



MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

POLAND

Cross-border Co-operation
South Baltic Programme
2007-2013

Kick – off meeting

Gdańsk, 26th March 2008

BACKGROUND

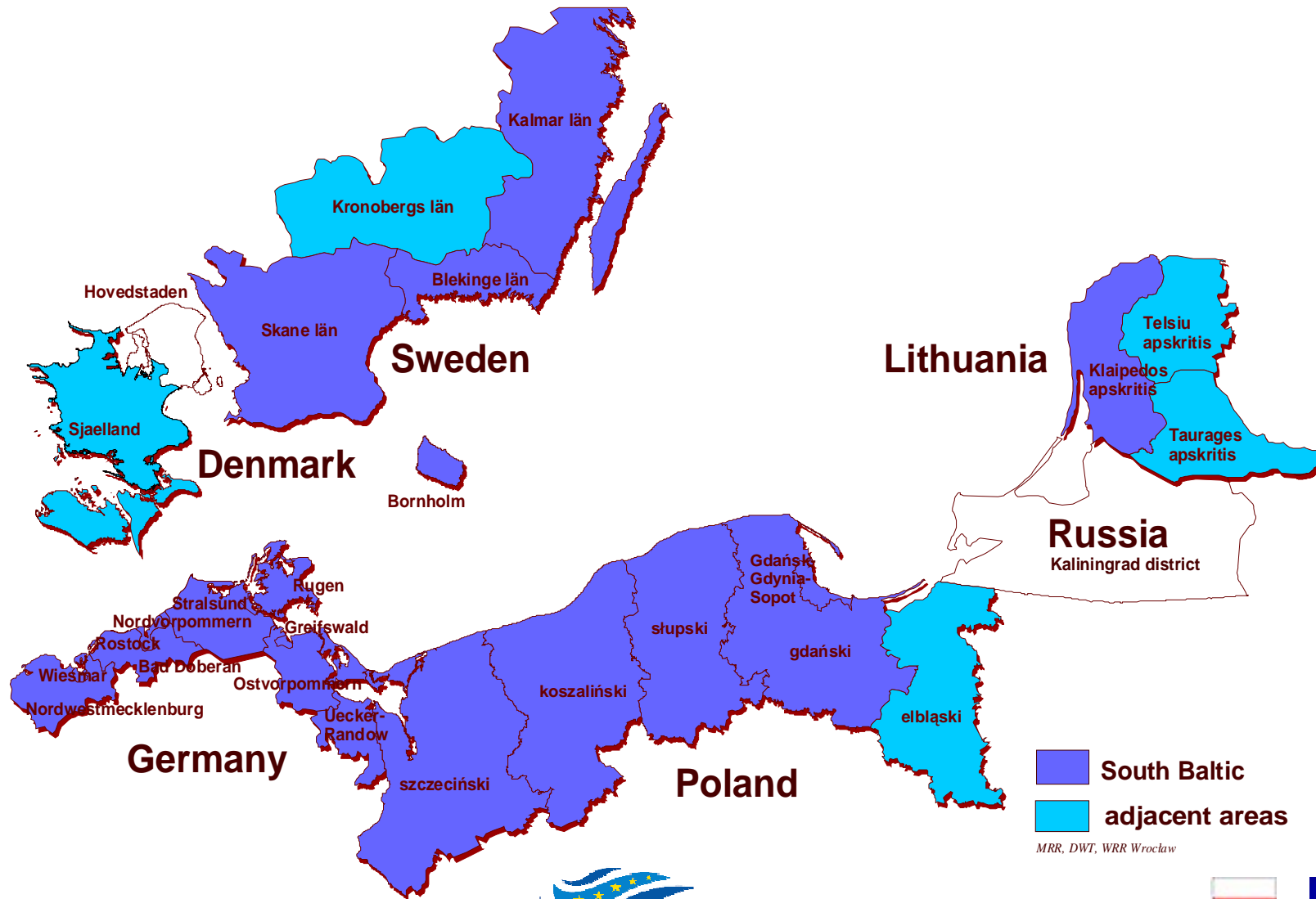
- Long – lasting cooperation within the South Baltic area
- European regulations for 2007 – 2013 financial perspective:

Possibility of the creation of maritime cross-border co-operation programmes under the European Territorial Co-operation Objective, between regions situated along the sea borders and separated by no more than 150 km

- The role of Bornholm (Denmark)
- Programme proposed by EC, November 2005
- Denmark, Poland, Sweden decide to co-operate within the cross-border Programme, May 2006
- German (Mecklenburg – Vorpommern) and Lithuanian regions decide to join the co-operation, May – November 2006
- The coordinating role conferred to the Polish Ministry of Regional Development as future Managing Authority of the Programme.

Preparation of the South Baltic Operational Programme (OP)

- Preparatory structures:
 - Drafting Team -> transformed into Joint Programming Committee (JPC)
 - Implementation Working Group (IWG)
 - Core Group (CG)
- July 2007: the first draft of the OP submitted to the European Commission (EC)
- October 2007: JPC answers EC comments
- **20 December 2007: EC approves the OP**





The overall objective of the Programme:

To strengthen the sustainable development of the South Baltic area through joint actions increasing its competitiveness and enhancing integration among people and institutions

1: ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

37 % of the ERDF contribution

- **Entrepreneurial development**
 - SME platforms/networks, innovation and Triple-helix concept etc.
- **Integration of higher education and labour markets**
 - Labour market: mobility, lifelong learning, accessibility to education, SME training programmes etc.
- **Transport accessibility**
 - Feasibility studies, multimodal transport system, improvement of transport connections and creation of new links, increase of sustainability and quality of passenger transport services

2: ATTRACTIVENESS AND COMMON IDENTITY

57 % of the ERDF contribution

- **Management of the Baltic Sea environment**
 - Water and waste management, decrease of outflows, local and regional preparedness and response, integrated coastal zone management etc.
- **Energy saving and renewable energy**
 - Joint action plans, research, testing and preparation of small-scale pilot investments, promotion internally and externally
- **Sustainable use of natural and cultural heritage for regional development**
 - Cross-border strategies, sustainable tourism products and infrastructure, capacity building and campaigns, Eco-Management and Audit Scheme etc.
- **Local Community initiatives**
 - Joint events, exchange of good practice, durable NGO networks, pilot and innovative projects focusing on common values, joint actions etc.

3: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

6 % of the ERDF contribution

- To secure effective implementation of the South Baltic Programme.
- The assistance aims to provide high quality service of managing and implementing institutions.

Programme budget

- The total Programme budget - **75 342 210 EUR.**
- The European Regional Development Fund contribution - **60 735 659 EUR.**

The co-financing rate from ERDF:

- Poland, Lithuania and Germany - up to **85%.**
- Sweden and Denmark - up to **75%**

Who can get co-financing

- national (governmental), regional or local authorities as well as their associations;
- non-governmental organisations (NGOs):
- schools, universities, vocational and other educational organisations and centres;
- research and development institutions;
- entrepreneurship and innovation development support structures, like business incubators, chambers of commerce;
- national and landscape parks, bodies responsible for management of protected areas,
- other public institutions supporting and promoting sustainable development, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Programme implementation structures

- **Managing Authority** – Polish Ministry of Regional Development
- **Certifying Authority** – Polish Ministry of Regional Development
- **Audit Authority** – Polish Ministry of Finance
- **Group of Auditors** – representatives of each Member State participating in the Programme
- **Joint Technical Secretariat**, located in Gdańsk (Poland)
- **Contact Points**

Monitoring Committee (MC)

Up to 6 per country

Steering Committee (SC)

Up to 6 per country

Programme implementation

- **First Monitoring Committee meeting – Gdańsk, 22nd January 2008**
 - Technical Assistance budget
 - Project assessment criteria
 - Application Form with Guidelines
 - Programme Manual
- **First call for proposals – 26 March – 30 April 2008 r.**
- Second call for proposals planned for September/October 2008



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Thank you for your attention

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