

## **Euroregion Baltic**

### **2009-2010 Action Plan**

#### **Priority 1:**

Improving socio-economic cohesion in Euroregion Baltic through the continued implementation of the ERB Joint Development Programme

#### **Strategic focus:**

Effective implementation of Joint Development Programme

#### **Rationale:**

The reference networks which were established during the Seagull II project, turned into formal ERB Working Groups. Consisting of politicians, civil servants and experts, they examine possibilities for actors from the ERB member regions to work together within the areas of Joint Development Programme and prepare project applications with the aim of implementing specific recommendations of the ERB Joint Development Programme. The time framework for the Groups to operate should at least be until 2015, to match the temporal perspective of the Joint Development Programme.

In 2009 particular foci should be:

- for to the Working Groups on SME / Innovation, Social Dimension, Energy, and Water to implement projects submitted to the South Baltic Programme in its second call;
- for the Working Groups on Rural Development and Environment Protection to each prepare and submit a project proposal;
- for the Working Group on Transport Infrastructure to prepare and submit a project proposal in relation to the tasks identified by the Group and approved in its action plan;
- for the Working Group on Tourism to prepare and submit a project proposal in relation to the tasks identified by the Group and approved in its action plan;
- for all the Working Groups to enable participation of external partners in their joint activities, whenever relevant.

In 2010 particular foci should be:

- for to the Working Groups on SME / Innovation, Social Dimension, Energy, and Water to continue to implement projects submitted to the South Baltic Programme in its second call;
- for the Working Groups on Rural Development and Environment Protection to implement submitted projects;
- for the Working Group on Transport Infrastructure to implement the submitted project;
- for the Working Group on Tourism to implement the submitted project;
- for all the Working Groups to enable participation of external partners in their joint activities, whenever relevant.

**Priority 2:**

Enhancing cultural and societal integration within Euroregion Baltic through joint activities of local communities and youth

**Strategic focus:**

Integration of local communities within ERB regions, and of youth in particular

**Rationale:**

Integration of local communities lays at the foundation of cross-border cooperation and thus remains the core objective within Euroregion Baltic. The Working Group on Local Community Initiatives should provide a coordinative mechanism helping ERB actors to implement concrete activities affecting local communities in such areas as culture, education, entrepreneurship, healthcare, sports, and tourism. The involvement of youth shall add value to the integration of local communities and intercultural dialogue within ERB regions. Participation of the Youth Board in ERB decision-making processes is instrumental in both bringing the youth aspect into the ERB agenda and attracting more interest within the regions.

In 2009 particular foci should be:

- for the Working Group on Local Community Initiatives to prepare and submit three project proposals in relation to the tasks identified by the Group and approved in its action plan:
  - one project could aim to extend the Polish – Russian Culture Council and be financed through the CBC Fund managed by the Association of Polish Communes;
  - one project could aim at organising ERB Youth Games;
  - one project, entitled Baltic Youth Camp, could aim at facilitating youth sports events, both around summer and winter games;
- for the Working Group on Local Community Initiatives to coordinate ERB participation in the Baltic Festival in Karlshamn;
- for the ERB Youth Board to implement the project submitted to the South Baltic Programme in its second call;
- for the Working Group on Local Community Initiatives to initiate work on a project presenting culture of ERB regions and countries to ERB inhabitants;
- for the ERB Youth Board to anchor and promote its activities within the regions. An annual youth event will be organised in each ERB region with the first one held in the region of Warmińsko-Mazurskie in 2009.

In 2010 particular foci should be:

- for the Working Group on Local Community Initiatives to implement the submitted projects in relation to the tasks identified by the Group and approved in its action plan;
- for the Working Group on Local Community Initiatives to further coordinate ERB participation in next Baltic Festival in Karlshamn that will be held in 2010;
- for the Working Group on Local Community Initiatives to further coordinate ERB participation in Gdańsk Tourism Fairs;
- for the ERB Youth Board to further implement and finalize implementation of the project submitted to the South Baltic Programme in its second call;

- for the ERB Youth Board to develop a new idea for the project in relation to the first Youth Board project with the focus on further cooperation of Youth in Baltic Sea Region.
- for ERB Youth Board to further anchor and promote its activities within the regions. The second annual youth event will be organised in Klaipeda County in 2010.

### **Priority 3:**

Making ERB more recognisable nationally, in the Baltic Sea Region and in the EU through the implementation of the ERB Information and Communication Strategy

### **Strategic focus:**

Improving internal and external communication activities promoting Euroregion Baltic, as well as enhancing its participatory role in EU debates

### **Rationale:**

This priority will specifically deal with the ERB Information and Communication Strategy which has been constructed in order to address the challenge of building an ERB brand on a number of levels. Firstly, ERB will run activities to make the organisation more familiar to a wide representation of local and regional levels. Another task will be to improve ERB visibility at national levels, both among governmental and parliamentary representatives. Finally, ERB will continue efforts to make coordinated contributions to debates within the European Union.

In 2009 particular foci should be:

- to continuously cooperate with EU bodies such as relevant European Commission directorates. Developing good contacts with the Committee of the Regions should be of particular significance. Two events are planned to be co-organised with the CoR in 2009: an EU Eastern Dimension conference in September and a Baltic Sea Action Plan seminar in October;
- to investigate among ERB member regions the idea of creating a "fast track" which would enable consulting documents produced by the Committee of the Regions;
- to develop closer cooperation between ERB and other Baltic Sea Region actors, such as CPMR, BSSSC, South Baltic CBC programme;
- to actively participate in ongoing EU debates and forward ERB resolutions on relevant EU policies (e.g. Territorial Cohesion);
- to commit itself to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. ERB will propose the organisation of a Baltic congress to the Baltic organisations it cooperated with while drafting a joint position on the Strategy. Such a congress could take place in January 2010;
- to commit itself to the EU Eastern Dimension. ERB will be actively involved in the conference on the subject, co-organised by the Committee of the Regions and the Marshal of Warmińsko-Mazurskie in Ryn between 16 and 17 September 2009;
- to continue organising ERB Executive Board meetings around its member regions; these will subsequently be held in Olsztyn (April 2009), Gdansk (June 2009), Kalmar (January 2010);
- to continue hosting ERB events in Brussels. In 2009 a seminar on the Baltic Sea Action Plan will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> October during Open Days;

In 2010 particular foci should be:

- to cooperate with EU bodies such as relevant European Commission directorates. Further development of good contacts with the Committee of the Regions will remain our particular objective. It will also be of crucial importance for ERB to participate in events that are planned to be co-organised with the CoR upon the main political priorities of Committee of the Regions in 2010;
- to take further active part in ongoing EU debates and forward ERB resolutions on relevant EU policies. It is our strong belief that through such a active participation Euroregion Baltic will become more open, prestigious and reliable structure of interregional cooperation to be considered by the EU in their debates on policies;
- to facilitate ERB participation in Open Days in Brussels, open EU forums on various relevant questions for ERB, etc;
- with the aim of promoting ERB brand in EU to initiate and develop an idea of organization of conference in Brussels to further examine the issue of cross border cooperation structures in Europe in 2010 and further on;
- to continue organising ERB Executive Board meetings around its member regions; these will subsequently be held in Klaipeda (April 2010), Växjö (June 2010) and Karlskrona (January 2011).

#### **Priority 4:**

Strengthening ERB institutional capacities through the enhanced involvement of both political and administrative representatives in the ERB cooperation

#### **Strategic focus:**

Implementing a joint ERB project with the aim of enhancing ERB institutional capacities and positively affecting ERB organisational structures

#### **Rationale:**

Euroregion Baltic has undergone significant changes reflecting the continuous need to make it a modern and efficiently acting organisation. They have all been possible through political support offered by politicians representing the regions – members of Euroregion Baltic, through administrative resources made available by their local and regional offices, and through personal commitment displayed by a number of individuals working with everyday issues on the ERB agenda. Financial assistance of EU programmes has also been instrumental in the process.

In 2009 particular foci should be:

- to prepare and submit one joint ERB project whose theme will be agreed in agreement with the regional authorities within ERB and in cooperation with the South Baltic CBC Programme Joint Technical Secretariat;
- to continue internal debates whereby regional and local politicians define important issues in ERB cooperation; such debates should concern the selection and adoption of new areas of interest for ERB and its scope of activity, as well as the application of a legal status and/or available financial instruments;

- to initiate work on a joint project application with the participation of researchers and academics which would enable the exchange of experiences with other euroregions (though e.g. study visits).

In 2010 particular foci should be:

- to implement joint ERB projects submitted to the South Baltic CBC Programme in its 3<sup>d</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> call of proposals;
- to further continue internal debates on important issues in ERB cooperation; adoption of new selected areas of interest for ERB and its scope of activity, as well as the application of a legal status and/or available financial instruments.

## ERB Activity & Time Schedule, 2009

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 2 March             | Secretariat on-line meeting                                      |
| 13 – 15 March       | Karlskronavakan (tennis for all ages) in Karlskrona, Blekinge    |
| 2 April             | Secretariat meeting, Gdańsk, Pomorskie                           |
| 2 April – 10 May    | Klaipeda Music Spring, Klaipeda                                  |
| 6 April             | Board meeting, online  |
| 29 April - 3 May    | Trolling Master, Bornholm  |
| 1 – 4 May           | Elblag Junket, Warmińsko-Mazurskie                               |
| 4 May               | Secretariat on-line meeting                                      |
| 7 – 8 May           | National Wind Energy Seminar, Kalmar                             |
| 14 – 17 May         | Kortowiada Students' Festival in Olsztyn, Warmińsko-Mazurskie    |
| 17 May              | Museum Nights, all over ERB and Europe                           |
| 18 May – 1 June     | Poetry Spring, Klaipeda  |
| 22 – 23 May         | Blues & Roots Festival in Mönsterås, Kalmar                      |
| 30 May – 1 June     | International Blacksmith Open-air, Klaipeda                      |
| 1 June – 7 June     | International Festival of Street Theatres, Klaipeda              |
| 9 June              | Board meeting in Gdańsk, Pomorskie                               |
| 13 – 17 June        | Fairy Tale Festival in Ljungby, Södra Småland                    |
| 24 – 29 June        | Klaipeda Castle Jazz Festival, Klaipeda                          |
| 25 – 28 June        | Int'l Children & Youth Folk Festival in Elk, Warmińsko-Mazurskie |
| 27 June             | Lövmarknaden Karlskrona, Blekinge                                |
| 27 June             | Days of the Sea in Ostróda, Warmińsko-Mazurskie                  |
| 30 June – 28 August | International Festival of Organ Music in Oliwa, Pomorskie        |
| 3 - 5 July          | Annual Animal Fair and Around Bornholm on foot, Bornholm         |
| 4 – 25 July         | Mazury Comedy Night in Mrągowo, Warmińsko-Mazurskie              |
| 6 - 12 July         | Jazz Festival in Allinge, Bornholm                               |
| 8 – 11 July         | Hultsfred Rock festival in Hultsfred, Kalmar                     |
| 9 – 10 July         | Festival of Shanties in Gdańsk, Pomorskie                        |
| 9 – 11 July         | Eko Union Rock Festival in Węgorzewo, Warmińsko-Mazurskie        |
| 9 – 12 July         | Sail Gdańsk, Pomorskie   |
| 13 - 25 July        | Medieval Market at Bornholm Medieval Centre, Bornholm            |
| 16 – 18 July        | Baltic Festival in Karlshamn, Blekinge                           |
| 16 – 19 July        | International Street Theatres Festival in Gdańsk, Pomorskie      |
| 17 July             | Trade & Aid Concert at Hammershus Castle, Bornholm               |
| 17 – 18 July        | Sea and Sailing Song Festival in Giżycko, Warmińsko-Mazurskie    |
| 18 July             | Enactment of Battle of Grunwald, Warmińsko-Mazurskie             |
| 18 July             | Blues in Ostróda, Warmińsko-Mazurskie                            |

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 20 - 24 July        | Etape Bornholm, Bornholm  |
| 22 – 26 July        | Europeade (European Folk Culture Festival), Klaipeda  |
| 23 – 26 July        | Folk music festival in Korrö, Södra Småland   |
| 24 – 25 July        | Kormoran Racing, Warmińsko-Mazurskie  |
| 24 – 26 July        | Picnic Country in Mrągowo, Warmińsko-Mazurskie  |
| 25 – 27 July        | Sea Festival, Klaipeda  |
| 25 July – 16 August | St. Dominic’s Fair in Gdańsk, Pomorskie   |
| 29 July – 2 August  | Sail Karlskrona, Blekinge   |
| 30 July - 1 August  | Emmabodafestivalen in Emmaboda, Kalmar  |
| 31 July – 2 August  | Mazury Air Festival in Kętrzyn, Warmińsko-Mazurskie   |
| 31 July – 2 August  | Masuria Medieval Festival in Ryn, Warmińsko-Mazurskie   |
| 1 August            | City Birthday, Klaipeda   |
| 1 – 2 August        | Summer Hot Days in Ostróda, Warmińsko-Mazurskie   |
| 1 – 9 August        | Shakespeare Festival in Gdańsk, Pomorskie   |
| 1 – 28 August       | International Opera and Symphony Music Festival, Klaipeda   |
| 4 August            | <a href="#">ERB Local Action Group Conference in Olsztyn</a>  |
| 4 -9 August         | Beachball World Cup in Stare Jabłonki, Warmińsko-Mazurskie  |
| 5 August            | <a href="#">ERB Rural Development Working Group meeting in Olsztyn</a>                                  |
| 6 – 9 August        | Karl-Oskar Days in Växjö, Södra Småland   |
| 7 – 8 August        | Hip-Hop Festival Giżycko, Warmińsko-Mazurskie   |
| 10 August           | Skate Marathon, Bornholm  |
| 13 – 16 August      | Polish Yachting Championship in Giżycko, Warmińsko-Mazurskie  |
| 14 – 16 August      | Reggae Festival in Ostróda, Warmińsko-Mazurskie   |
| 14 – 16 August      | Old Jazz Meeting in Iława, Warmińsko-Mazurskie  |
| 21 – 23 August      | H. Wagner’s Volleyball Memorial in Olsztyn, Warmińsko-Mazurskie   |
| 23 August           | Around Bornholm by bike, Bornholm   |
| 23 – 24 August      | Hunter Fest in Szczytno, Warmińsko-Mazurskie  |
| 5 – 7 September     | International Festival of Contemporary Art, Klaipeda  |
| 7 September         | <a href="#">Secretariat on-line meeting</a>   |
| 11 - 20 September   | Annual Cultural Week, Bornholm  |
| 16 – 18 September   | <a href="#">China - Baltic Forum, Kalmar</a>  |
| 16 – 17 September   | <a href="#">Eastern Dimension Conference in Ryn, Warmińsko-Mazurskie</a>                                |
| 18 - 29 September   | Food Festival, Bornholm   |
| 24 – 27 September   | Harvest Festival on Öland, Kalmar   |
| 26 September        | Bread Festival in Elbląg, Warmińsko-Mazurskie   |
| 5 October           | <a href="#">Secretariat on-line meeting</a>   |
| 7 October           | <a href="#">Board meeting in Brussels, Belgium</a><br><a href="#">Seminar on Baltic Sea Action Plan</a> |

|                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 7 – 9 October  | ScanBalt Forum, Kalmar      |
| 2 November     | Secretariat on-line meeting |
| 19-20 November | Council meeting in Poland   |
| 7 December     | Secretariat on-line meeting |
| 4 January 2010 | Secretariat on-line meeting |

### **ERB Activity & Time Schedule, 2009**

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 21 January     | Board meeting in Olsztyn, Warmińsko-Mazurskie<br>Secretariat on-line meeting |
| 25-26 February | Council meeting in Klaipeda, Klaipeda County                                 |
| 22 April       | Board meeting in Kalmar  |

Blue: Secretariat on-line meetings

Red: Council and Board meetings

Purple: fora, conferences and seminars

Black: sports and cultural events

**INCOME:**

| <b>Lp</b> | <b>Item</b>                            | <b>Planned for 2009</b> | <b>Planned for 2010</b> | <b>Planned for 2011</b> |
|-----------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>1</u>  | Result at the beginning of the year    | -2 000,00 €             | 0,00 €                  | 0,00 €                  |
| <u>2</u>  | Region Blekinge                        | 6 900,00 €              | 6 900,00 €              | 6 900,00 €              |
| <u>3</u>  | Regionförbundet Södra Småland          | 6 900,00 €              | 6 900,00 €              | 6 900,00 €              |
| <u>4</u>  | Regionförbundet i Kalmar Län           | 6 900,00 €              | 6 900,00 €              | 6 900,00 €              |
| <u>5</u>  | Bornholm                               | 6 900,00 €              | 6 900,00 €              | 6 900,00 €              |
| <u>6</u>  | Pomorski Urząd Marszałkowski           | 3 450,00 €              | 3 450,00 €              | 3 450,00 €              |
| <u>7</u>  | Warmińsko-Mazurski Urząd Marszałkowski | 3 450,00 €              | 3 450,00 €              | 3 450,00 €              |
| <u>8</u>  | Lithuania                              | 2 300,00 €              | 2 300,00 €              | 2 300,00 €              |
| <u>9</u>  | Russia                                 | 2 300,00 €              | 2 300,00 €              | 2 300,00 €              |
| <u>10</u> | Refund from participation in projects  | 5 400,00 €              | 7 000,00 €              | 8 000,00 €              |

**TOTAL INCOME****42 500,00 €****46 100,00 €****47 100,00 €**

| <b>Lp</b> | <b>Item</b>  | <b>Planned for 2009</b> | <b>Planned for 2010</b> | <b>Planned for 2011</b> |
|-----------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>1</u>  | Overheads  | 4 900,00 €              | 4 900,00 €              | 4 900,00 €              |
| <u>2</u>  | ERB Publishing / Marketing   | 1 000,00 €              | 1 000,00 €              | 1 000,00 €              |
| <u>3</u>  | Travel / Meetings  | 5 000,00 €              | 5 000,00 €              | 5 000,00 €              |
| <u>4</u>  | Personnel costs  | 18 500,00 €             | 19 500,00 €             | 20 500,00 €             |
| <u>5</u>  | IT expenditure, incl. Website and Marrantech management, and equipment | 5 500,00 €              | 5 500,00 €              | 5 500,00 €              |
| <u>6</u>  | Youth Board  | 5 100,00 €              | 5 100,00 €              | 5 100,00 €              |
| <u>7</u>  | Participation in projects  | 1 500,00 €              | 1 500,00 €              | 1 500,00 €              |
| <u>8</u>  | Reserve (incl. Banking charges)  | 1 000,00 €              | 3 600,00 €              | 3 600,00 €              |

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE****42 500,00 €****46 100,00 €****47 100,00 €****RESULT (Income - Expenditure)****0,00 €****0,00 €****0,00 €**