

European Union funds of €236 million for the Baltic Sea Region released in Rostock

*Rostock, 15 February 2008*

More than 30 decision makers from eleven countries came to Rostock on 14-15 February. They launched 236 million Euros of European Union's funding for transnational cooperation in the Baltic Sea region. This was the major decision that the Monitoring Committee for the new Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013 took at its first meeting.

Mr Roland Methling, Mayor of Rostock, and Dr Klaus Rave, the Board Member of Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein welcomed participants at the Radisson SAS hotel. The Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein is the joint managing authority of the programme. Also representatives from the European Commission were present. Mr Sebastian Schröder, State Secretary from the Ministry for Transport, Building and Regional Development of Land Mecklenburg-Vorpommern hosted the official dinner.

Chaired by Denmark in 2008, the Monitoring Committee further decided about opening the **first call for project applications** on **25 February**. The application package will be available at eu.baltic.net. The call will be closed on 30 May and more than 80 applications are expected. Interested applicants will be supported by the programme's Joint Technical Secretariat located in Rostock and its branch office at Riga, Latvia. The seminars for those who will apply for the programme funds will be held on 2-4 April in Hamburg and 9-11 April in Riga. More information on registration will be available on eu.baltic.net.

The Baltic Sea Region Programme promotes regional development through transnational cooperation. The aim is to make the Baltic Sea region an attractive place to invest, work and live in. Projects will a) foster innovations, b) improve accessibility, c) manage environmental resources and d) strengthen cities and regions. Project partners from eleven countries Belarus, Estonia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia and Sweden will work together in transnational projects. The partners will come mainly from the public sector (regional and local administrations, universities, NGO's etc.).

*The programme is an effective financing tool of 236 million Euros for co-operation in the Baltic Sea region. The major share comes from the European Regional Development Fund, (ERDF), and from Norwegian national funding. The European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument will finance Russian and Belarusian partners.*

*The programme will run from 2007 to 2013. It builds on the success of the "Baltic Sea Region INTERREG III B Neighbourhood Programme 2001-2006", which during the last six years has invested around 200 million Euros in fostering cooperation around the Baltic Sea region. E.g. the project "Wind energy in the BSR - Planning, Construction and Investment" strengthened the wind energy sector. In total 129 projects were part-financed.*





*Dr Klaus Rave (left) and Mr Roland Methling*

Mr Roland Methling:

*"The City of Rostock is an international city working together with the European Union, for instance, by cooperating in the framework of the Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013. Rostock is also happy to host the Joint Technical Secretariat already for 10 years. "*

Dr Klaus Rave:

*"For the future in the Baltic Sea area cooperation and concentration are essential. The Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013 is unique and projects are our best examples of how well-coordinated are the public institutions around the Baltic Sea."*



---

For more information please contact:

Darijus Valiucko & Liga Abika  
Information Managers

Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013  
Joint Technical Secretariat  
Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein  
Grubenstrasse 20, 18055 Rostock,  
Germany

Tel: +49 381 45484 5277  
Mob: +49 163 600 5277  
Fax: +49 381 45484 5282  
<mailto:darijus.valiucko@eu.baltic.net>  
<http://eu.baltic.net>

For more information about the Baltic Sea Region programme 2007-2013 please visit <http://eu.baltic.net>.

For more general information about EU structural funds in 2007-2013 please see [http://ec.europa.eu/budget/other\\_main/funds\\_rules\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/budget/other_main/funds_rules_en.htm).

## FACT SHEET

EU Structural Funds programme for transnational cooperation under the European Territorial Co-operation objective	
<b>Timeframe</b>	2007 – 2013 (Implementation until 2015)
<b>Objective</b>	To make the Baltic Sea Region an attractive place to invest, work and live in
<b>Priorities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fostering innovations</li> <li>2. Internal and external accessibility</li> <li>3. Baltic Sea as a common resource</li> <li>4. Attractive &amp; competitive cities and regions</li> </ol>
<b>The Baltic Sea Region</b>	One of 13 European transnational cooperation programmes
<b>Participating countries</b>	<p><b>EU:</b> Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden</p> <p><b>Non EU:</b> Belarus, Norway, Russia</p>
<b>Who can apply?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public authorities from national, regional and local levels</li> <li>- Public equivalent bodies (e.g. associations, universities)</li> <li>- Private (commercial) organisations can participate as additional partners with own financing</li> </ul>
<b>Transnationality criteria</b>	- At least three organisations from minimum of three different countries shall form a partnership
<b>Funding sources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- European Regional Development Fund - 208 MEUR</li> <li>- European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument - 22.6 MEUR</li> <li>- Norway - 6 MEUR</li> </ul> <p>= Total <b>236,6 MEUR</b></p> <p>+ national co-funding from project partners</p>
<b>Co-financing rates from the programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- up to <b>75%</b> for project partners from Denmark, Germany, Sweden and Finland</li> <li>- up to <b>85%</b> for partners from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland</li> <li>- up to <b>50%</b> for partners from Norway</li> <li>- up to <b>90%</b> for partners from Russia and Belarus</li> </ul>
<p><b>Joint Technical Secretariat</b> Rostock/Germany and Riga/Latvia Joint Secretariat, Rostock Tel: +49 381 45484 5281 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@eu.baltic.net">info@eu.baltic.net</a></p>	

## Baltic Sea Region Programme area 2007 - 2013

