

## **Project ideas for the implementation of VASAB Long Term Perspective for Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region**

### **Relevant for the EUSBSR Horizontal Action "Spatial Planning"**

Developed by the VASAB workshop „Cultivating new ideas for the territorial development of the Baltic Sea Region” on 28 November 2013, Riga

*One of the purposes of the workshop was to generate new project ideas relevant for the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) Horizontal Action "Spatial Planning", considering some of them could potentially materialize into new Flagship Projects during 2014-2020.*

#### **Urban-rural inter-linkage:**

- Research on small and medium size towns, their smart specializations impact on rural development
- Research on impact on rural development from sustainability point of view
- Joint urban-rural energy saving systems
- Quality of life in metropolises, cities and towns
- International talents in urban areas as promoters to develop export for the companies in rural areas
- Urban-rural linkages at the local scale (East-West to North-South traffic)
- Local food supply chain distribution concepts “local for local”
- Integration of spatial and economic planning
- Establishment of networks (discussing, sharing experiences, learning)

#### **Urban - rural transport initiatives:**

- Improving rural accessibility: pilot projects in sparsely populated areas, linking with neighbourhoods
- Usage of urban - rural multimodal transport
- Practical examples for integrated transport systems in suburban areas (public transport + cars + bicycles + electric vehicles), ‘ride together’ tools
- Research on urban - rural transport linkages/transport systems
- Environmentally friendly transport systems (parking, cooperation of different organizations, transport flows)

#### **Improved accessibility:**

- Development of a Single Baltic Sea Region transport ticket (each country, all transport mode, incl. taxi)
- Pop-in! Encouraging to use multimodal passenger transportation solutions
- Intermodal terminals for Rail Baltica, especially in the Gulf of Finland (linkage to MSP)



- Green linkages – intermodal transport to connect to TEN-T Core Network Corridors, linking urban nodes
- Green routes (internal accessibility, social entrepreneurship))
- Distant employment tool for regional cohesion in rural areas
- Overcoming of demographic challenges: labour migration and population aging
- Network of cycling routes

### **Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP):**

- Development of research basis for MSP
- Capacity building on MSP
- Regular meeting avenues for maritime spatial planners as MSP process launches momentum
- Proceed with a 'Baltic MSP School'
- Ecosystem services, blue growth and MSP
- Involvement of stakeholders in MSP
- Terrestrial planning interlinkages to the sea and MSP
- Follow up of pilot MSP projects BaltSeaPlan, PartiSEApate, etc by more practical level for actual MSP
- Consideration of climate change in spatial planning
- Usage and marketing of the BSR nature assets, seasonality, recreation potential for tourism development
- Socio-economic decision making tool for evaluating use of the sea
- Improvement of technologies for wastewater treatment plants for removal of hazardous substances
- Coastal monitoring system for coastal sustainability
- Mussel's cultivation in the cleaner Baltic Sea - to improve ecological situation