

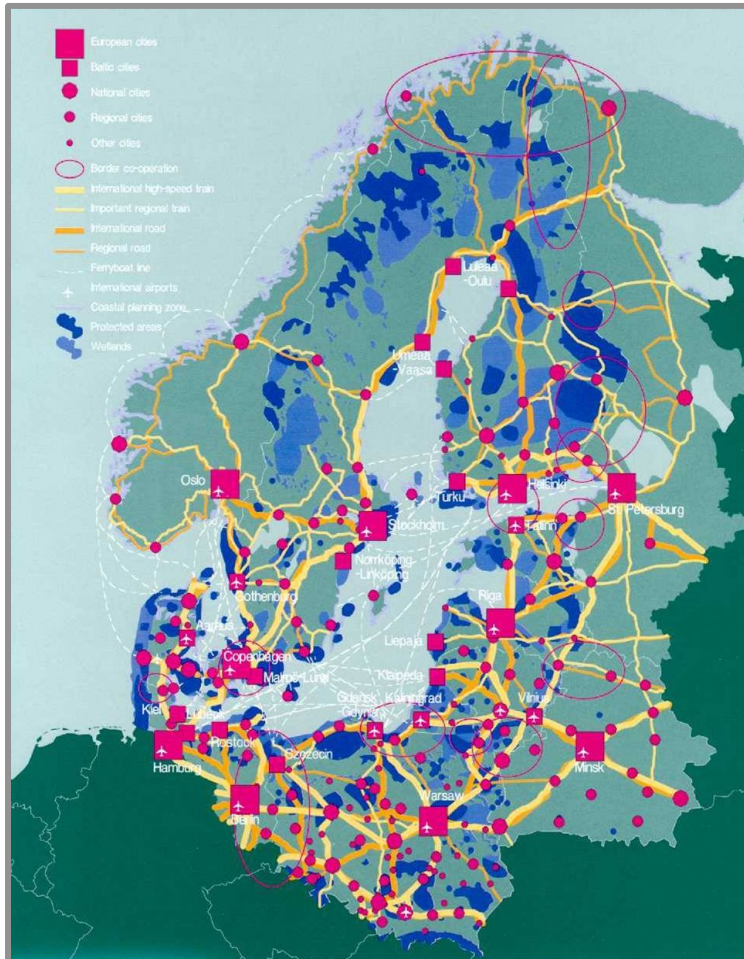


**Focus on regional development and
adequacy of the EU Baltic Sea Region Strategy**
ICN annual event - Baltic Sea Region 2020 - A Connected Region

G.Lukstina 2014
Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments

- **Is there a GAP between the EU BSR Strategy – EU BSRS and local level?**
- **Local authorities role?**
- **What's in it for us?**

From VASAB to the EU Baltic Sea Region Strategy



EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

- First macro-regional strategy **in the EU** out of today three strategies
- **Adopted by the European Council of October 2009**
- Long-term approach towards the implementation of EU policies in the Baltic Sea region
- Explicitly asks for cooperation and coordination **among the Baltic Sea States** (MSs and non-EU MSs)

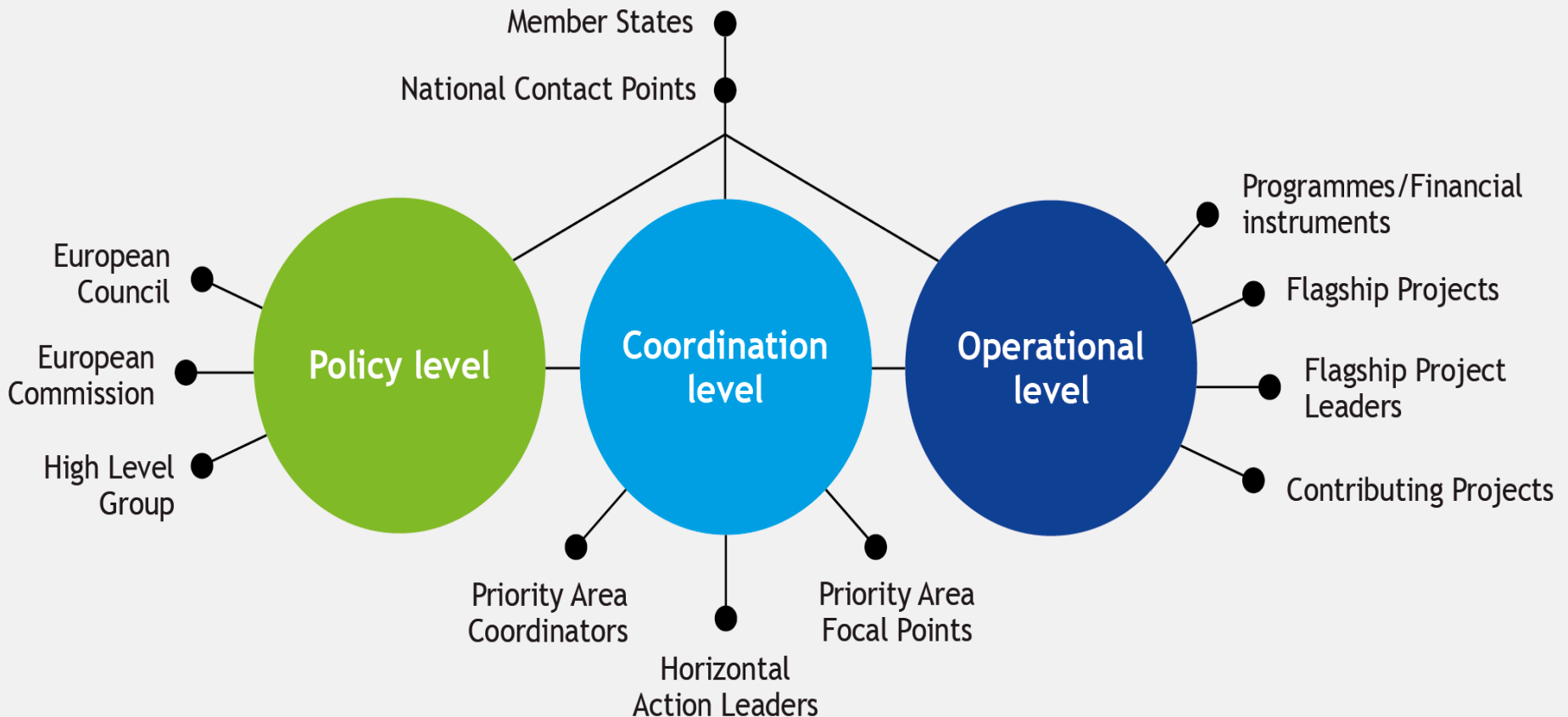


EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

- **In Latvia the strategy is under the lead of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - national contact point**
- **Latvia's priority fields have been defined:**
 - Energy
 - Competitiveness
 - Education, research and culture
 - Environment
 - Public safety



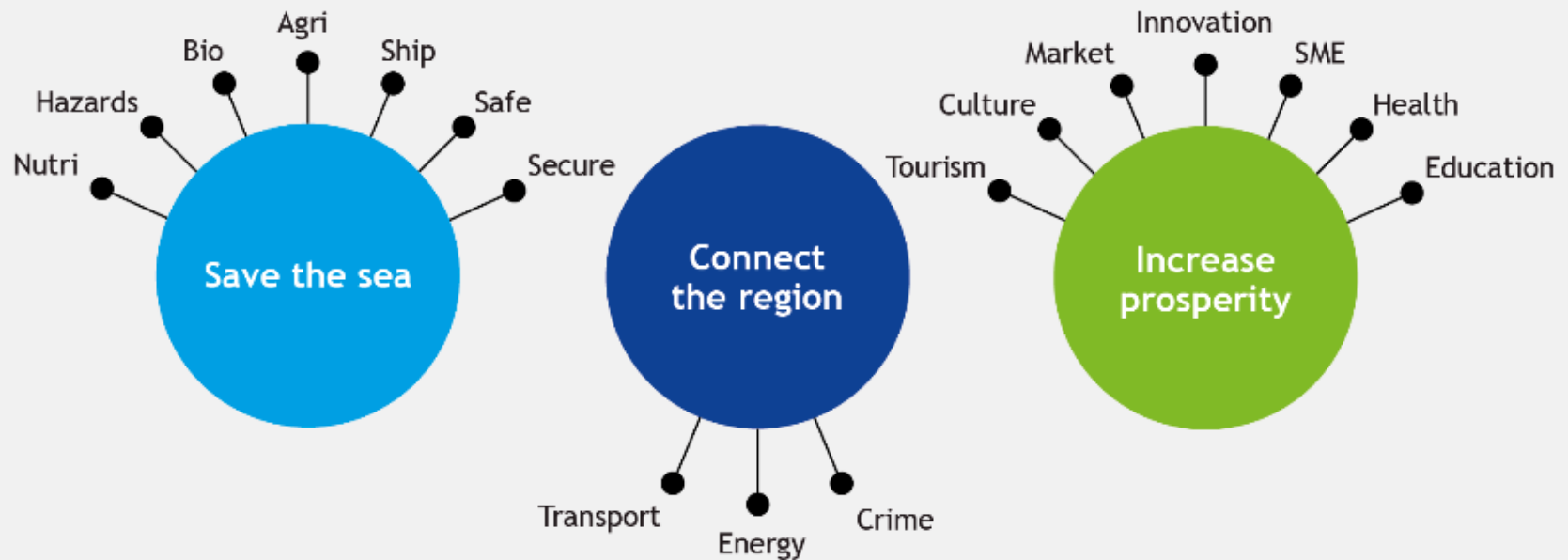
Governance system of the EUSBSR



REVISED ACTION PLAN OF EU BSRS

EU BSRS objectives and priority areas

Objectives and Priority Areas



Horizontal Actions

Spatial

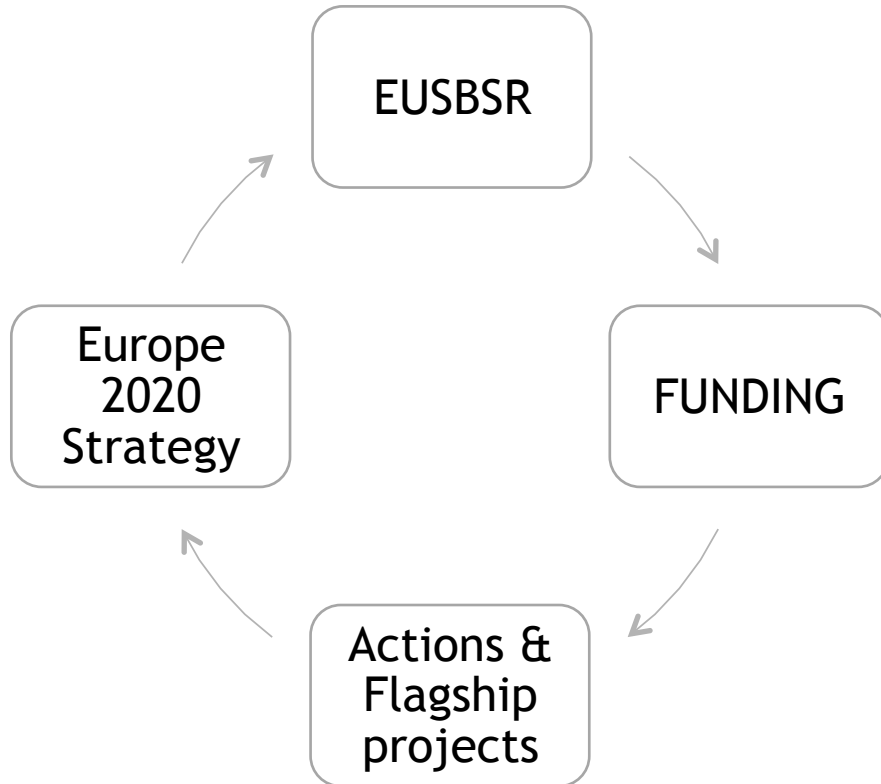
Neighbours

Involve

Sustainable

Promo

EUSBSR: Intervention Logic



COMMON STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK for 2014-2020:
European Structural and Investment Funds (ERDF, ESF, CF, EMFF, EAFRD)

SEED MONEY FACILITIES:
Swedish Institute, IB.SH, CBSS, Nordic Council of Ministers

OTHER EUROPEAN UNION FUNDS:
Connecting Europe Facility, Horizon 2020, LIFE + programme, COSME, Erasmus +, new environment action programme, etc.

OTHER INSTRUMENTS:
e.g. International Banks, national, regional and local funds, private funds and investments, funding resources provided by international institutions, etc.

EU BSRS objectives and priority areas

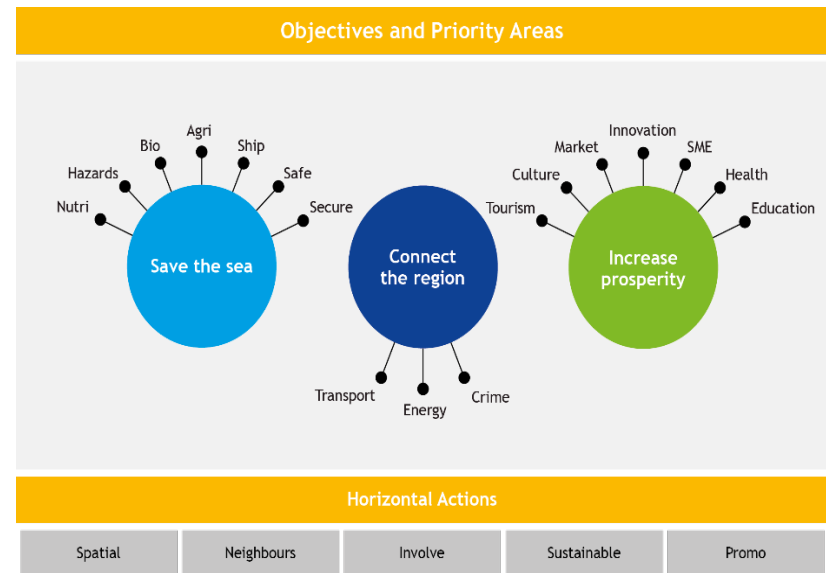
- To address common challenges for a certain geographical area and maximise common assets

The EUSBSR is inviting for **more effective consumption of existing funds** to deal with the challenges faced by the region, Member State(s) and the macro-region

More information:

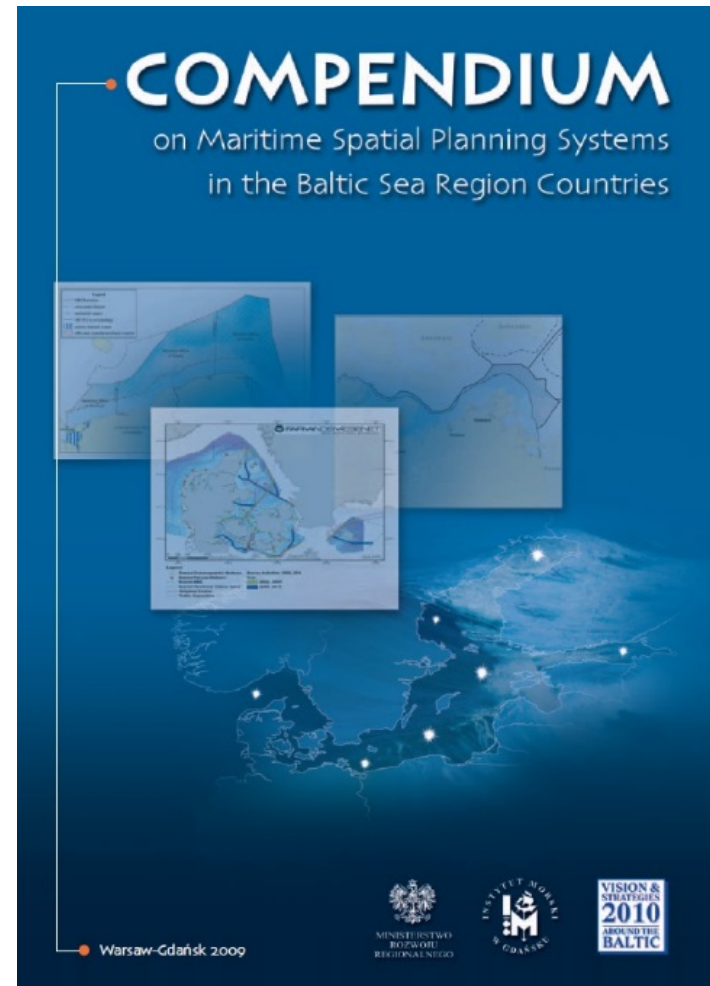
<http://www.balticsea-region.eu/>

<http://www.balticsea-region-strategy.eu/component/edocman/5-presentations>



EU BSRS Horizontal Action „Spatial Planning”

- **VASAB and HELCOM are Horizontal Action Leaders**
- Encouraging the use of maritime and land-based spatial planning in all member states around the Baltic sea and develop a common approach for cross-border cooperation
- Latvian maritime spatial plan till 2020 according to the EU BSRS
- **Maritime strategy = Sea basin strategy by 2020**

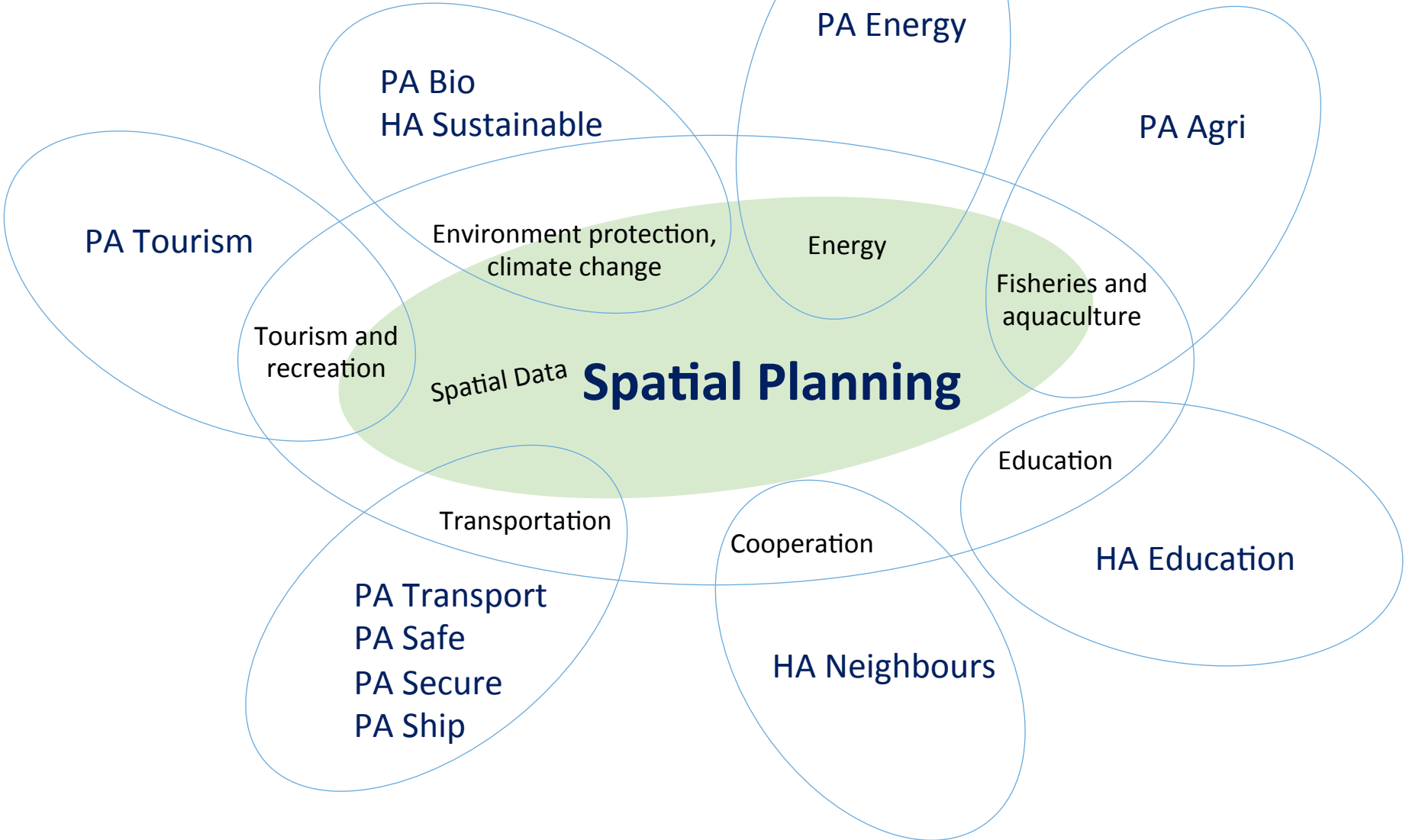


Links to EUSBSR PAs and HAs



EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

HORIZONTAL ACTION 'SPATIAL PLANNING'





Seed money is EU funding to prepare projects that contribute to one of the priority areas or horizontal actions of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

The Facility supports only projects that are explicitly addressing challenges listed in the Action Plan to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

www.balticsea-region-strategy.eu

Developing Connected Region through networking and cooperation



Pan - Baltic cooperation

- **BSSSC** - Baltic Sea States Sub regional Co-operation
LALRG organisator of the BSSSC Annual Conference, October 2014, Jurmala
- **UBC** - Union of the Baltic Cities – Riga, Jurmala, Liepaja etc. are members of the UBS
- UBC Planning Commission and the Commission for the Environment - organisers of the seminar in Riga about «URBAN STREAMS», October 2014





CENTRAL BALTIC
INTERREG IV A
PROGRAMME
2007-2013



EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE



BALTIC SEA CHALLENGE
CITIES FOR A HEALTHIER SEA

The Baltic Sea Challenge – Cities for a Healthier Sea

Partners: Cities of Helsinki,
Tallinn, Turku, Centrum
Balticum, REC Estonia, Erkas
Central Baltic Interreg IV A
Programme 2007 – 2013

An initiative from Zensnstrom
Philantropies, Race for the
Baltic





CENTRAL BALTIC
INTERREG IV A
PROGRAMME
2007-2013



EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE



BALTIC SEA CHALLENGE
CITIES FOR A HEALTHIER SEA

The Baltic Sea Challenge – Cities for a Healthier Sea

- improving the state of the coastal waters
- increasing awareness of the state of the Baltic Sea among civil servants and general public
- activating other actors - cities/ municipalities, NGOs and schools
- promoting the dialog between civil servants, politicians, researchers and other actors



Norway Grants project "Smart governance and performance improvement of Latvian municipalities"



- **Project is supported** by the Norway Grants program „Capacity-Building and Institutional Cooperation between Latvian and Norwegian Public Institutions, Local and Regional Authorities”
- **Project promoter:** Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments
- **Project partners:** The Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities - donor partner Latvian State Regional Agency



Norway Grants project "Smart governance and performance improvement of Latvian municipalities"

(Participants - Mayors of Latvian local governments and representatives of LALRG)

- The objective - to achieve evidence based governance and performance improvement of the local governments, encouraging strategic governance approach
- The outcome - sustainable **benchlearning system in Latvia**
- The outputs - four cooperation and efficiency improvement networks of local governments and a benchmarking data base
- The Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities is to introduce Norwegian benchlearning methodology



Trans in Form

Baltic Sea Region programme 2007 – 2013



- **Trans in Form -
Transforming rural regions
by launching scenarios,
new narratives and
attractive urban design**



Trans in Form

Baltic Sea Region programme 2007 - 2013



- **The largest benefit of the project**
 - another approach to the development of areas – whatever we do the place must be attractive and fascinating







EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

- **IMPROVE** communication
- **INVOLVE** local governments
- **NETWORKING AND COOPERATION** among the BSR local authorities for BSR - connected and integrated region 2020

Connecting Region during the Latvian presidency

VI Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region from 15-16 June, 2015, Jurmala, Latvia

under the title of the event **'Achieving E-quality by Connecting Region(s)'**

The forum will come as a major gathering of regional 400 – 500 experts, stakeholders, government and non-governmental organization representatives, students and academics and other interested parties





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