

# BSR INTERREG III B NP NEWSLETTER NO 22 • 09.2005

## Highlights:

- **EIGHTH CALL FOR PROJECT APPLICATIONS IS OPEN!**
- **EXTENSION STAGE INSTRUMENT TO THE RUNNING PROJECTS LAUNCHED!**
- **MARITIME SAFETY UMBRELLA OPERATION**

## EIGHTH CALL FOR PROJECT APPLICATIONS IS OPEN!

The eighth call for BSR INTERREG III B project applications was opened on 25 July 2005 and will be closed on **23 September 2005**.

This is the first call where:

- project applicants can apply for Tacis and ERDF funding in one application,
- measure 3.2. 'Bilateral maritime cooperation across the Baltic Sea' is open for the applicants.

In the running call projects can:

- apply as a regular project with ERDF co-funding,
- apply as a regular project with ERDF and Tacis co-funding,
- upgrade project with Tacis funding (only for projects approved in the sixth and seventh calls),
- apply for Extension Stage Instrument (ESI) to the running projects,
- apply for the Maritime Safety Umbrella Operation (MSUO) to the running projects.

The Steering Committee will meet in December 2005 to make approval decisions on the projects.

## NEW ACTIVITIES AND INDICATORS INTRODUCED IN THE PROGRAMME

New activities as well as a new system of indicators have been introduced into our programme. The Monitoring Committee has decided on respective amendments in the Programme and Programme Complement. The amendments include:

- Project Extension Stage Instrument available for advanced on-going projects for investments (chapter 7.5 in PC).
- Financial upgrading of running projects to participate in the Maritime Safety Umbrella Operation (MSUO). The MSUO is coordinated by the North Sea INTERREG III B Programme (chapter 7.6 in PC).

## EXTENSION STAGE INSTRUMENT TO THE RUNNING PROJECTS LAUNCHED!

The Steering Committee has endorsed an introduction of a so called project 'Extension Stage Instrument' (ESI). The instrument was approved by the Monitoring Committee at the end of August 2005 and is available for applying projects during the 8th call.

The Extension Stage is an instrument designed exclusively for already running BSR INTERREG III B NP projects. It allows for extending the project duration (until December 2007 at the



Kuressaare,  
Estonia

- Introduction of a new system of indicators to be used in reporting of finalising projects (annex 3 of PC).

In addition, there are minor amendments on the financial tables of both Programme and Programme Complement. These concern Priorities 1, 4, 5 and 6. •

latest) in order to implement 'trans-national investments'. The principle character of a trans-national investment is that it has to be a result of trans-national co-operation. A detailed definition of this term is given in the Programme Manual, chapter 3.2.1. and in the Programme Complement, chapter 7.5 (both documents are part of the applicant's pack, see below). There, a list of selection criteria and rules for implementation of Extension Stage projects can also be found. →



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→ The most important features of the ESI are:

- it applies only to those projects that are still ongoing at least until December 2005, and
- have by then implemented at least 50% of the planned milestones;
- projects can apply for the ESI only in the same measure as that of the original project;
- external funding (Takis) is not available under the extension stage instrument;
- projects should not have had problems or major deviations with the implementation of the original project, in order not to

- endanger a successful implementation of the extension stage;
- as the extension stage is not a new project but merely a prolongation of the original project, the partnership originally established also remains the same as in the original project;
- partners from at least 3 countries must be involved in the extension activities, out of which only one has to be financially involved in the investment itself;
- a letter of support has to be signed from at least 2 other partners from at least 2 other countries.

We suggest that projects that are interested in applying for the ESI start their preparation a.s.a.p. Applications are admitted until 23 September 2005. The applicant's package IV for the ESI can be downloaded at [www.bsrinterreg.net/toapply.html](http://www.bsrinterreg.net/toapply.html). The submitted proposals will undergo a regular assessment and approval procedure during the 8th application round.

For more details and specific questions please contact Mr Matthias Woiwode von Gilardi (+46 455 335 196, [matthias.woiwode-von-gilardi@bsrinterreg.net](mailto:matthias.woiwode-von-gilardi@bsrinterreg.net)). •

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**MARITIME SAFETY UMBRELLA OPERATION**

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The Maritime Safety Umbrella Operation (MSUO) is an initiative across the INTERREG programmes launched in the beginning of 2005 ([www.maritime-safety.org](http://www.maritime-safety.org)) and hosted by the INTERREG III B North Sea Programme Secretariat. The aim of the MSUO is to create a synergy between INTERREG projects from different programmes in order to identify similar maritime safety issues, problems in approach and gaps in the knowledge base as well as to stimulate future programme development.

In the Baltic Sea Region the initiative is regarded as one contributing to efficient and consistent maritime safety solutions as well as ensuring synergy effects between the initiatives of the various transnational programmes.

To underline the interest of the Baltic Sea Region programme in the initiative, the chairman of the BSR INTERREG Programme Steering Committee, Mr Arve Skjerpen sent a letter on 18 August 2005 to the North Sea Programme Monitoring Committee chairman, Mr Friedhelm Budde, expressing support of the Partner States of the Baltic Sea Region Programme to the MSUO initiative.

Baltic Sea Region INTERREG III B Neighbourhood Programme participates in the MSUO via its projects. New projects can apply for participation in the MSUO following the standard procedures of the main call for proposals. In addition, also ongoing projects can participate through application for a special project upgrade



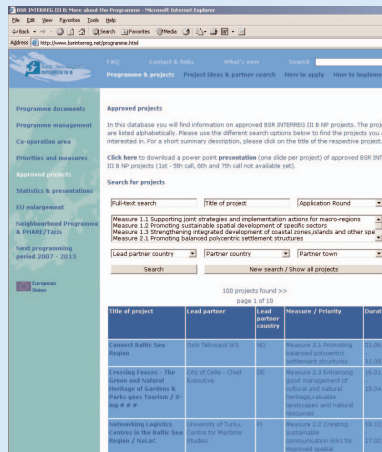
Sunset at the Baltic Sea

procedure. The procedure is implemented in parallel to the running eighth call for project proposals. The application for upgrade of the ongoing projects should be result of a dialogue between project partners and the programme steering level. For details please contact Ms Joanna Przedzmirska ([jp@bsrinterreg.net](mailto:jp@bsrinterreg.net), +46 455 335 196). •

**NEWS FROM THE JOINT SECRETARIAT**

All staff of the Joint (Technical) Secretariats III B and IIIA will participate in internal training seminars on 15-16 September, on 13-14 October as well as on 25+26 November 2005, respectively. The III B Joint Secretariat will hold its next Internal Staff Meetings on 8 September and 3 November 2005. Please note that JS staff may not be available during these days. •

**"APPROVED PROJECTS" ON WWW.BSRINTERREG.NET**



The database of the approved and running projects is available at [www.bsrinterreg.net/programme.html](http://www.bsrinterreg.net/programme.html) in the "Approved projects" section. There you can search projects using various options, e.g. title, measure or round, country of the lead partner or town of the project partner. You will find contact information of the project partners, short description of projects and their results. •

**BSR INTERREG III B NP EVENTS**

	Date	Place
<b>Eighth call for project applications</b>	25 July – 23 September 2005	Rostock, Germany (applications)
<b>2nd Financial Round Table, Network meeting of INTERREG finance staff</b>	11-13 September 2005	Graal-Müritz, Germany
<b>INTERACT event: Step towards Territorial Cooperation Programmes 2007-13</b>	28-29 September 2005	Brussels, Belgium
<b>Lead Partner seminar for auditors and financial managers</b> (for projects approved in the seventh call)	27 October 2005	Rostock, Germany
<b>Meeting of the Steering Group for Midterm Evaluation update</b>	November 2005	Riga, Latvia
<b>Thematic seminar on evaluation of the measure 1.1</b>	8 November 2005	Riga, Latvia
<b>Steering Committee Task Force meeting</b>	9 November 2005	Riga, Latvia
<b>Self-evaluation seminar on quality and output for ongoing projects</b>	10 November 2005	Riga, Latvia
<b>Steering Committee meeting (III B priorities)</b>	8-9 December 2005	Øyer, Norway

For **FURTHER INFORMATION** please go to [www.bsrinterreg.net](http://www.bsrinterreg.net) or feel free to contact the BSR INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat.

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