

English summary of a project supported within the Grant Scheme

1. Project title and location:

South Baltic Development Zone - *South Baltic Arc*

Polish coastal regions: pomorskie, warmińsko-mazurskie, zachodniopomorskie

2. Brief project description:

2.1 Objectives and justification:

The main objective of the *South Baltic Arc* project is to strengthen the competitive potential and investment attractiveness of coastal regions in Poland, especially in the field of transport accessibility. This objective will be achieved by pointing the location and preliminary scope of the main infrastructure activities (in transport and business development) in the development zone. One of the expected outcomes of this project will be prepared pre-feasibility studies for key infrastructural investments in the coastal regions. In future these investments can be implemented using the EU structural funds.

The southern part of the Baltic Sea Region spread alongside a *Via Hanseatica* transport corridor, which links coastal regions of Germany, Poland, Russia (Kaliningrad Oblast), Lithuania and Latvia. Even though the metropolitan areas and urban centres are jointed together, the present low capacity of the *Via Hanseatica* transport corridor causes low socio-economic growth in these areas. In these circumstances diffusion of the development impulses about the whole regional territory through binding concepts, which take into account external circumstances, and specific development problems in key areas, with a public and private partnership principle applied, is crucial activity.

2.2 List of the targets groups:

The target group of the activities executed within this project are Regional Authorities of: pomorskie, warmińsko-mazurskie and zachodniopomorskie. The representatives of coastal local governments (gmina and powiat level) will take part in the process of implementation of *South Baltic Arc* project.

Also central administration (especially responsible for transport infrastructure), social and economic partners and potential investors are considered as the target group.

In the long term the indirect beneficiary of the project is the society of the Polish coastal regions.

2.3 Activities (max. ½ page), including project duration;

South Baltic Arc project will be implemented during 9 months. There will be 4 activities within the project:

Activity 0 - Organisation structure and project implementation mechanisms (duration – 1 month):

- setting up the project organisation structure (steering group, working groups, reference groups) and distribution of tasks;
- hiring the project co-ordinator and defining her / his qualifications;
- specification of co-operation rules with complementary INTERREG III B, PHARE CBC and Tacis CBC projects.

Activity 1 – Defining *South Baltic Arc* potential and way of its exploitation (duration – 3 months):

- identification of potential transport infrastructure investments;
- working out the methodology assessing the impact of transport infrastructure investments;
- specification of transport investments' impact on urban network and "green network";
- identification of potential complementary infrastructure investments which can strengthen the development impulses.

Activity 2 – Pre-feasibility studies and other complementary activities (duration – 4 months):

- selection of potential investments identified in Activity 1;
- pilot pre-feasibility studies;
- pilot GIS data base;
- general directions of marketing strategy.

Activity 3 – Final conference and project closure (duration – 1 month):

- preparation and organisation of the final conference;
- preparation and distribution of the *South Baltic Arc* project final report
- financial reporting and closing of the project

2.4 Scope of Phare support:

Phare support will cover the following project outputs / activities: (1) expert analyses, including pre-feasibility studies; (2) seminars, workshops, conference; (3) publications, including project web-site; (4) GIS data-base.

2.5 Foreign partners and their role:

Ministry of Labour and Construction Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany
Lead Applicant for INTERREG III B complementary project

Zemgale Development Agency, Latvia
Lead Applicant for PHARE CBC complementary project

Pomeranian Development Agency, Poland (treated as foreign partner due to being a leader of TACIS project)
Lead Applicant for Tacis CBC complementary project

Foreign partners' role:

- exchange of experience and best practises in regional development;
- co-ordination of complementary projects;
- transfer of the complementary projects' findings, results;
- participation in seminaries and final conference.

2.6 Cross border impact:

Effective implementation of the *South Baltic Arc* project will contribute to:

- creating a platform for cross border co-operation between South Baltic Arc countries;
- exchange of experience and best practises in the field of regional development programmes;
- contributing to joint actions in spatial planning and infrastructure investments, stemming from harmonised strategic regional development plans;
- contributing to local implementing actions aiming at economic development, improving quality of life and supporting everyday contacts between local and regional communities.

2.7 Expected results:

- the partners involved will develop common methodology for planning strategic location for infrastructural investments which will be the key factor for development the South Baltic zone;
- strategic locations for key infrastructure investments in the coastal regions and pre-feasibility studies for these investments;
- creation of the effective international co-operation platform between regions in the South Baltic Development Zone, which enables joint programming, negotiations and implementation of the socio-economic development of the area;
- guidelines for future marketing actions aimed at potential investors;

- exchange of experience and best practises in regional development;
- diffusion of development impulses about the whole regional territory with a public and private partnership applied.

3. Budget (in EUR):

Total budget (including any co-financing): EUR 199 044
Phare contribution EUR 159.044

4. Project complementary to:

Phare SPF	<u>Yes</u>	No
Interreg III	<u>Yes</u>	No
TACIS	<u>Yes</u>	No

5. Project beneficiary:

Project co-ordinator (beneficiary)

Name of organisation:

Office of the Pomeranian Region President

Name: Mr Radomir Matczak

Function: Executive Deputy Director in
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