



PARTNER SEARCH FORUM

Vilnius

23 - 24 MAY 2005

Report



PROGRAMME PART-FINANCED
BY THE EUROPEAN UNION (ERDF)

FOREWORD

This report gives a summarised picture of the discussions and projects presented at the fourth Baltic Sea Region INTERREG III B Partner Search Forum which took place in Vilnius on 23-24 May 2005. The complete Programme of the Partner Search Forum is enclosed at the end of this report. Presentations given in the plenary session at the Forum are not attached to this report but can be downloaded directly from the BSR INTERREG III B homepage: www.bsrinterreg.net

We would like to convey many thanks to Ms Mika SIMKUNAITE (host-coordinator), Mr Odd GODAL, Ms Ann-Irene SÆTERNES, Mr Bogdan OLDAKOWSKI, Ms Rūta GRUZDYTĖ, Mr Zenonas GULBINAS, and Mr Slawomir DEMKOWICZ-DOBRZANSKI for their professional contribution to the themes of the workshop and facilitating the workshops, as well as for valuable inputs and comments throughout the forum. We would like to express our thanks also to Mr Dzmitry Korbut from the EC Delegation to Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus in Kiev who provided information on the TACIS component.

Riga, Karlskrona, May 2005
On behalf of the Joint Secretariat
Wiktor Szydarowski & Vineta Griekere

Prepared by:
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THIRD PARTNER SEARCH FORUM IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION

INTRODUCTION

On 23-24 May 2005 Vilnius (Lithuania) was the venue for the fourth Baltic Sea Region INTERREG III B Partner Search Forum (forum) for bringing together prospective project ideas and professionals in the field of spatial and regional development. The host, Mr Algirdas Astrauskas, Deputy State Secretary of the Ministry of Interior of Lithuania, opened the Forum by highlighting the significance of transnational co-operation within the Baltic Sea Region (BSR) that is supported by the BSR INTERREG III B Programme.

The BSR INTERREG III B Neighbourhood Programme is in its fourth year of implementation. During seven application rounds a total number of 83 projects were approved, contributing to a substantial fulfilment of the programme objectives. Therefore, the fourth forum was focused only on themes that are missing in the programme and hence are of high relevance to the programme in its remaining implementation period. Although the 8th call will probably be restricted to some thematic priorities there is still a wide scope of activities that can be supported by the programme.

In order to promote and facilitate the project development in the themes that are important for the programme and provide information on programme requirements to the participants from Russia and Belarus, the Joint Secretariat in close co-operation with the Ministry of Interior of Lithuania invited interested project promoters to meet potential partners in Vilnius, to present their ideas and collect comments. Participants had the occasion to collect information on funding options for those projects that require TACIS/external funds.

The two-days Partner Search Forum attracted about 105 participants and was divided into three sessions (plenary with presentations in relation to the conference foci, workshops session and individual project consultations). About 31 project ideas were presented at the forum.

Out of all *project ideas* submitted online to the Joint Secretariat before 16 May a *Project Idea Catalogue* to facilitate partner search was produced and disseminated among the participants. The catalogue is available for download at the BSR INTERREG III B homepage by entering *Project ideas*: <http://www.bsrinterreg.net>

FOCUS

The main purpose of the forum was to foster and support preparation of joint projects on themes that are of high relevance to the BSR INTERREG III B Neighborhood Programme in its fourth year of implementation.

The thematic focus of the forum related to the following two programme priorities:

Priority 2: *Promotion of territorial structures supporting sustainable BSR development*

- ◇ Measure 2.1. Promoting balanced polycentric settlement structures
- ◇ Measure 2.2. Creating sustainable communication links for improved spatial integration (transport and communication)
- ◇ Measure 2.3. Enhancing good management of cultural and natural heritage and of natural resources

Priority 3: Transnational and bilateral institution and capacity building in the BSR

- ◇ Measure 3.1. Promotion of transnational institution and capacity building
- ◇ Measure 3.2. Bilateral maritime cooperation across the Baltic Sea

The strategy for the remaining Programme implementation period including estimation on funds available in the programme and the thematic priorities was introduced to the participants by Mr. Wiktor Szydarowski, Joint Secretariat. Deriving from the programme missing themes and thematic priorities which were in focus of the forum, key presentations on four themes were held:

- ***Polycentric settlement structures***
Mr. Odd Godal, Ministry of Local Governments and Regional Development, Norway
- ***Transport and communication***,
Mr. Bogdan Oldakowski, Actia Forum Ltd, Poland
- ***Management of natural heritage***
Ms. Rūta Gruzdytė, Ministry of Environment, Lithuania
- ***Institution and capacity building***
Mr. Slawomir Demkowicz-Dobrzanski, International Permanent Secretariat of Euroregion Baltic

The 8th call for applications will be the first call of the BSR INTERREG III B NP when project partners from Belarus will be allowed to submit joint applications with the EU project partners and receive funding from TACIS/external funds to cover project activities in the eligible regions of Belarus. Therefore the participants were provided with the information on **financing INTERREG III B NP / TACIS component** by **Mr. Dzmityr Korbut**, EC Delegation to Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus in Kiev.

Following an introduction to the **Partner Search Workshops**, participants were divided into four thematic groups:

1. Polycentric settlement structures
2. Transport and communication
3. Management of natural heritage
4. Institution and capacity building

The focus of the workshops was on project idea presentations and discussions, related to the highlighted missing themes. The participants were given the option to shift between the workshops according to their own interest and preference. The lively discussions proved to be much needed to furnish the projects with critics and recommendations for further development.

In two presentations the audience received also information from the Joint Secretariat staff members on **the most frequent shortcomings in project design and financial issues detected in the applications and practical advice how to avoid them**. For the second day potential applicants could sign up for individual project consultations and discuss their project idea with the Joint Secretariat team members.

Additional partner search activities and funding options and clarifications with the programme representatives present at the forum had been taking place in between the general programme events.

WORKSHOPS

The four parallel partner search workshops were an important element of this fourth Partner Search Forum.

Aims of the workshops:

- *For partners* it was of interest to be acquainted with other project ideas and countries/regions/people involved in generating new projects;
- *For programme stakeholders and the JS* it was an opportunity to get a comprehensive picture on which projects are “in the pipeline”, being prepared for the next calls for proposals;
- *For all participants* the workshops was useful in providing actual information on programme requirements, and discussing how to proceed with joint projects towards applications for INTERREG III B NP.

As many as about **31 project ideas** were presented at the Forum and had beforehand been collected in a *Project Idea Catalogue*. The more focused discussions in the workshops enlarged the possibilities of exchanging the knowledge in the specific subject of concern and encouraged the attendants to merge their forces into joint projects.

All workshops were asked to take into account the thematic guidance – based on the fourth thematic speeches given during the plenary session in their discussion.



*Presentation on Transport and communication
by Mr Bogdan Oldakowski*



*Presentation on Tacis component by Mr Dzmitry Korbut,
EC Delegation to Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus in Kiev*

WORKSHOP 1 – “Polycentric Settlements Structures, Measure 2.1”

Facilitator: *Ms Ann-Irene SÆTERNES, Mr Odd GODAL*, Norway

Resource Person: *Matthias Woiwode, Joint Secretariat*

INTRODUCTION

The introduction to the workshop was made by *Ms Ann-Irene SÆTERNES, Mr Odd GODAL*.

The focus of the workshop was related to the missing themes in the Measure 2.1 in the INTERREG IIIB programme – ***Promotion of territorial structures supporting sustainable BSR development***, which are as follows:

- *improving spatial conditions for business activities* (inner-urban, inter-urban and urban-rural transportation patterns, centres of excellence for SMEs, co-operation between cities and their surroundings, more integrated and cross-sector orientation of public administration's efficiency and capacity, access to information relevant for investments, spatial information and management systems) (expected to be partly met through pipeline!)
- *profiling (especially medium-sized) cities and strengthening polycentricism through urban design*, i.e. comprehensive concepts in urban planning in order to respond to changes in the socio-economic urban conditions (green field development/urban sprawl, declining quality of public services, new spatial/land-use demands of certain industries, social segregation etc.) (partly met in 7th call; expected to be partly met through pipeline!)
- *promoting economic development of urban centres in rural areas* (e.g. transnational urban networks targeted at certain fields - industrial clusters, innovation, transport, urban development etc) (partly met in 7th call; expected to be partly met through pipeline!)
- *enlarging the labour market as a strategy for urban-rural co-operation* (expected to be partly met through pipeline!)
- *adaptation of macro-regions* (defined through measure 1.1) *to business development*, focusing on the implementation of previously developed transnational concepts.

Overarching issues that should principally play a role in all topics:

- creating conditions for public-private partnerships
- creating conditions for strategic investments / preparation of investments (especially when adapting to macro-regional strategies)
- stronger involvement of E-BSR regions

PROJECTS PRESENTATIONS AND COMMENTS

Page references given to the project description in the Project Idea Catalogue

1. Spatial planning for modern marine houses / Floating Houses (page 28 and 64), presented by Jan Martinsson, City of Kalmar, Sweden.
2. ACP – An Academy for City Planners – The Public competence and creating pool for sustainable development in the BSR (not in catalogue) presented by Lars Brattberg, Municipality of Malmö, Sweden;
3. Network of industrial parks (IPS) in New and Old EU Member States: a strategy for Entrepreneurship, Development and Cohesion (page 61), 5th round seed money project;
4. Governet City (page 62), 3rd round seed money project;
5. Hinterland (not in catalogue), successor of 5th round seed money project “Focus Hinterland”, presented by Torsten Naubert, Regional Planning Authority Havelland –Fläming, Germany;

6. ICMR Baltic, 7th round seed money project on macro-regional development (measure 1.1, not in catalogue), presented by Dr. Holger Meyer, University of Lüneburg.

Presentation no. 6 on the seed money project ICMR Baltic had been included in the workshop as it is of general interest for the audience, and the presenter was given the opportunity to receive valuable comments and suggestions.

COMMENTS TO PRESENTATIONS & GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

All presentations triggered lively discussions on the general idea, the project set-up, or its transnational relevance.

Some projects illustrated direct relevance for themes prioritised for the remaining programme period, namely Marine Houses, Industrial Park Network, Hinterland, and potentially Governet City. Especially the Hinterland project was highlighted to be of great significance for the programme as it focuses on the strategic objective of developing hinterland – and as such predominantly rural – areas. In this thematic field there is a strong need for comprehensive approaches to development of such areas, encompassing a wide range of aspects thus integrating different sectors from tourism and other business opportunities, to agricultural reform and environmental protection, as well as rural transport and good governance of rural and peripheral regions.

Also the presentation on marine or floating houses bears some potential, not least due to its innovativeness of the problem and the presumed solution, however provided that the existence of an interest and demand of a wider public as well as its transnational dimension can be illustrated.

Among the presented projects, there are a number of deficiencies that recur, foremost the following:

- projects in measure 2.1 need to be more clearly linked to aspects of spatial planning and development, which in some cases would possibly lead to a reconsideration of the programme measure in which to apply, mostly priority 3 on institution and capacity building;
- too broad and unfocused scope, including unconvincing rationale as regards the need of transnational cooperation (local solutions to local needs), that is, projects could potentially be implemented in a regional or local framework, or on a bilateral basis;
- proposed activities have merely operational character at the expense of joint strategies that would have take a more medium- or long-term perspective and include a potential for best practice transfer.

Participants

Name	Institution	Country
Odd Godal	Ministry of Local Governments and Regional Development	Norway
Ann-Irene Saeternes	Eastern Norway County Network	Norway
Matthias Woiwode	BSR INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat	Sweden
Malgorzata Kowalewska	Municipality of Sopot	Poland
Kamila Kuziola	Institute of European Initiative	Poland
Jacek Lendzion	BISEK	Poland
Kristiina Pihlapsoo	Innopolis Consulting Ltd representing Association of Local Governments in Tartu County	Estonia
Merit Tatar	Innopolis Consulting Ltd representing Association of Local Governments in Tartu County	Estonia
Lars Brattberg	Malmo City Planning	Sweden

Kyrre Dahl	City of Kalmar	Sweden
Jan Martinsson	City of Kalmar	Sweden
Dr. Holger Meyer	University of Lueneburg, Centre for the Study of Democracy	Germany
Rūta Prusevičiene	National Phil. Society of Lithuania	Lithuania
Torsten Naubert	Regional Planning Authority Havelland-Fläming	Germany
Lars-Göran Bostrom	Municipality of Umeå	Sweden
Håkan Ottosson	Swedish Association of Local Authorities	Sweden
Rostislav Zatloukal	BSR INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat	Germany
Dymitry Korbut	EC Delegation to Belarus	Ukraine
Audrius Vaitiekunas	Baltic Sea Forum	Germany
Rimuydas Strazdas	Kaunas City Municipality	Lithuania
Rimantas Dapleus	Kaunas University of Technology	Lithuania

WORKSHOP 2 – Transport and communication (ICT)

Facilitator: *Bogdan OLDAKOWSKI, Poland*

Resource person: *Wiktor Szydarowski, Joint Secretariat*

INTRODUCTION

The introduction to the workshop was made by Mr Bogdan OLDAKOWSKI and Mr Wiktor SZYDAROWSKI.

The focus of the workshop was related to the missing themes in the Measure 2.2 in the INTERREG IIB programme – *Creating sustainable communication links for improved spatial integration*, which are as follows:

- further elaboration of the ‘sea motorways’ concept and its adjustment to Baltic Sea conditions
- improved access to ICT, based on e-Europe initiative, including telematic services for structurally weaker areas,
- pan-Baltic transport multimodal strategy, with a focus on short sea shipping, and networking of ports as gateways providing smooth handling of goods to and from the hinterland
- interregional and hub-bound air traffic in the BSR

PROJECTS PRESENTATIONS AND COMMENTS

Page references given to the project description in the Project Idea Catalogue

1. Baltic Lagoon management Information system – page 26;
2. Inland Water network in the Baltic Sea Region and its diverse functions – page 37;
3. **Rail**Regio Baltica, Railway Heritage Preservation and Promotion for Sustainable **Regional** Development in the **Baltic** Sea Region – not submitted to the Project Idea Catalogue;
4. Sustainable urban transport systems and measures for urban regeneration - not submitted to the Project Idea Catalogue
5. CABA Clean Air for Baltic Cities (ref. To Directives 96/62 EC and 99/30 EC) – page 98
6. Interregional Communication and information network (I-COIN) - seed money project, page 60;
7. LogON Baltic – Logistics Efficiency through IT Interfaces in the Baltic Sea Region – seed money project, page 59;
8. DaGoB _ Dangerous Goods Supply Chains in the Baltic Sea Region – page 58;
9. MoCuBa – Mobility Culture in the Baltic Sea Region – seed money project; not submitted to the Project Idea Catalogue
10. BALTASAR –Baltic Telematics Arena for Spatial opportunities – page 55.

The aforementioned ideas were supplemented with a presentation by professor Leonid Stukalov from the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus who among several project thoughts highly prioritised development of water transport communication and sea ports in the Baltic States, offering further consultation for their prospective preparation.

The two proposals listed under no. 3 and 4 were verbally highlighted as having a potential value for the programme, provided they are subject to further elaboration in a descriptive form and submitted to the Project Idea Database.

In contrast, MoCuBa project has recently approved under the seed money instruments and presents itself as an effort to improve image of certain transport modes as a target for transport planning and

urban development. The project wants to develop transnational learning by developing showcases with practical experiences and hence to achieve awareness and examples for new mobility culture in the Baltic Sea area.

COMMENTS TO PRESENTATIONS & GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

Apart from three seed money running projects and one project proposal already bidding for co-funding upon the 7th call (in measure 1.3), other ideas presented at the session are rather in an initial stage.

Their major deficits include:

- Redundant and not set focus of the project operation, hardly workable under measure 2.2, and often more fitting to measure 3.1 (institutional capacity-building)
- Monosectoral partnership consisting of institutions responsible for transport and traffic management in the countries concerned,
- Unidentifiable purpose for transnational co-operation,
- Weak relations for spatial planning and development and implications of envisaged actions for territorial management,
- Reference to local/regional governments in the project activities as dissemination partners only,
- Too narrow approach confined to provision of local solutions to local sites.

Participants:

Name	Institution	Country
Bogdan Oldakowski	Octavia	Poland
Wiktor Szydarowski	BSR INTERREG Joint Secretariat	Sweden
Michael Glotz-Richter	City of Bremen/Ministry of Construction, Environment and Transport	Germany
Torsten Hoffmann	Turku School of Economics and Business Administration	Finland
Eeva Aarnio	Turku School of Economics and Business Administration	Finland
Simona Weisleder	ZEBAU	Germany
Jenny Pentler	West Sweden	Sweden
Peter Jadesjö	West Sweden	Sweden
Bo Lindholm	City of Kalmar	Sweden
Emmanuel Vougioukas	University of Thessaly/Industrial Trust of Latvia	Greece/Latvia
Valentina Suvorina	NGO "Modem"	Belarus
Ramūnas Povilanskas	EUCC Baltic Office	Lithuania
Leonid Stukalov	Academy of Science	Belarus
Sorin Sima	Swedish Road Administration	Sweden
Audrius Vaitiekūnas	Baltic Sea Forum	Germany
Hans Holmen	Swedish Road Administration	Sweden
Leif Ringhagen	Swedish Road Administration	Sweden
Adam Bolt	Gdansk University of Technology	Poland
Vytautas Krisciunas	Baltic Business Development Institute	Lithuania
Dr. Uwe Sassenberg	Architecture Institute Wismar	Germany
Juha Pietilä	Ep-Logistics Oy	Finland

WORKSHOP 3 – Management of Natural Resources

Facilitator: Mr Zenonas GULBINAS, Ms Rūta GRUZDYTĖ, Lithuania
Resource person: Ms Joanna Przedrzymirska, Joint Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

Mr Zenoninas GULBINAS explained the aim of the workshop. The introductory round for all the workshop participants followed.

The workshop focused on the missing themes in the measure 2.3. – *Enhancing good management of cultural and natural heritage and of natural resources*, which are as follow:

- integrated spatial development of natural landscapes and resources (ecological studies, EIAs, inventories of natural resources and presentation of the results, role and necessary scope of information on natural resources in the process of preparation of feasibility studies, etc.)
- comprehensive strategic and methodological approaches for management of rural green areas and wetlands
- spatial development dimension to the legal EU/HELCOM concepts like Natura 2000 or BSPA,
- tools for preservation, development and promotion of “green corridors” in a pan-Baltic and European perspective, taking into consideration a need for maintaining biodiversity and coping with an increasing pressure on green areas on part of social recreation and tourism
- exchange of experience on the implications of Natura 2000 for coherent spatial development between EU and non-EU countries, which comprise also necessity of compiling, assessing and highlighting national experience in implementing networks of nature protection areas
- joint strategies for broad marine and land-based risk analyses and management strategies in areas prone to natural disasters

During the workshop it had been discussed that for the upcoming 8th call the measure 2.3. should not be closed for the theme of cultural heritage as there is still huge interest among regions in this topic. Moreover some project ideas may have in focus both aspects – nature heritage management and cultural heritage management as they can not be strictly separated. However, as the nature heritage management issue are of high importance for the programme, the priority should be given to projects having this topic in focus.

PROJECTS PRESENTATIONS AND COMMENTS

Page references given to the project description in the Project Idea Catalogue

1. “Green Belt of Fennoscandia”- a natural and cultural world heritage site (page 67) presented by Evgeny Ieshko, Russia;
2. Main Atlantic salmon rivers of Fennoscandia (ecology, parasites and conservation) (page 66) presented by Evgeny Ieshko, Russia;
3. Sustainable development of historical brownfields (page 65) presented by Claudia Eggert, Germany;
4. PRIFOR: Strengthening of Contribution of Small-Scale Private Forestry to sustainable regional development in the BSR (page 63) presented by Dr Alexander Rosenberg, Germany;
5. Bread and Fish. Caring for the Baltic presented by Dr. Arnd Heling, Germany;
6. Soil protection NATURA 2000 (page 50) presented by Susanne Schimpel and Alfred Herberg, Germany;
7. Cooperation in cultural heritage and strengthening planning presented by Vitas Girdauskas, Lithuania;
8. BROWNFIELDS: Sustainable development of historic brownfields. The idea is not presented in catalogue. Idea proposed by City of Hamburg. The aims of the project are: registration of

the former industrial surfaces with cultural and historic capability in the BSR; development of strategies to sustain the cultural and natural heritage; revaluation of areas in the neighborhood of industrial surfaces

COMMENTS TO THE PRESENTATIONS & GENERAL CONSLUSIONS:

- There are some promising projects in the pipeline only partly covering the missing themes; the ideas presented are quite narrow in their scope and under the process of partnership evaluation and extension.
- The topics as natural resources management, development of green corridors, promotion and joint management strategies for risk analyses for areas prone to natural disasters seem still not to be cover by the project presented during the forum.
- There is a need for future cooperation in the field of cultural heritage management (expressed both by project idea promoters and participants seeking for cooperation partners).
- Many new contacts between the institutions/authorities/other actors in the filed of natural resources management were established; contacts within the field of cultural management have been enhanced: participants discussed mutual benefit in managing both cultural and natural resources within the frames of single comprehensive projects.

Participants:

Name	Institution	Country
Zenonas Gulbinas,	Natural Heritage Fund	Lithuania
Rūta Gruzdyté	Ministry of the Environment	Lithuania
Joanna Przedzrymirska	BSR INTERREG IIIB NP Joint Secretariat	Sweden
Matti Salomaa	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Finland
Dr. Arnd Heling	Verein zur Bildung und Förderung der Sommeruniversität Ratzeburg e.V	Germany
Alexander Rosenberg	Heidmark Forest District (Chamber of Agriculture)	Germany
Susanne Schimpel	Berlin University of Technology, Department of Soil and Science	Germany
Alfred Herberg	Berlin University of Technology, Department of Landscape Planning	Germany
Evgeny Ieshko	Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Science	Russia
Tomasz Lesner	Institute for European Inittives	Poland
Vitas Girdauskas	Šešupe euroregion Šakai office	Lithuania
Oksana Popova	Republican Institute for vocational Education (RIPO)	Belarus
Giedre Bartusevicute	Kaunas College	Lithuania
Niels Erik Rasmussen	Med venlig hilsen of Bornholm	Denmark
Naubert Torsten	Regionale Planning Authority havelland - Fläming	Germany
Friederike Lang	TU Berlin	Germany
Claudia Eggert	State ministry of urban development and environment	Germany

WORKSHOP 4 – Institution and capacity building

Facilitator: Mr *Slawomir DEMKOWICZ-DOBRZANSKI, Poland*

Resource person: Ms *Vineta Griekere, Joint Secretariat*

INTRODUCTION

Mr Slawomir DEMKOWICZ-DOBRZANSKI gave a short introduction to the Workshop with the reference to the speech on the institutional and capacity building and outlined the purpose of the workshops. Ms Vineta Griekere gave short overview about the projects in the pipeline. Introductory round for all the workshop participants followed.

The workshop focused on the missing themes in the Measure 3.1. in the INTERREG III B programme – ***Institution and Capacity Building in the BSR***, which are as follows:

- *development of democracy and good governance* at the local and regional administration, with ensuring of participatory approach and transparency (e.g. joint transnational spatial planning and development efforts including application and development of territorial impact assessment tools across state boundaries);
- *actions promoting social development*, e.g. initiatives to find the methods for engagement of citizens in the participatory process; social support to children and youth groups; integration of immigrants and/or disabled persons;
- *solving common challenges related to border issues in a transnational context*, e.g. understanding of custom procedures and administrative regulations and routines; strategies and co-operation to fight against crime; institutional co-operation of border guard, customs, emergency and other related services;
- *capacity building to run efficient sector policies*, in particular carrying out transnational environmental impact analyses; to promote and extend know-how and raise awareness around pollution and scarce environmental resources, transnational activities promoting public awareness of the energy savings, leading to long-term changes of behaviour patterns.

PROJECT PRESENTATION

Page references given to the project description in the Project Idea Catalogue

1. Bridging Innovative divide, page 73
2. Follow up Baltic+, page 98
3. Urban Renewal, page 84
4. Resource, not presented in the catalogue
5. Clean Air for Baltic Sea about air management in cities (CABA), page 99
6. Baltic Ring, not presented in the catalogue
7. Tartu County presented project proposal in order to search for the partners for the project proposals that is being developed under the thematic scope of the measure 2.1.

COMMENTS TO PRESENTATIONS & GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

- Most of projects presented are in their initial stage of development. The project focus is not very well set.
- Partly projects discussed during the workshop cover missing themes in the measure.
- The transnational arrangements of project proposals are questionable.

- Relation to regional development or spatial planning/development is not very sufficiently demonstrated.
- Project partnership needs to be developed to become more comprehensive involving partners from various relevant sectors and administrative levels.

Participants

Name	Institution	Country
Slawomir Demkowicz-Dobrzanski	Secretariat of Euroregion Baltic	Poland
Vineta Griekere	BSR INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat	Latvia
Dzmitry Markusheuski	Belarus Helsinki Committee	Belarus
Dr.Ulrich Schecek	Johann Daniel Lawaetz-Foundation	Germany
Povilas Abarius	Vilnius distance education study centre at Vilnius University	Lithuania
Carina Johansson	Region Skåne	Sweden
Anna Sereda	Pskov region Administration, State Committee for Economic Development and Estate Administration, External Economic Relations Department	Russia
Ramūnas Domarkas	Northern Lithuanian College	Lithuania
Lars Sahlin	SAAB	Sweden
Igor Kaniecki	Institute of European Initiatives	Poland
Irina Karelina	Leontief Centre	Russia
Danuta Latocha	Gdansk University of Technology	Poland
Elżbieta Latocha-Gatarek	Gdansk University of Technology	Poland
Stasys Bielinis	Klaipeda Regional Development Agency	Lithuania
Susanne Linberg	Svenska Studiecentral	Sweden
Eugenija Tautkute	FuU Baltic	Lithuania
Signe Raikstiņa	BSR INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat	Latvia
Rasa Navakauskiene	Governor Administration of Šauliai County	Lithuania
Ihar Zahumionau	National Institute of Education	Belarus
Tatiana Zagoumennova	Support Centre for Association and Foundation	Belarus
Raimo Korhonen	Regional Council of Southwest Finland	Finland
Jüri Järviste	Estonian Association of SMEs	Estonia
Li Tchou	University of Grodno	Belarus
Andrei Bushilo	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus	Belarus
Aiva Salatkieneė	Salo Baltic International	Lithuania
Jurgita Kupryte	Salo Baltic International	Lithuania
Auštra Šakyte	Kašiadorys District Municipality Administration	Lithuania
Giedrisus Surplys	INTERREG Joint technical Secretariat	Lithuania

Please note the speeches and presentations from Forum are to be found on the website:




www.bsrinterreg.net

PROGRAMME

Monday 23/5

Tuesday 24/5

13:00 Welcome & introduction

-  **Mr. Algirdas Astrauskas**, Ministry of Interior, Lithuania
-  **Ms. Susann Henning**, Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein
-  **Mr. Odd Godal**, Ministry of Regional Development and Regional Development, Norway

13:30 Updated Strategy for the remaining Programme implementation period - estimation on funds available in the programme & thematic priorities
Mr. Wiktor Szydarowski, Joint Secretariat

13:50 Thematic speeches

-  *Polycentric settlement structures*
Mr. Odd Godal, Ministry of Local Governments and Regional Development of Norway
-  *Transport and communication*,
Mr. Bogdan Oldakowski, Actia Forum Ltd, Poland
-  *Management of natural heritage*
Ms. Rūta Gruzdytė, Ministry of Environment of Lithuanian
-  *Institution and capacity building*
Mr. Slawomir Demkowicz-Dobrzanski, International Permanent Secretariat of Euroregion Baltic

15:00 Coffee

15:30 Financing INTERREG III B NP / Tacis component
Mr. Dzmitry Korbut, EC Delegation Kyiv

16:10 Introduction to the Partner Search workshops – background to project idea presentation
Ms. Vineta Griekere, Joint Secretariat

9:00- 11.00 Parallel Partner Search workshops

1. *Polycentric settlement structures*
2. *Transport and communication*
3. *Management of natural heritage*
4. *Institution and capacity building*

Coffee

11:00 Reflections on Partner Search workshops
 Moderated by **Mr. Marijus Gudynas**, Ministry of Interior, Lithuania

11.45 Major drawbacks in the submitted project proposals
Mr. Wiktor Szydarowski, Joint Secretariat

BSR INTERREG III B project budget and major financial shortcomings,
Mr. Rostislav Zatloukal, Joint Secretariat

12.30 Experiences of leading and participating in BSR INTERREG III B projects
Mr. Kyrre Dahl & Mr. Jan Martinsson, City of Kalmar, Sweden

13.00 Summary of the Forum and Closure

13.30 – 14.30 Lunch

14:30 – 18.00 Coffee & further individual consultations with the Joint Secretariat staff (upon prior request)

16:25-18:00 Parallel Partner Search workshops

5. *Polycentric settlement structures*
6. *Transport and communication*
7. *Management of natural heritage*
8. *Institution and capacity building*

Coffee

19:00 Dinner

Departure

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