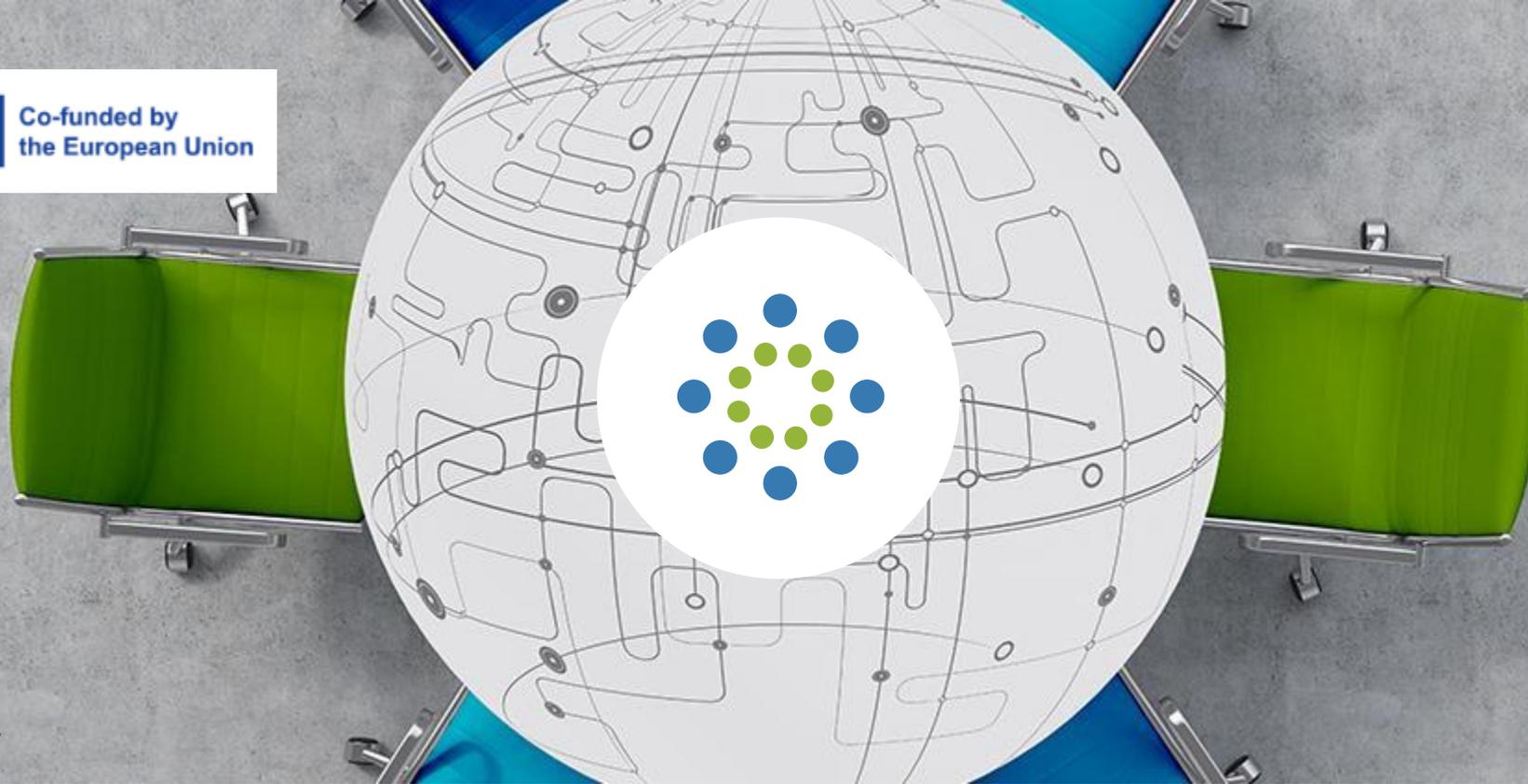
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3.3 Smart green mobility

A **green and well-functioning cross-border mobility system** is vital for the development of the region.

The Programme supports the **smooth movement** of people and goods in and across urban and rural areas while **saving resources** by increasing efficiency, **integrating different transport modes** and **accelerating digitalisation.**

○ harmonise mobility systems across borders

○ mobilise transport companies and citizens to use smart green solutions

○ support public authorities in introducing smart green solutions and reducing air pollution in cities

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Cooperation governance

Programme objective 4.1 Platforms

Programme objective 4.2 Macro-regional governance

Note: The Programme priorities and objectives are subject to approval by the Programme countries & the European Commission

4.1
Platforms

Connecting results from different EU funding programmes and **making them work.**

The Programme **supports the cooperation of EU-funded projects** in project platforms.

These actions **bring the results of various projects** to stakeholders in the Baltic Sea region **in a structured way.**

They show how the different results complement each other, making use of **synergies across EU funds**.

○ synthesise and interlink project solutions relevant for the region

○ help public authorities and other organisations access project results

○ communicate and transfer solutions to broader target groups

○ target public authorities, pan-Baltic organisations and EUBSR stakeholders

4.2
Macro-regional governance

Strengthening **coordination** and **communication** of the **EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region**.

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4.2 Macro-regional governance

The Programme supports actions that **implement and strengthen governance and communication** activities in the **EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region** (EUSBSR).

They shall **facilitate policy discussions and trigger policy changes**, build up networks to develop projects and other initiatives in line with the EUSBSR Action Plan.

o support the coordinators of the EUSBSR policy areas

o assistance to national coordinators of the EUSBSR and a strategy point

o support informing about achievements of EUSBSR policy areas and developments within the EUSBSR Action Plan

o support the organisation of EUSBSR forums

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Project types & funding

Project types.

Core projects

Small projects

Platforms

Strategy governance

Core projects.

Focus

practical & durable **outputs** I
solutions to challenges I
focus on **piloting** I
at the "core" of the Programme

Partners

at least **three organisations**
from three Programme area
countries

Duration

Up to **36 months**

Budget

no limitation
(proportionate to activities)

Small projects.

Focus

easier access & implementation, especially for new partners I building **trust** I practical & durable **outputs**

Partners

at least **three organisations** from three Programme area countries

Duration

Up to **24 months**

Budget

up to **EUR 500,000**

Platforms.

Focus

create synergies among EU-funded projects I synthesise solutions & results in a thematic field I transfer to target groups

Partners

at least **three organisations** from three Programme area countries that are partners in the Programme projects & in projects funded through other EU funding

Duration

Up to **36 months**

Budget

tbc in announcement notes

Strategy governance.

➡ Assistance to **Policy Area Coordinators**

➡ Assitance to the **Baltic Strategy Point**

➡ Organisation of the **Strategy Forums**

Programme budget.

ERDF
co-financing

€250.9

million

Norwegian
co-financing

€5

million

NDICI/
Russia/Belarus

tbc.

Funding rates for priority 1-3 streamlined*

80%

for EU organisations

50%

for Norwegian organisations

*details & rules for priority 4 & for RU / BY partly tbc.

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What's new? Simplification!

From development to reporting

What's new?

o Easier access through **simplified application** & **reporting**

o Better support through **new digital tools**

o Wider use of **simplified cost options** & faster payments

o **Pre-defined work packages** in core projects with **solutions & pilots** in focus

o **Small projects** as new project type with lower threshold

o ERDF co-financing unified at **80%** for EU Member States

Types of simplified cost options.

- **Unit costs** (standard hourly rates per country)
- **Flat rates**
  - ✓ office & administration (core projects)
  - ✓ travel & accommodation (core projects)
  - ✓ other costs (small projects & strategy governance)
- **Lump sums** (preparation costs & Strategy Forums)

Examples of simplifications.

o **Digitalisation** & further improvement of **online monitoring system**

  ✓ E.g. partner reporting online in BAMOS+

o Management verification of **simplified cost options** by MA/JS

o **National control of real costs** and on partner level only

o **State-aid rules simplified**

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Application & support

Application: expected timing.

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Calls for 7 Programme objectives & different project types

Mid-November 2021
Pre-launch of the call

Early 2022
Opening actual calls for applications

from December 2021
Consultations

Programme support.

New Programme portal

Tutorials & webinars

Matchmaking platform

Consultations & advice

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The process

Key actors in developing the Programme.

o **Joint Programming Committee (JPC)** is the decision-making body. The JPC includes representatives of the EU countries in the Programme area as well as Norway, Russia, and Belarus;

o **European Commission's** representatives participate in the meetings as advisors;

o **Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat** hosted by Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein facilitates the process;

o Key stakeholders of the **EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region** advise on integrating the objectives of the EU Strategy.

The process.

Sep – Nov 2019

Main needs for transnational cooperation identified
Review of 47 transnational, national and regional documents of strategic nature

Mar – Jun 2020

Programme thematic framework drafted

June 2020

Agreement on the thematic framework of the Programme in the Joint Programming Committee

Sep 2019 – March 2020

Programme vision shaped
Programming Task Force and Joint Programming Committee meetings

Apr – Jun 2020

Feedback from the countries in the Programme area collected

The process.

13 Jul – 4 Sep 2020

Open public consultations and surveys among coordinators of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and project platforms

Dec 2020 – mid 2021

Agreement on the draft Programme

Jan – Feb 2022

Submission of the Programme to the European Commission

Sep – Oct 2020

Incorporating results of public consultations into the Programme strategy

Autumn 2021

National approval procedure

Early 2022

Launch of the first call for project applications

Stay connected.

**Interreg Baltic Sea Region 2021 – 2027
will provide funding for those with smart ideas
to shape the Baltic Sea region.**

interreg-baltic.eu

matchmaking.interreg-baltic.eu

Stay connected.

to receive updates on the Programme approval process and first call for project applications.

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The Programme is managed by **Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein (IB.SH)** in Kiel, Germany.

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