

EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD AND PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT

ERB, ENPI or ???

WHAT IS ENPI?

- The instrument to implement the European Neighbourhood Policy
 - Sharing EU's fundamental values and objectives
 - Going beyond co-operation to involve a significant measure of economic and political integration
- Main documents:
 - ENP Strategy, 12 May 2004
 - Draft regulation, 29 September 2004
 - Action Plans for each neighbouring country
 - Russia: Road map for development of the four common spaces, 10 May 2005

BACKGROUND

- January 2005: ERB Board meetings in Brussels
- May 2005: ERB Board agree to make a Position Paper
- July 2005: ERB Board adopt Position Paper
- August 2005: Lobbying activities starts
- October and November 2005: Lobbying meetings in Brussels
 - Sweden in favour of an ERB CBC programme
 - Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Finland promote a request for postponement of the ENPI programmes with Russia and Belarusia
- February 2006: Meeting with Commissioner Danuta Hübner
- March 2006: ERB Council to discuss updated ENPI position

ENPI AND RUSSIA

”The ENPI covers Russia because the EU and Russia have decided to develop their strategic partnership through the creation of ’four common spaces’, rather than in the framework established by the ENP”

(Draft regulation)

GEOGRAPHICAL ELIGIBILITY

1. Crossborder cooperation programmes may cover all land borders and all maritime zones facing a common sea basin:
 - All territorial units corresponding to NUTS III-level or equivalent along the land borders between Member States and partner countries;
 - All territorial units corresponding to NUTS III-level or equivalent along the crossings of significant importance;
 - All coastal territorial units corresponding to NUTS II-level or equivalent facing a sea basin common to Member States and partner countries.
2. In special cases, eligibility may be extended to territorial units adjoining those referred to in paragraph 1.
3. The list of sea crossings of significant importance shall be defined by the Commission in the strategy paper on the basis of distance and other relevant geographical and economic criteria.

(Article 8 in draft regulation)

EUROREGION BALTIC



30 March 2006

ERB Council meeting

CURRENT ENPI POSITIONS

- INTERREG III B BSR to be continued as a Transnational Neighbourhood Programme 2007-2013
 - Same level of ERDF funding, and more TACIS funding
 - Innovation, accessibility, environment/energy, sustainable urban development
- CBC mapping ongoing, negotiations between governments
 - So far only Sweden has supported a specific ERB CBC programme
 - INTERREG III A LT/RU/PL programme expected to continue as LT/PL (including maritime border between Gdansk and Kaipeda)
 - Lithuanian – Latvian programme expected to continue
 - Neighbourhood Programme negotiated to be launched between Belarus, Kaliningrad and Poland

ERB OPTIONS

- **Intensified lobbying for an ENPI CBC programme**
 - National Governments, MP's and MEP's etc.
 - European Commission, DG RELEX
- **Preparing for use of EU programmes available**
 - Objective 3, BSR Transnational programme
 - Objective 3, CBC programme for D/DK/PL/SE
 - Objective 3, CBC programme for LT/PL
 - Objective 3, CBC programme for LV/LT
 - ENPI CBC programme for BE, RU and PL