

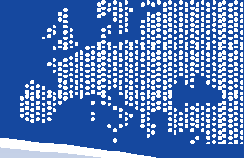
# Territorial Cohesion and EU Strategy for Baltic Sea Region

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# ORIGINS OF TERRITORIAL COHESION AGENDA

- Lisbon Treaty: addition of territorial cohesion as explicit objective of Cohesion policy.
- Conclusions of EU regional development ministers Leipzig 2007 inviting Commission to prepare a report.
- Commission Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion 2008 raises questions for public debate.
- Majority of respondents underline importance of coordination of efforts for whole transnational areas as in case of Baltic Sea Strategy.



# OPERATIONAL ADVANTAGES TERRITORIAL COHESION

- Enhanced functional approach meaning more flexibility regarding territorial levels and scales at which challenges can be met.
- Better coordination at each level for more coherent public policies on the ground.
- Strengthened multilevel governance



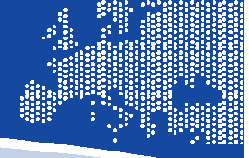
# ORIGINS OF BALTIC SEA STRATEGY

- 2006 call by European Parliament for strategy for region.
- 2007 European Council invites Commission to present strategy.
- 2009 adoption of strategy by Commission.



# MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Create an environmentally sustainable place.
- Create a prosperous place.
- Create an attractive and accessible place.
- Create a safe and secure place



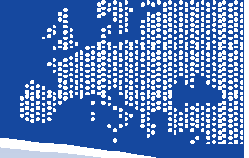
# STRATEGY CHARACTERISTICS

- Example of problem solving at the most appropriate territorial level.
- Example of multi-level governance structure.
- Example of multi-sectoral approach involving wide range of different EU policies.



# IMPLEMENTATION 2010

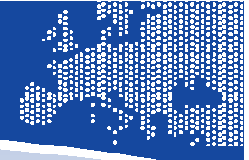
- Positive overall conclusion of First Annual Forum (Talinn October 2010), notably:
- Strategy is actively addressing relevant problems and potentials of region.
- Endorsement of implementation structure as innovative, flexible and good way of working.



# LESSONS LEARNT

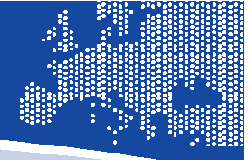
- Need to ensure shared level of ambition across all national actors, both political and administrative.
- Alignment of funding of Cohesion policy programmes with strategy implementation proving challenging.
- Further work needed on aligning other EU, national and regional funding.





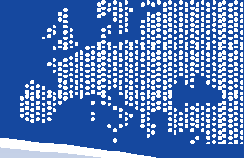
# LESSONS LEARNT

- Need to enhance qualitative nature of annual reporting from Cohesion policy programmes.
- Need to highlight specific contribution to implementation of flagship projects and other significant projects.
- Standardise quantitative information on share of investments contributing to strategy.



# KEY DATES 2011

- February 16-17 in Gdansk: Second Working Meeting on strategy implementation.
- by March 15: advance reporting to Commission of 2010 Cohesion policy contribution to strategy implementation.
- By 30 June: submission by Commission to EU Council of Ministers of first official implementation report.



# KEY DATES 2011

- July- October: first review and update of action plan under Polish presidency.
- October: Gdansk: Annual Forum of the strategy, organised in association with the Polish government.



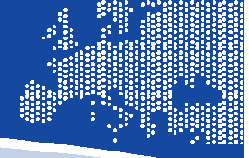
# FIFTH COHESION REPORT

- Conclusions respond to introduction of territorial dimension by advocating:
- Development of an ambitious urban agenda.
- Addressing urban-rural linkages.
- Further work on new macro-regional strategies based on review of existing strategies and availability of resources.



# KEY CHALLENGES

- Need to ensure good quality reporting on implementation during 2010 as input for Commission report to Council.
- Need to strengthen existing cooperation and build up new links between actors.
- Importance of strategic discussion under Polish presidency as part of development of territorial cohesion agenda.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION