



# Your goals. Our support.

Boosting cross-border cooperation  
capacities of local actors in the  
South Baltic Sea.

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Joint project co-funded by  
the EU Interreg South Baltic Programme



European  
Regional  
Development  
Fund

## Main project features



### 4 EU Members of South Baltic area

Coastal regions of four EU Member States: Denmark, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden



### 986,566 EUR

Total budget of the project



### Feb 2018 – Jul 2020

Duration of the project  
30 months

## Partnership

### Project partners

1. Association Of Polish Communes Of Euroregion Baltic (Elbląg - Poland)
2. "Pomorskie In The European Union" Association (Gdańsk - Poland)
3. Baltic Institute For Regional And European Concern BISER (Gdynia - Poland)
4. Klaipeda University (Klaipėda - Lithuania)
5. Regional Council In Kalmar County (Kalmar- Sweden)
6. Guldborgsund Municipality (Nykøbing - Denmark)

### Associated Partners

1. Torsås Municipality (Torsås - Sweden)
2. Kalmar Municipality (Kalmar - Sweden)
3. Region Zealand (Sorø - Denmark)
4. Association Klaipeda Region (Klaipėda – Lithuania)
5. Municipal Community Euroregion Pomerania Regional Association (Löcknitz-Germany)
6. Association Of Polish Municipalities In The Euroregion Pomerania (Szczecin - Poland)
7. Joint Municipality Contact Council Zealand (Solrød- Denmark)
8. Norden Association (Stockholm- Sweden)

## Why do we need the UMBRELLA project?

The primary objective of the UMBRELLA project is to provide specific knowledge and skills in the implementation of goals and cross-border cooperation for local and regional entities in the South Baltic Region.

### Who is the UMBRELLA project directed to?

- NGOs
- Local and regional authorities and associations in the South Baltic Sea
- Chambers of commerce
- Business support organizations
- Local governments
- Local activists
- Institutions for nature protection, culture and national heritage

## The UMBRELLA Effect

It involves changing the way of thinking about participation in EU projects, understanding the opportunities posed by the South Baltic Region, participation in the project and as a result of the use of grants in cooperation with international partners.

## What do we want to do?

### 01 Picture of possible stakeholders in the UMBRELLA project

### 02 Mapping of stakeholders small local and regional organizations

Newcomers in the South Baltic Programme (SBP) that, in general, have never been involved in cross-border cooperation (CBC) networks and entities interested in forming a *South Baltic Identity*.

### 03 Creation of three ideal groups to be treated with tailor-made solutions

#### - Newcomers

the primary objective is to attract and involve them in the CBC networks, teach them how to move the first steps in CBC and help them overpassing their barriers (language, capacity and competencies, bureaucracy, networking, knowledge exchange).

#### - Intermediate

they consulted the Contact Points of the South Baltic Programme, but finally they did not apply for funds. Probably their main barriers consist of lack of English skills, insufficient institutional and financial capacities, lack of competences in project management. The primary objective here will be to: detect what their priorities, their field of interest, the barriers that impeded them actually to apply for grants.

#### - Experts

organizations that are well established in the cross-border cooperation networks. They will have the possibility to be involved in those UMBRELLA's activities devoted to making local actors to meet and to harvest new ideas and to connect to new networks.



## 01 Awareness raising events

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**Who** Possible stakeholders, not yet mapped. They can be newcomers in cross-border cooperation, small local and regional authorities who aim at strengthening a *South Baltic Identity*.

- What**
- Participation of “historical” representatives of cross-border collaboration on the Baltic Sea Region (experienced project managers, politicians, etc.)
  - Inspirational talks
  - Overview of past and current CBC projects in different EU programmes like INTERREG Baltic Sea, Erasmus +, Europe for Citizens and others
  - Cultural evenings and other “aggregation” activities (networking, getting to know each other)
  - Study visits
  - UMBRELLA’s offer: concrete opportunities for local and regional organizations to increase their capacity building

**Where** Poland, Sweden & Denmark

- Why**
- To raise awareness among the stakeholders on cross-border cooperation, EU Grants, Initiatives, Opportunities in the Baltic Sea Region
  - To sensitize participants on topics related to sustainable development to engage them in new related actions and projects

## 02 National trainings

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**Who** All the three groups (Newcomers, Intermediates, Experts) with different approaches, contents, focus according to their level of experience in cross-border cooperation.

**What** Trainings will be organized in the manner to respond to the specific requirements, problems and barriers in every region covered. Practices will be held in national languages, in groups of 15 to 25 people.

**Where** Poland, Lithuania, Denmark, Sweden

**Why** The objective is to train potential project developers with the intense focus on newcomers and support them in their projects development.

## 03 Trainings for trainers

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Training of Trainers will be organised to prepare each project partner (PP) to conduct national trainings in order to increase capacity that will allow for further development of cross-border projects and to transfer the knowledge to all other organisations working in the field of supporting project partnerships in the preparation phase of the projects to be submitted by SBP (or other European Territorial Cooperation - ETC - programmes).

**Where** Poland, Lithuania, Denmark, Sweden

## 04 Micro-activities

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**Who** Beneficiaries interested in relevant cooperation areas.

**What** The project will launch a specially designed set of activities to finance micro-activities for beneficiaries to help them better understand the added value of cross-border cooperation. Project partners will manage the funds to finance the activities of the beneficiaries including travel and accommodation, face-to-face meeting, rental of experts etc. The goal of the micro-activities would be to simulate real-life cross-border projects yet with little to no administrative or financial burdens on the beneficiaries.

Activities: study visits, conferences, reports on particular aspects of cooperation.

**Where** Poland, Lithuania, Sweden, Denmark

**Why** Micro-activities will aim to create dedicated cross-border networks in specific areas. Beneficiaries of the micro-activities will be able to use the knowledge, expertise and experience gained during the implementation, to later submit full-scale or small-scale applications to the regular SBP or other ETC funds calls.

## 05 Cross-border workshop & “rent-an-expert” facility

**Who** Beneficiaries that have identified relevant themes or concrete ideas for the development of projects within the SBP or other ETC programmes

**What** The workshops will have both panel sessions as well as discussion sessions in smaller groups for a better interaction possibilities. Such smaller groups will discuss topics like active communication between beneficiaries, project proposals, in the form of one-page summary.

The presented project ideas will be assessed by experts' panel that will give direct feedback and suggestions for the next steps in the project preparation. Finally, selected projects will be able to receive support from the “rent-an-expert” facility, to finalise applications to be submitted to SBP or other ETC programmes.

**Where** Poland, Lithuania, Sweden, Denmark

**Why** The participation in cross-border workshops will prepare potential beneficiaries for concrete cooperation in joint projects. Participants will be profiled and grouped thematically.

## 06 Cross-border conferences with the EUSBSR Policy Area panel

**Who** Beneficiaries interested in specific topics

**What** Selected beneficiaries grouped around their Policy Area/ Horizontal Area will be informed of future project steps, activities and will meet with experts from their PA/HA for the 1st time. The conferences will have both panel sessions as well as discussion sessions in smaller groups for a better interaction possibilities.

**Where** Sweden, Denmark, Poland

**Why** The participation in cross-border workshops with PA panels will provide beneficiaries with relevant information in a specific thematic areas for the preparation of future project applications.

## Project partners



KLAIPĖDA UNIVERSITY



## Associated partners



## Contact us

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