

SEPTEMBER 2012
BSR/INVESTITIONSBANK SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN

Strategic Analysis of Reference Documents - BSR Programme 2014-20

FINAL DRAFT REPORT

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APPENDICES

Appendix A	List of Reference Documents
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1 Introduction

As part of the ex-ante evaluation for the Baltic Sea Region programme 2014-2020, a Strategic Analysis (hereafter SA) of a list of reference documents, proposed by the JPC, has to be carried out. The analysis will support the JPC in developing the thematic focus of the new BSR programme by providing a basis for the JPC to identify the four thematic areas on which to focus the programme. The methodology for the SA was presented in the proposal for the ex-ante evaluation and a concept note outlining the specific methodological steps and the analytical approach to be used was presented by the consultant to the JPC in June 2012¹.

Three key issues addressed in this strategic analysis are:

- **An assessment of the reference documents** (Annex 1) in terms of their geographical and sectoral coverage, types, structure and sorting them in accordance with these criteria.
- An identification of the **correlation between the reference documents and the thematic objectives** defined in the draft regulations for Cohesion Policy and in the draft Common Strategic Framework to determine which thematic objectives have the greatest correlation with the reference documents for the Baltic Sea Region.
- An identification of the **horizontal themes in the reference documents**.

¹ JPC Meeting in Riga 13 June 2012.

2 Methodology

This section describes the methodology and outlines the approach, including a description of the original research undertaken and the selection of sources of data and information.

Assessment of
reference documents

The reference documents were reviewed to determine their relevance for the programming process. When doing this analysis, we took into account that the documents are of very different character and level of detail (overall strategic documents, political declarations, action plans, and others again are reports. Some reference documents are purely sectoral or thematic). Annex 1 includes a listing of all the 24 reference documents and tables 2 and 3 the results of the analysis.

Correlation with
thematic objectives

This correlation was established by identifying and compare priorities, objectives and challenges identified in the reference documents. When possible, a log-frame approach was used - this has however only been possible in a few documents, as most are not structured with along a visible intervention logic. The thematic objectives of the Common Strategic Framework (CSF) are broadly formulated, and when assessing the reference documents these formulations was interpreted broadly, also scoring documents positively when only parts of a thematic objective are identified. The analysis contains three aspects:

- A determination on how the thematic objectives are addressed in the reference documents and the relative importance in each document of the thematic objectives, scoring these as high (key priority/objective), medium (one priority among a number) and low (mentioned in general). Each thematic object obtained a scoring on the correlation between the documents and the objective (see table 3).
- For each of the 11 thematic objectives the overall correlation between the reference documents and the thematic objective was analysed in a qualitative way, i.e. how do the thematic objectives appear (description/context) in the reference documents (see section 4.1).
- In addition a qualitative analysis of how BSR-specific features/objectives appear/feature in the documents covering the Baltic Sea Region or parts of it will be carried out (see chapter 5).

The analysis of the reference documents was conducted in the period July-August. The final list of documents was approved in August 2012.

Evaluator's assessment of strengths and weaknesses of the evaluation report

The analysis is an attempt to provide an overview and structure 24 very different documents according to 11 thematic objectives in order to identify key topics for the programming of the BSR 2014-2020. As the documents are of very different nature, detail and structure, it has been difficult to compare them. The evaluators have done their utmost in terms of providing a fair assessment of the importance of issues within the documents as well as between them. The assessment is ours alone with the biases this may entail.

Verification

A first draft of this report was discussed at the JPC meeting in Lillestrøm, Norway on September 20, 2012. Some adjustments were suggested at the meeting and have been included in this version of the report.

2.1 Selection of documents for the analysis

List of documents included in the analysis

A final list of reference documents was approved by the JPC in written procedure in August 2012. The initial list of reference documents was supplemented by a number of additional documents after the JPC meeting in Riga in June 2012. Based on the list overall 35 reference documents the consultants made a proposal reducing the list to 24 (3 more than the list presented in the Terms of Reference).

Annex B includes the full list of 35 reference documents. The list also includes comments to why it was suggested to replace or take a document out. Reasons for taking documents out were inter alia:

- Some proposed reference documents were overlapping and covering the same topics;
- In some proposed reference documents the data was out of date (pre 2006);
- In some proposed reference documents it was be difficult or impossible to identify thematic objectives;
- For some proposed reference documents other documents would be more adequate in terms of type or date (replacement suggested).

Use of EU regulations

In general with regard to the EU regulations, it was suggested to use the policy background documents instead of the regulations themselves, as these outline the priorities/challenges and not only the measures.

3 Assessment of reference documents

The reference documents have been assessed according to geographical scope, sectoral coverage, type and structure in order to give the JPC an indication of the relative importance of the reference documents for the programming. For each document a summary has been provided in Appendix C and the overall Tables 1 and 2 below provide overviews of all the documents.

As can be seen below and in Appendix C, the documents are of very different character and level of detail. Some are overall strategic documents, political declarations, some specific action plans, and others again are reports. Some reference documents are purely sectoral or thematic and therefore only address specific issues.

The coverage of the documents is also very different. Generally the documents divide into:

- EU-wide (with and without Russia)
- BSR (with and without Russia)
- Parts of BSR.

This is important to have in mind when determining the correlation, as some documents may be less relevant to the BSR area, either because they cover the entire EU or because they only cover a limited part of the BSR area. Documents covering the BSR and the EU members of the BSR + Russia are therefore considered the most relevant documents and are primarily used for the qualitative analysis in 4.1.

Furthermore the sectoral coverage of the documents is also very different, as some cover only one sector and other are overall or general socio-economic documents. Three groups of documents have been identified:

- Multi-sector (or several)
- Single sector

The two tables below (Tables 1 and 2) show the documents according to the geography and whether these are multi/single sector.

As a note on some of the documents, we would like to emphasise that a few documents are out of date or not fully ready yet, such as the:

- Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (22) which comments on the EUSBSR developed in 2010. Although some of the topics are the same, the document focuses on a document which is now being replaced by the new EUSBSR.
- The EUSBSR Action Plan draft of July 2012 is still a draft and parts of it are not finalised yet. The document has nevertheless been used, and is regarded as very important for the analysis.

Table 1 List Reference documents

Reference document/	Geographical coverage	Sector/multi sector	Date/date of data
1) Europe 2020	EU Wide	Multi-sector	
2) BSR Strategy + action plan	EU members of BSR	Multi-sector	2012/n.a.
3) Territorial Agenda EU 2020	EU wide		2011/n.a.
4) Energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond - A blueprint for an integrated European energy network	EU wide	Single sector/energy	2020/n.a.
5) Northern Dimension	European Arctic and Sub-Arctic, Baltic Sea, North-West Russia, Iceland and Greenland	Multi-sector	2006
6) Political Declaration Northern Dimension Policy	European Arctic and Sub-Arctic, Baltic Sea, North-West Russia, Iceland and Greenland	Multi-sector	2006
7) EU-Russia Common Spaces Progress Report 2010	EU Wide + Russia	Multi-sector	2011/n.a.
8) Joint EU-Russia statement on the Partnership for Modernisation	EU Wide + Russia	Multi-sector	2010/n.a.
9) Work plan on activities within the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation	EU Wide + Russia	Multi-sector	2011/n.a.
10) State of the Region Report	BSR	Multi-sector	2012/
11) HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan	BSR	Single sector/Environment	2007/2003
12) VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the BSR	BSR	Multi-sector	2010
13) The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges	BSR	Multi-sector	2011/2010
14) Development Perspective for the NSPA	Northern region of Finland, Norway and Sweden	Multi-sector	2009/2008
15) Joint Communiqué of 12 October 2011	Barents region	Multi-sector	2011/n.a.
16) Position Paper on the future of Objective 3/INTERREG funding in the period after 2013 submitted by the STRING partnership	STRING Partnership (Denmark, Germany)	Multi-sector	2011
17) The Zealand Agreement	STRING Partnership (Denmark, Germany)	Multi-sector	2011
18) Strategy of social and economic development of the North-West Federal District until 2020	Russia	Multi-sector	2011
19) Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015	BSR	Multi-sector	2011
20) Baltic Transport Outlook 2030. Executive Report.	BSR	Single sector/Transport	2011/2009
21) Building a European Culture of Multilevel Governance: Follow-Up to the Committee of The Regions' White Paper	EU Wide + ENPI	Multi-sector	2012/n.a.
22) Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region	EU members of BSR	Multi-sector	2008/n.a.
23) Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region	BSR	Single sector/theme	2011/2010
24) Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region	EU members of BSR	Single sector/theme/	2012/2012

Table 2 Reference documents sorted in relation to geography/sector

Reference document/	Geographical coverage	Sector/multi sector	Date/date of data
EU Wide			
1) Europe 2020	EU Wide	Multi-sector	2010
3) Territorial Agenda EU 2020	EU wide	Multi-sector	2011/n.a.
4) Energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond - A blueprint for an integrated European energy network	EU wide	Single sector/energy	2020/n.a.
7) EU-Russia Common Spaces Progress Report 2010	EU Wide + Russia	Multi-sector	2011/n.a.
8) Joint EU-Russia statement on the Partnership for Modernisation	EU Wide + Russia	Multi-sector	2010/n.a.
9) Work plan on activities within the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation	EU Wide + Russia	Multi-sector	2011/n.a.
21) Building a European Culture of Multilevel Governance: Follow-Up to the Committee of The Regions' White Paper	EU Wide + ENPI	Multi-sector	2012/n.a.
Russia			
18) Strategy of social and economic development of the North-West Federal District until 2020	Russia	Multi-sector	2011
BSR (with and without Russia)			
2) BSR Strategy + action plan	EU members of BSR	Multi-sector	2012/n.a.
10) State of the Region Report	BSR	Multi-sector	2012/
11) HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan	BSR	Single sector/environ.	2007/2003
12) VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the BSR	BSR	Multi-sector	2010
13) The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges	BSR	Multi-sector	2011/2010
19) Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015	BSR	Multi-sector	2011
20) Baltic Transport Outlook 2030. Executive Report.	BSR	Single sector/Transport	2011/2009
22) Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region	EU members of BSR	Multi-sector	2008/n.a.
23) Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region	BSR	Single sector/theme	2011/2010
24) Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region	EU members of BSR	Single sector/theme	2012/2012
Other geographies/sub-sections of BSR			
5) Northern Dimension	European Arctic and Sub-Arctic, Baltic Sea, North-West Russia, Iceland and Greenland	Multi-sector	2006
6) Political Declaration Northern Dimension Policy	European Arctic and Sub-Arctic, Baltic Sea, North-West Russia, Iceland and Greenland	Multi-sector	2006
14) Development Perspective for the NSPA	Northern region of Finland, Norway and Sweden	Multi-sector	2009/2008
15) Joint Communiqué of 12 October 2011	Barents region	Multi-sector	2011/n.a.
16) Position Paper on the future of Objective 3/INTERREG funding in the period after 2013 submitted by the STRING partnership	STRING Partnership (Denmark, Germany)	Multi-sector	2011
17) The Zealand Agreement	STRING Partnership (Denmark, Germany)	Multi-sector	2011

4 Correlation with thematic objectives

Having reviewed the reference documents and determined their type and structure, an analysis of the reference documents has been carried out in relation to how the thematic objectives (of the CSF) are reflected in the documents. The thematic objectives of the CSF are broadly formulated, and when assessing the reference documents, these formulations will be interpreted broadly, also scoring documents positively when only parts of a thematic objective are identified.

The relative importance of the thematic objectives

The table below describes how the thematic objectives are addressed in the reference documents and the relative importance in each document of the thematic objectives, scoring these as high (key priority/objective), medium (one priority among a number) and low (mentioned in general). Each thematic object has been scored on the correlation between the documents and the objective. Thematic objectives with high scores indicate that these should be considered one of the four thematic objectives for the BSR programme 2014-2020. An overview is shown in Table 3.

The second issue is how the thematic objectives appear in the documents. This analysis has been carried out for each of the reference documents and has been included (one assessment form per document) in Appendix C. Overall the following can be stated about the way in which the thematic objectives are included:

- Expressed in the objectives;
- Expressed as part of the priorities/key thematic objectives;
- Expressed as part of the background description;
- Expressed as actions or areas for investment/funding.

It should be noted that only for a few documents will the thematic objectives appear in full or part, as these are expressed in the list of thematic objectives.

Table 3 Correlation Table

Thematic objective/ Reference document	1. strengthening research, technological development and innovation	2. enhancing access to, and use and quality of information and communication technologies	3. enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises	4. supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors	5. promoting climate changes adaptation, risk prevention and management	6. protecting the environment and promoting resources efficiently	7. promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks infrastructure	8. promoting employment and supporting labour mobility	9. promoting social inclusion and combating poverty	10. investing in education, skills and lifelong learning	11. enhancing institutional capacity and efficient public administration
EU Wide (with and without Russia)											
1) Europe 2020	XXX	XXX	XX	XXX	XX	XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX
3) Territorial Agenda EU 2020		X				XXX	XXX				
4) Energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond	XX			XX	XX	XX	XXX				X
7) EU-Russia Common Spaces Progress Report 2010	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
8) Joint EU-Russia statement on the Partnership for Modernisation			XX	XX	XX	XX	X		XX		
9) Work plan on activities within the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation	XXX			XXX				X			XXX
21) Building a European Culture of Multilevel Governance: Follow-Up to the Committee of The Regions' White Paper				X	X	XX			X		
Russia											
18) Strategy of social and economic development of the North-West Federal District until 2020	X	X	X			X	XX	X		X	
BSR (with and without Russia)											
2) BSR Strategy + action plan	XXX		XXX	XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX			XX
10) State of the Region Report	XXX	XX	XXX	XXX			XXX				
11) HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan						XXX					XX
12) VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the BSR	X	XX		XX			XXX	XX			X
13) The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges	XXX		XXX	XX			XX	XXX		X	
19) Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015	X		X	XX	XX					XX	
20) Baltic Transport Outlook 2030. Executive Report.			X				XXX				
22) Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region	XXX		X	XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX		XX	
23) Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region	XXX		XXX								
24) Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region	XXX	XXX	XX				XX				XX
Other geographies/sub-sections of BSR											
5) Northern Dimension	XX	X	X		XX	XXX	X	X	XX		
6) Political Declaration Northern Dimension Policy						X	X		X		
14) Development Perspective for the NSPA	X						X	XX			
15) Joint Communiqué of 12 October 2011	XX		XX	XX	X	XX	XX			XX	X
16) Position Paper on the future of Objective 3/INTERREG funding in the period after 2013 submitted by the STRING partnership	XX		XX		XX			X		X	

17) The Zealand Agreement	X		X				X	XX	XX	XX	
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Proposed investment priorities and actions

In addition, for each strategic reference document we have analysed where priority investment and actions have been proposed. This is included in the document overviews and should be a key guidance to identifying possible investment priorities and actions for the new programme. It is not possible to make a combined overview of this and we therefore refer to appendix C.

We have furthermore below assessed for each objective in which documents these are mostly (and in most detail) described. The documents listed are generally those where the issue has a high score (and in a few cases also medium).

BSR-specific features

BSR-specific features/objectives appear in the 9-10 documents which are specifically focused on the BSR. In some of the other documents it has been possible also to identify some specific BSR issues (specific mentioning of BSR). This has been done in the reference document assessment overviews in appendix C. In the following analysis the BSR issues are included under the relevant thematic objective and have been detailed where possible.

4.1 Detailed assessment of the reference documents in relation to the Thematic Objectives

In this section we described for each Thematic Objective what we have found in the reference documents and in which document we have found the topic of the Thematic Objective described.

Thematic Objective 1 - strengthening research, technological development and innovation

TO 1 Strengthening research, technological development and innovation

This is a thematic objective (TO) which is addressed in almost all documents as an important priority, especially innovation appears as a key theme in many of the documents analysed. Taking into consideration the emphasis the European Commission has put on various aspects of research, technological advancement and ability of economic operators to innovative, especially since launching the Europe 2020, in order to raise the competitiveness it is no surprise that most of the documents highlight this field as significant (especially the EU documents). Some documents also propose concrete actions and investment priorities in the context of the Baltic Sea region, covering such priority sectors as ITC, transport, environmental protection, renewable energy and enhancement of institutional capacity.

Key documents in which the TO is described in detailed are:

- EU 2020 (1)

- EU BSR (2)
- BSR State of the Region (10)
- The Future of the Baltic Sea Region (13)
- Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy on the BSR (22)
- Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region (23)
- Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region (24).

BSR-specific features for TO 1

BSR -specific features, investment priorities and actions are covered in three documents:

I) A specific paper on ***Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region (23)*** is a key document focusing on innovation. The paper provides an overview of the national and regional innovation strategies covering the EUBSR. It also looks at the players and stakeholders and cooperation practices and methods.

Recommendations of the study identify a future role for transnational cooperation in supporting Baltic Sea innovation policies, including:

- *Increased coordination of innovation strategies and ‘joint programming’ in a number of fields.*
- *Cluster’ cooperation in BSR and need for supporting long-term cooperation of regional ‘competence centres’.*
- *A Baltic Sea Fund for financing of innovative enterprises: early-stage funds are sub-critical. Future EU (ERDF and EIB) support for early-stage funding should be made conditional on regional and national funds.*
- *An open access network of Baltic Sea research infrastructures: pre-conditions for all future ERDF co-financed investments (review financing mechanisms ERDF etc).*
- *Available funds should be structured into 3-4 strategic BSR research and innovation funding programmes instead of project base funding.*
- *BSR Mobile Expertise programme to enhance access to expertise in emerging or advanced technologies.*

The document maps policy priorities and highlights a number of key areas where stakeholders consider available funding should be focused, including:

- *ICT*
- *Life science (notably biotechnology);*
- *Healthcare (and ‘wellness’) services*

- *Agro-food*
- *'Cleantech' (notably in Denmark and Finland)*
- *Energy (notably renewables) (with some overlap with cleantech field);*
- *Materials (ranging from nanotech, through plasma to more traditional materials).*

II) Within the *BSR State of the Region Report (10)*, the role and importance of eco-innovation has been thoroughly discussed and emphasised. The report suggests:

- *Transfers of experience, especially in terms of eco-innovation policy, where notable gaps are evident between countries like Germany, Denmark and Sweden (world pioneers in the field) and the less developed countries of the BSR region*
- *Investments in smart energy grids, at least in the form of pilot projects for testing markets and setting up standards*
- *Green public procurement, especially in buildings and transport – displays innovation, transitions existing jobs into green ones and begins to make greenness tangible.*

III) *The future of the Baltic Sea Region (13)* identifies are key areas for action:

The Baltic Sea Area of innovation:

- *transfer of knowledge through face-to-face contact and the cross-border mobility of the labour force*
- *Cluster formation in healthcare (e.g. Medicon Valley)*
- *The experience economy (to include the areas of sports, tourism, toys, games and entertainment)*
- *Model region for environmentally friendly energy (renewable, innovative solutions, offshore wind energy).*

EUSBSR Action
Plan

IV) In the *EUSBSR Action Plan* the objective to increase prosperity states that:

- *To increase prosperity of the Baltic Sea Region includes actions to promote entrepreneurship, innovation, and trade, thus enhancing business opportunities and making the internal market work better on the ground.*
- *Baltic Sea Region cooperation also further reinforces other EU policies, such as climate change policies or the new approach to European research and innovation, Horizon 2020.*

- *Promoting a pan-Baltic Sea Region Innovation Union will rely on concerted efforts to align available resources through a programmatic approach. Increased resources need to be allocated to research and innovation in order to meet the Europe 2020 goal of general expenditure in R&D.*

The sub-objective improved global competitiveness of the Baltic Sea Region focuses on:

- *At business level, the development of knowledge-intensive products and services is a crucial factor if companies are to be competitive in the global market. At policy level, countries, and particularly regions, must develop efficient innovation systems that offer entrepreneurial dynamism and intensive linkages between top-level knowledge institutions, private investors, incubators and related business services.*

Priority action

Particularly relevant are the priority actions (PA) 13. PA Inno - exploiting the full potential of the region in research and innovation, including higher education. As action in this PA under Establish a common Baltic Sea Region Innovation Strategy the following flagships are listed:

- *BSR Stars*
- *Create funding models for transnational innovation and research in the Baltic Sea Region*
- *The Baltic Ring; establish an infrastructure for free movement of knowledge in the Baltic Sea Area*
- *ScanBalt Health Region: Cross-sectoral and transnational projects for innovation in health and in life science*
- *Setting up a Baltic Science Link*
- *Enhance cooperation - on a voluntary basis - between the regional Universities of the BSR.*

Other PAs are also relevant such as PA Agri; PA ship; PA Safe; PA Transport; PA Energy; PA Tourism; PA Culture; PA Market.

Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region (24)

V) Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region (24) highlights the following areas of technological development and innovation in the ITC field for the BSR:

- *Establish common, open standards for e-invoicing in the Baltic Sea Region*
- *Establish a common platform for e-procurement in the Baltic Sea Region based on open standards*
- *Establish common technological platforms based on open standards for cross-border innovation in prioritised areas.*

- *Correlate mobile connectivity to broadband strategies.*

Thematic objective 2 - enhancing access to, and use and quality of information and communication technologies

TO 2 - enhancing access to, and use and quality of information and communication technologies

The topic of information and communication technologies is mentioned in some documents often as a side issue rather than a main area of priority. This is understandable, given the more specific scope of the thematic priority in question if compared with some broader themes. However, at least two documents listed below have ICT as a key issue and focus. The analysis of documents has revealed a few relevant actions that would promote the move towards a digital society in general and a Digital Single Market in particular. The priority fields of required actions are provided within:

- EU 2020 (2)
- Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region (24).

BSR-specific Features TO 2

The priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region (24) identify the following as key actions:

- *Map the intensity and origin of cybercrime in order to estimate the regional nature of the problem.*
- *Coordinate the use of open, international standards for technology and information in the public sector between the countries in the region. Identify priority or pilot areas for interoperability (health, transportation or energy).*
- *Coordinate the participation in SEPA between the countries in the region.*
- *Establish roaming-free communication.*
- *Establish a Baltic Sea Region licensing market to enable the cross-border use of data regulated by licenses.*
- *Establish profile test cases for the Baltic Sea Region to work with and promote the reuse of public sector information.*

Thematic objective 3 - enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises

TO 3 - enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises

Broadly looking, competitiveness is an issue in some form covered by most of the document analysed, but in some of them, it stands out as a very prominent thematic objective, in whose significant progress has to be achieved the next EU budgetary planning period 2014–2020. EU strategic documents such as the Europe 2020 and TEN-E² have addressed it as a key issue for EU policies; approaching business environments, restructuring of sectors; promoting technology; internationalisation; single market for transport; tourism sector; improving transition of services and manufacturing; CSR. The competitiveness theme is set as the key priority in the following documents:

- EU 2020 (1)
- EUSBSR (2)
- Energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond - A blueprint for an integrated European energy network (4)
- BSR State of the Region (10)
- The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges (13)
- Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region (24)
- Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region (18)

Specific Baltic-Sea features

Specific Baltic-Sea features are identified in the TEN-E³ identifies the Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan and the BSR-specific documents:

BSR State of the Region

I) In the ***BSR State of the Region (10)***, the analysis performed suggests three types of activities for collaboration on competitiveness upgrading in the BSR. Competitiveness is less emphasised when viewed particularly in the context of small and medium enterprises, although SMEs issues are present in the documents, but with lower priority.

- *Activities with significant cross-border externalities (market integration, large-scale investments in transportation and science infrastructure, and networks of clusters)*
- *Knowledge exchange and common learning (education policy, labour market policy, administrative reforms, anticorruption measures, and innovation policy)*

² Energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond - A blueprint for an integrated European energy network

³ Ibid

- *Shared knowledge infrastructure (a common competitiveness observatory and an exchange on how to organise policy design and implementation in this context could be an important area for collaboration across the Region).*
- *“Green growth” as the basis for long-term sustainable competitiveness through:*
 - *Production of bioenergy as a tool for diversification of agriculture activities and opportunity for employment in rural areas*
 - *Consumption efficiency.*

II) Priorities in relation to the SMEs competitiveness recommended in ***Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region (24)*** :

- *Develop digital markets, which enhances particularly the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises, as operating in the digital environment allows them to perform business activities that under traditional conditions were characteristics only of large firms – like internationalisation of their service provision (micro multinationals)*
- *Specifically to promote cross-border e-procurement as tools to increase competitiveness primarily of small and medium enterprises, through targeting them with specific procurements.*

EUSBSR

III) In the ***EUSBSR*** the Sub-objective: Improved global competitiveness of the Baltic Sea Region points to:

- *Creating an institutional framework defining coherent rules for the functioning of entrepreneurship (in practice those rules are frequently too restrictive or complex). The quality of the institutional and legal framework in which enterprises operate in the Baltic Sea Region differs widely between individual states.*
- *Entrepreneurship needs to be included in all levels of education, teachers should be provided with appropriate economic knowledge and innovative teaching methods should be developed.*

The priority action PA SME - promoting entrepreneurship, strengthening SMEs and increasing the efficient use of human resources, including better education systems. The following actions each include flagship projects related to innovation:

- **Building platforms for growth - flagship projects:**
 - *Regional platform for strategic collaboration in the green off-shore industry*
 - *Baltic supply*
 - *Make the BSR a leader in design.*

- Effective support for entrepreneurship and innovation - flagship projects:
 - *Entrepreneurship training as part of the school curriculum.*
- Going green - flagship projects:
 - *Develop deeper cooperation on environmental technology to create new business opportunities*
 - *Implement the project Sustainable Production through Innovation in SMEs*
 - *Make the Baltic Sea an Eco-effective region.*

Other PAs are also relevant such for TO 3 such as PA Agri; PA ship; PA Safe; PA Transport; PA Energy; PA Tourism; PA Culture; PA Market.

IV) In the document **The Future of the Baltic Sea Region**: Potentials and challenges following aspects of competitiveness are emphasized as the most relevant:

- *interconnection between business and science*
- *suitable work environment for ageing employees including life-long learning*
- *Ensuring technological capability and power of innovation*
- *more efficient cross-border labour market integration.*

Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region

V) In the document **Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region**: The recommendation in relation to competitiveness and focus on young companies and start-up:

- *Macro-region clusters and 'competence centres':*
 - *programming driven approach to 'cluster' cooperation in BSR;*
 - *investigate need for supporting long-term cooperation of regional 'competence centres'.*
- *A Baltic Sea Fund for financing of innovative enterprises:*
 - *early-stage funds;*
 - *innovative public procurement (cleantech or renewable energies should be explored);*
- *An open access network of Baltic Sea research infrastructures. Pre-conditions for all future ERDF co-financed investments:*
 - *international peer-reviewed regional or national research infrastructure plans (investments ensure synergy with ESFRI and generate 'value added' compared to pre-existing infrastructure in neighbouring Baltic Sea regions);*
 - *'open access business plans' proving demand from national and BSR researchers/ businesses for buying time or sharing facilities;*

- *The need for a BSR Mobile Expertise programme:*
 - *enhance access to expertise in emerging or advanced technologies; possible examples of actions: 1) to develop Baltic educational (doctoral schools, etc.), mobility programmes, or lifelong learning programmes in priority fields (ESF co-financed actions); 2) pooling expertise available to S&T parks, centres and incubators, etc. through a BSR Innovation Advisory network potentially linked to an innovation vouchers scheme (ERDF co-financed actions).*

Thematic Objective 4 - supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors

TO 4 - supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors

This theme is a medium priority in the most of the documents in which it has been mentioned, except in the BSR State of the Region Report (10). In this document the topic of “green growth” is discussed at length and the shift towards low-carbon economy is viewed as part of it. Lower volumes of CO₂ emissions and wider use of renewable energy sources (mainly forestry and agriculture sectors) is seen as the most effective response to the challenges posed by the increasing use of the fossil fuels. This approach is in line with overall EU objectives of the Europe 2020 aiming for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% (compared with 1990 levels), increase in the share of renewable energy sources in final energy consumption to 20% and at least 20% increase in energy efficiency.

- EU 2020 (2)
- TEN-E⁴ (4)
- BSR State of the Region (10)
- Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015 (19).

Specific Baltic Sea features

1) A key document on this thematic objective in relation to specific BSR features is the ***BSR State of the Region Report (10)***, which provides analysis on the following aspects of a low-carbon economy:

- *Existing policy for green growth in the BSR and whole EU*
- *Overview of green growth policies in various BSR countries, including list of available strategic documents*
- *Analysis of energy sources used by the BSR countries*
- *Description of potential assessment for renewable energy sources available in the BSR region*
- *View on possibilities to improve the performance through:*

⁴ Energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond - A blueprint for an integrated European energy network

- *Better regional collaboration*
- *Green building in urban areas*
- *Developing the rural bio-economy – bioenergy from agriculture, farms and forestry.*

Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015

II) One of the strategic areas of cooperation (out of four) mentioned in the document “**Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015**” (19) is climate change. The goals and objectives within the BSR long-term vision (sustainable development) transforming the BSR into the world’s first Eco-region:

Goal: Become a low-carbon and climate resilient region

Objective: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to change.

The proposed investment priorities/actions under the strategic area of cooperation in “Climate change” are as follows:

- *Promote climate-smart agriculture and forestry (mainly through projects such as EcoRegion and Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture)*
- *Promote sustainable bioenergy (mainly through the Bioenergy Promotion Project)*
- *Address climate change adaptation (mainly through the BALTADAPT project).*

Thematic objective 5 - promoting climate changes adaption, risk prevention and management

TO 5 - promoting climate changes adaption, risk prevention and management

The Europe 2020 Strategy defines climate change as one of the “global challenges” by stating that “*climate and resource challenges require drastic action. Strong dependence on fossil fuels such as oil and inefficient use of raw materials expose our consumers and businesses to harmful and costly price shocks, threatening our economic security and contributing to climate change*”⁵. The TO5 is also covered in some of the BSR-specific documents as a key issue due to the geographical location of the Baltic Sea. The priorities in these documents unite elements of the macro-region and the fact that the BSR is characterised by cold climate and a vulnerable environment. Key documents covering this thematic objective are:

- EU 2020 (1)
- EU BSR (2)
- BSR State of the Region Report (10)

⁵ Europe 2020 Strategy, p.9

- Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015 (19)
- Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy on the BSR (22) .

BSR-specific issues

BSR-specific issues are primarily identified in:

BSR State of the Region Report (10)

I) BSR *State of the Region Report (10)*. The report acknowledges climate change, and problems of adaptation, prevention and risk management associated with it, as ones of the most critical challenges that the BSR region is currently facing. It needs to be addressed accordingly in order to maintain the competitiveness of the BSR. Eco-innovations and reduction of the use of fossil fuels, underlying the concept of “green growth” in the context of the report are seen as the most appropriate activities to limit the impact of the climate change problem.

EUSBSR (2)

II) *EUSBSR (2)* has a sub-objective focusing on climate change (To increase prosperity. Sub-objective: Climate change adaption). The priority action HA, climate-mitigating and adapting to climate change, states that the BSR has the potential to be a model region in combating climate change. The scope for developing renewable energy (mentioned in a separate section) leaves room for improvement in the energy efficiency in residential buildings, district heating (system for distributing heat generated in a centralised location for residential and commercial buildings) and combined heat and power facilities. The shift towards sustainable transport modes and improved intermodal transport will also provide an important contribution. An improved coastal protection planning including provisions increased run-off and changes in marine environment.

Priority actions are:

- *Establish a macro-regional adaption strategy mentioning the flagship BALTADAPT*
- *Green Region - Create a network of sustainable cities and villages, the EU-Russia Energy Efficiency Initiative.*

III) As mentioned above under TO4 one of the strategic areas of cooperation mentioned in the document “*Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015*” (19) is climate change. The goals and objectives within the BSR long-term vision (sustainable development) transforming the BSR into the world’s first Eco-region in order to become climate resilient region and adapt to change.

Proposed investment priorities/actions under the strategic area of cooperation “Climate change” are as follows:

- *Promote climate-smart agriculture and forestry (mainly through projects such as EcoRegion and Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture)*
- *Promote sustainable bioenergy (mainly through the Bioenergy Promotion Project)*
- *Address climate change adaptation (mainly through the BALTADAPT project).*

Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy on the BSR (22)

IV) The *Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy on the BSR (22)* identifies the following actions:

- *The Baltic Sea as a model region for EU's goals for reducing the overall energy use*
- *A common strategy to combat climate change based on a multi-stakeholder approach*
- *Presentation of different scenarios for increased cooperation.'*

TO 6 - protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency

Thematic objective 6 - protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency

A number of documents have this priority as a key topic or focus. One of them - *The Territorial Agenda for EU 2020 (3)* finds that the environmental quality of air, soil and water is diverse across Europe. Air pollution and noise cause serious health problems, while ecological values, environmental quality and cultural assets are crucial to well-being and to economic prosperity by offering unique development opportunities. Moreover, urbanisation, intensification of agriculture and fisheries, transport and other types of infrastructure development, particularly where they take place in a territorially uncoordinated manner, can cause severe environmental problems. Increased and uncoordinated exploitation of maritime space and marine resources may have consequences for sustainable territorial development. The *Northern Dimension (6)* mentions the Environmental Partnership (NDEP).

Among the documents investigating the issues of environmental protection and resource efficiency the following are the most relevant:

- EU BSR (2)
- Territorial Agenda for EU 2020 (3)
- HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (11)
- Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy on the BSR (22).

BSR-specific features

BSR-specific features are reflected in the following documents:

EUSBSR Action Plan

I) The *EUSBSR Action Plan* identifies the environment as part of the objective Save the Sea. The sub-objective, which corresponds mostly to TO 6 are the following.

- Clear water in the sea

- *Achieve the new targets and indicators set under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and in the updated HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) in 2013.*
- *Important areas for cooperation include wastewater treatment plants and the improvement of the ability of sewage treatment plants to handle the breakdown of chemical substances, for instance from pharmaceutical products. The sustainable research framework established through BONUS should be used to support efforts.*
- Rich and healthy wildlife
 - *Actions have to both minimise the adverse effects of human activities that cause pollution and work towards preventing damage from happening, by for example establishing a network of "protected areas".*
- Clean and safe shipping
 - *Reducing the environmental impact of ship air emissions, illegal and accidental discharge of oil, hazardous substances, introduction of alien organisms via ships' ballast, and jointly elaborating risk assessments.*
 - *Strengthening and integrating the maritime surveillance system, which is a strategic tool proposed in the context of the Integrated Maritime Policy, that contributes, among others, to the prevention of marine accidents.*
 - *Strengthening human capital: ensuring proper training, imposing common standards and enhancing maritime careers.*
 - *Reinforcing preparedness and response capacity to major emergencies on sea and on land at macro-regional level: improving cooperation and coordination between various actors (maritime safety, security, surveillance and disaster response agencies).*

A number of relevant priority actions reflect TO 4:

- PA Nutrients - reducing nutrient inputs to the sea to acceptable levels
- PA Hazards - reducing the use and impact of hazardous substances
- PA Bio - preserving natural zones and biodiversity, including fisheries
- PA Agri - reinforcing sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries
- PA Ship - becoming a model region for clean shipping
- PA Safe - maritime safety and security, protection from major emergencies at sea and on land
- PA Transport - improving internal and external transport links.

The relevant horizontal priority is the HA Spatial - Encouraging the use of maritime and land-based spatial planning in all Member States around the Baltic Sea and develop a common approach for cross-border cooperation.

The objective also includes a cooperation sub-objective, which we have included under TO11.

HELCOM Baltic
Sea Action Plan (11)

II) BSR-specific issues of the *HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (11)* identify the following four segments under the heading Healthy Baltic Sea:

- *Actions towards a Baltic Sea unaffected by eutrophication includes: 1) country-wise annual nutrient input reduction targets for both nitrogen and phosphorus (development of national programmes, by 2010; measures to improve the treatment of wastewater; measures to reduce agricultural inputs); 2) identification of individual pollution Hot Spots such as major animal farms (more stringent requirements for agriculture concerning environmental permits); 3) elaboration of bilateral and multilateral projects and programmes to reduce nutrient inputs.*
- *Actions towards a Baltic Sea undisturbed by hazardous substances includes: 1) launch of national programmes addressing hazardous substances; 2) promote substitutions with less hazardous substances in industry and other sectors; and 3) need for guidelines and capacity building to increase awareness of how pollution (of hazardous substances) can be eliminated.*
- *Actions towards favourable conservations status of Baltic Sea biodiversity includes: 1) marine spatial planning; 2) long-term management plans for threatened species and habitats; 3) the promotion of research to fill in the information gaps that currently hamper the planning of further actions.*
- *Actions towards a Baltic Sea with environmentally friendly maritime activities (BSR as a model for Clean Shipping) includes 8 management objectives to carry out maritime activities in an environmentally friendly way: 1) enforcement of international regulations - No illegal discharges; 2) safe maritime traffic without accidental pollution; 3) efficient emergency and response capability; 4) minimum sewage pollution from ships; 5) no introductions of alien species from ships; 6) minimum air pollution from ships; 7) zero discharges from offshore platforms; and 8) minimum threats from offshore installations.*

Joint Position Paper
on the EU Strategy
on the BSR (22)

III) *The Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy on the BSR (22)* from 2008 suggests the following priority activities in the field of environmental protection:

- *Initiatives for establishing a structure of BSR coastal zone planning for a healthier water environment with a focus on the large hot spots of pollution on land as well as discharge from small diffuse sources*

- *Establishing an effective response to environmental disasters, which also builds on a cross-sector approach, involving new actors and partners to be part of new environmental solutions*
- *The Baltic Sea Region as a pilot-testing area for some of the sustainability principles formulated in the report from the Tourism Sustainability Group (TSG).*

Thematic Objective 7 - promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks infrastructure

TO 7 - promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks infrastructure

This issue is as expected a very prominent priority in a number of documents. One of the thematically overarching documents, the *Territorial Agenda for EU 2020 (3)*, defines transport as one of the six priorities for the territorial development of the European Union. The document acknowledges the need for improving territorial connectivity for individuals, communities and enterprises. In order to achieve better connectivity, it is important to secure access to road, rail, water-based and air transport, and to other infrastructure facilities such as broadband and trans-European energy networks. The increasing importance of global linkages creates the need for balanced intercontinental traffic including greater use of overland connections with Asia.

Practically, all the EU-wide documents reviewed have transport as an important priority. As the energy networks also fall under this thematic priority, TEN-E has been included here as part of analysis. This TO is covered in the following documents:

- EU 2020 (1)
- EU BSR (2)
- Territorial Agenda for EU 2020 (3)
- TEN-E (4)
- VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the BSR (12)
- Baltic Transport Outlook 2030. Executive Report (20).
- Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy on the BSR (22)
- BSR State of the Region Report (10)

BSR-specific issues

BSR-specific issues are covered in the following three documents:

EUSBSR Action Plan

I) The *EUSBSR Action Plan* identifies the sub-objectives which correspond most to TO 7 as the following:

- Good transport conditions; entailing improvement and focusing on a number of linkages:
 - *East/West linkages are needed to overcome the infrastructure shortfalls of the eastern and south-eastern sides of the sea*
 - *Better connections to Russia and other neighbours*
 - *Further connections to Asia as well as to Black Sea and the Mediterranean regions should be developed*
 - *Improvement of internal and external transport links, increasing the efficiency*
 - *Links to islands and remote communities are a specific issue.*

- Reliable energy markets entail addressing the different stages of the energy markets including:
 - *Further physical integration of the grids in the region is needed to bring benefits in overall efficiency*
 - *Improve the security of energy supply through increased diversification, including renewable resources.*

- *Connecting people in the region through tourism and culture "to build regional identity", this feeling of belonging to a common area and sharing common values. They can also contribute to the economic prosperity of the Region; tourism, culture and to build regional identity.*

- *Better cooperation in fighting cross-border crime aims to bring regional cooperative focus to assessment and prevention, strengthen protection of external borders and cooperation between Member States on law enforcement.*

The relevant priority actions reflecting TO 4 are

- PA Ship - becoming a model region for clean shipping
- PA Safe - maritime safety and security, protection from major emergencies at sea and on land
- PA Transport - improving internal and external transport links
- PA Energy - improving the access to and the efficiency and security of the energy markets
- PA Tourism - reinforcing cohesiveness of the region through tourism.

EUSBSR horizontal priorities

The relevant horizontal priorities are HA Spatial - Encouraging the use of maritime and land-based spatial planning in all Member States around the Baltic Sea and develop a common approach for cross-border cooperation.

The objective also includes a cooperation sub-objective, which we have included under TO 11.

Baltic Transport Outlook 2030

II) BSR-specific features are especially the ***Baltic Transport Outlook 2030***, which contains key suggestions for investments and actions:

- *Development of BSR Strategic Network, especially when it goes beyond the TEN-T*
- *Enhance railway links in the BSR Strategic Network by implementing the ETCS on busy lines*
- *Implement Via Baltica and Rail Baltica projects as EU priority projects*
- *Promote Baltic motorways of the sea and short sea shipping*
- *Bridge maritime channels by fixed links and connecting hinterland infrastructure*
- *Development of sections of the BSR Strategic Network within the Bothnian corridor, the north-south direction*
- *Regional hubs and intermodal terminal capacity together with a sufficient hinterland network.*

The main BTO2030 study conclusion is that there is a potential for more intense cooperation at all levels, i.e. between governments, non-governmental organisations and the private sector. The study has prioritised four main recommendations concerning all BSR countries or main groups:

- *Establish a process of joint infrastructure planning*
- *Develop a transport model that takes into account the specificities of the BSR, inc. the Baltic Sea*
- *Improve efficiency of cross-border movements of cargo on the external EU-borders by tackling administrative and fiscal barriers*
- *Establish a "BTO Forum" for increased cooperation and interaction between the different stakeholders in the BSR.*

VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region" (12)

III) In the document ***VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region (12)***, the following proposed investment activities/actions are identified in order to achieve the BSR territorial cohesion perspective by 2030:

Internal and external accessibility:

- *Address the obstacle of cross-border deficits in primary (TEN-T) and secondary (interregional connections) transport networks of the BSR countries for developing transborder labour markets in the region*
- *Consider the number of concrete examples of road and rail links (like the Rail Baltica corridor, Corridor IA of the TEN-T network connecting seaports of Gdańsk, Kaliningrad and Riga, north-south routes from Scandinavian countries via Central Europe to the Adriatic Sea, etc.)*
- *Road connections in some key cross-border areas*
- *In the EU Strategy for BSR consider the air transport issues (Murmansk, Hamburg, and Berlin to BSR, Kaliningrad) and monitoring*
- *Motorways as a systemic solution; intelligent sea transport corridors in the BSR*
- *East-west connections of electricity transmission grid; BSR Energy Supergrid, better utilisation of renewable resources*
- *Map the coverage status for the ICT services in the BSR.*

Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy on the BSR (22)

IV) The need for improved transport infrastructure is also emphasised in the **Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy on the BSR (22)** from 2008, where it was envisaged to:

- *Support strategic initiatives and projects aiming at improved cooperation between all modes of transport in competitive and sustainable logistic chains – integrating the TEN-T corridors and the motorways of the sea in the Baltic Sea Region by east-west as well as north-south links*
- *Integrate the legal and administrative transport conditions in the region*
- *Develop the physical land and sea infrastructure*
- *Measures to intensify the monitoring of ships movement in the Baltic Sea.*

BSR State of the Region Report

V) Within the **BSR State of the Region Report** transport could be identified as the key priority with specific existing and future transport projects in the BSR being analysed:

- *Funding for four TENT-T major transport projects were allocated in the 2007-12 period for the BSR region:*
 - *Nordic Triangle road and rail links in Sweden and Finland*
 - *Fehmarnbelt railway axis connecting Denmark and Germany*
 - *Motorway of the seas maritime connections in the Baltic Sea*
 - *Rail Baltica project in the Baltic countries*

- *Doing more about an integrated transportation infrastructure of a truly regional character. New, large-scale investments should include more than two countries (preferably four or even more) as stakeholders and possibly shareholders of established owners of new infrastructure.*
- *Rail Baltica is one of the key projects included in the most recent priority funding list within the EU's TEN-T planning, which additionally fits very well into the multi-country transport planning approach mentioned above.*

Additional documents relevant for the TO 7

In addition to the above mentioned documents, the **BTO 2030** mentions maritime issues, sea transport, maritime data exchange, fisheries and the EU-Russia Common **Spaces Progress Report 2010**, item 5.3. It is not a very explicit priority in the context of the EU-Russia relationship, but it has a BSR accent. Other documents, such as the **Northern Dimension**, identify the Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistic Northern Dimension as a key actions.

Thematic objective 8 - promoting employment and supporting labour mobility

TO 8 - promoting employment and supporting labour mobility

A key issue in EU 2020 under inclusive growth is fostering a high-employment economy, which also plays a key role in the Youth on the Move flagship. Employment and labour mobility is sometimes a high priority, but mostly a medium priority. The issue is addressed in half of the analysed documents.

- EU 2020 (1)
- EUSBSR Action Plan (2)
- The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges (13).

BSR-specific issues

The BSR-specific issues are covered in the following documents:

EUSBSR Action Plan (2)

1) **EUSBSR Action Plan (2)** includes TO 8 under a number of objectives and in particular under the objective Increase prosperity:

EUSBSR contributing to the implementation of Europe 2020 Strategy; There is a reference to the EU 2020 Flagship "an agenda for new skills and jobs" to promote a deeper social dialogue in order to improve future labour markets and deal with the demographic change which challenge the region.

TO 8 is an issue which is also mentioned in a number of priority actions, but not a priority action in itself. Employment is used as a key indicator for almost all objectives. The relevant priority action linked to the area is according to the strategy.

Under the Sub-objective Improved global competitiveness of the Baltic Sea Region the following is mentioned:

- *To achieve high productivity, high levels of innovation and sustainable economic growth, the Baltic Sea Region also needs to increase the labour market inclusion and integration.*

- *High levels of employment, high-quality jobs, and low levels of social exclusion are vital factors if the companies of the Baltic Sea Region are to stay competitive.*

The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges” (13)

II) The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges (13) deals with the current situation, the potential and indicates the following future challenges/recommendations regarding demography and labour market integration:

- *Cross-border labour market integration in BSR*
- *Suitable work environment and life-long learning for elderly employees*
- *New forms of work organisation adjusting to a changing demography and benefiting for the older employees*
- *Increasing the participation of people from all age groups in the labour force*
- *Work/life balance*
- *Improving the recognition of education received abroad.*

Thematic Objective 9 - promoting social inclusion and combating poverty

TO 9 - promoting social inclusion and combating poverty

This objective is only covered in a few of the documents analysed and in none of the BSR-specific documents. There does not seem to be a specific BSR-angle on this issue. Other non-BSR-specific documents such as the political declaration Northern Dimension (6) mention a Northern Dimension Partnership on Health and Social Wellbeing (NDPHS). In the Joint EU-Russia statement on the Partnership for Modernisation (8) and the STRING the issue is mentioned and ranked as a medium priority.

- EU 2020 (1).

Thematic Objective 10 - investing in education, skills and lifelong learning

TO 10 investing in education, skills and lifelong learning

The Europe 2020 Flagship "An agenda for new skills and jobs" focuses on the necessity to improve dialogue modernising labour markets. The topic is only covered in a few of the documents and not to any large degree. The EUSBSR has a sub-objective focusing on this issue in relation to the EU 2020, as does the Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015 (19).

- EU 2020 (1)
- EUSBSR (2)
- Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015 (19).

The BSR-specific issues

The BSR-specific issues are mostly covered in the following documents:

EUSBSR Action Plan (2)

The EUSBSR Action Plan (2) includes TO 10 under the objective Increase prosperity:

In EUSBSR under the sub-objective "contributing to the implementation of Europe 2020 Strategy", almost all the priority actions in the EUSBSR have a reference or a component/activity relating to this TO in different degrees. The priority action PA SME, which focuses on promoting entrepreneurship and SMEs, also includes a focus on a better education systems, and PA Inno, exploiting the full potential of the region in research and innovation, including higher education. An action under this PA focuses on sustainable relations between educational institutions within the Baltic Sea Region.

Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015

II) The *Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015*.

Innovation and education for sustainable development:

- *Practical methods of sustainable development teaching, cooperation and networking between educational institutions and others (Baltic University Programme, other initiatives like learning platform www.sustain.no)*
- *Adoption of Education for Sustainable Development policies in each country and monitoring the implementation (will be done by Baltic 21 Education Sector Network)*
- *Modernisation of the industrial base for uptake of eco-innovations (SPIN project and new initiatives with emphasis on eco-innovations in NW Russia).*

TO 11 - enhancing institutional capacity and efficient public administration

Thematic Objective 11 - enhancing institutional capacity and efficient public administration

This is a type of horizontal issue which appears to a larger or lesser degree in some documents. It is relatively loosely defined (and not specific in the EU2020). It can also be interpreted to cover legislative frameworks and other horizontal institutional frameworks. Governance and cooperation could also be covered under this TO. For instance, the *Work plan on activities within the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation (9)* points to cooperation in a number of areas within the public administration (such as crime).

The topic is important in the two BSR-specific documents:

- EUSBSR (2)
- BSR State of the Region Report (10).

EUSBSR Action Plan

I) *EUSBSR Action Plan (2)* identifies in several objectives cooperation actions which should strengthen the governance and management of activities.

Save the sea:

- *Better cooperation: some of the policy areas demanding closer cooperation are dealt with by different administrations in different countries, making the challenge one of bridging borders as well as sectors.*

Also in Connect the Region there are some references to the TO, e.g.:

- *Connecting people in the region; cooperation between public and private actors (PA Tourism) and the lack of an institutional and political framework*
- *Better cooperation in fighting cross-border crime: Baltic Sea Task Force on Organised Crime with emphasis on cooperation.*

As mentioned the TO goes through a number of priority actions with references to administrative barriers, improved governance levels etc. One of these are the priority actions PA Market - removing hindrances to the internal market.

Amongst the horizontal actions, the HA Neighbours – To increase the cooperation with Russian regions to tackle joint challenges in the Baltic Sea Region and the HA MLG - Strengthening multi-level governance, place-based planning and sustainable development, have titles that indicate that they will contain issues relating to the TO. These two HAs have not been developed yet.

BSR State of the Region Report (10)

II) ***BSR State of the Region Report (10)*** provides an overview and analysis of the institutional framework involved in the implementation of the EUBSR strategy, emphasis the role of collaboration between them and identifies the areas of required further development institutional framework:

- *better use of structures and resources is better coordination of cross border activities and their overall alignment with key priorities for the Region.*
- *increased level of leadership, engagement beyond the public authorities, and organisation and financing.*
- *explicit inclusion of macro regional strategies in the programming for the new structural funds budgeting period is important but not sufficient.*
- *Clarifying overall governance structure for the implementation of EUBSR Strategy between the EU, the national governments, and the agencies and sub-national regions could be a powerful driving force able to facilitate the implementation.*
- *Clarifying the relations of the EU Baltic Sea Region Strategy to other EU strategies like Europe 2020, Vision 2020, and the Smart Specialisation Strategy at the operational level, would be an important step forward.*

4.2 Summary of findings in relation to the Thematic Objectives

This section we summarised the findings of the analysis of the reference documents in relation to the thematic objectives. This is a cautious attempt to present an overview over which Thematic Objectives are the most relevant in the reference documents.

Table 4 Summary of correlation

Correlation	Thematic objective
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. strengthening research, technological development and innovation 3. enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises 6. protecting the environment and promoting resources efficiently 7. promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks infrastructure
Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors 5. promoting climate changes adaption, risk prevention and management 8. promoting employment and supporting labour mobility 10. investing in education, skills and lifelong learning
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. enhancing access to, and use and quality of information and communication technologies 9. promoting social inclusion and combating poverty

Thematic Objective 11. Enhancing institutional capacity and efficient public administration is a bit apart as mentioned in the analysis. Different issues and themes could be "translated" into this objective and it also clearly has a horizontal character.

5 Horizontal issues

In addition to the thematic objectives outlined in the CSF, there are a number of horizontal or general priorities/objectives which will need to be reflected in the programming of the BSR. The horizontal issues have been defined in the concept note for analysis. The list below identifies which horizontal themes are included in the reference documents:

- Green growth/blue growth
- Demographic change
- Territorial integration
- Sustainable development
- Digital society
- Climate change

Horizontal issues in the reference documents

In the second part of the analysis we try to link the horizontal issues which are related or linked to which thematic objectives. This has been done checking the reference documents for where the thematic objectives occur and in connection with which horizontal objectives. As some of the horizontal issues are close to the Thematic objectives there are instances where it has been difficult to see whether it was a thematic objective or horizontal issue.

The six horizontal issues are often mentioned and used extensively in documents and different connections. Words such as sustainable are used in many different connections and indiscriminately. We have tried to take this into account when doing the analysis and only noticed when the words appeared in the pairs "sustainable development" or "sustainable economic development". This may have led to over-interpretation.

Table 5.1 Horizontal Issues covered in the Reference Documents

Reference document/ Horizontal theme	Green growth/blue growth	Demographic change	Territorial integration	Sustainable development	Digital society	Climate change
1) Europe 2020	✓	✓		✓	✓	
2) BSR Strategy + action plan	✓	✓		✓		✓
3) Territorial Agenda EU 2020		✓	✓	✓		✓
4) TEN-E guidelines	✓		✓	✓		
5) Northern Dimension				✓		✓
6) Political Declaration Northern Dimension Policy				✓		
7) EU-Russia Common Spaces Progress Report 2010				✓		✓
8) Joint EU-Russia statement on the Partnership for Modernisation			✓			✓
9) Work plan on activities within the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation						✓
10) State of the Region Report	✓					✓
11) HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan				✓		
12) VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the BSR	✓	✓	✓	✓		
13) The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges	✓	✓	✓	✓		
14) Development Perspective for the NSPA		✓	✓			
15) Joint Communiqué of 12 October 2011				✓		✓
16) Position Paper on the future of Objective 3/INTERREG funding in the period after 2013 submitted by the STRING partnership	✓	✓				
17) The Zealand Agreement	✓			✓		
18) Strategy of social and economic development of the North-West Federal District until 2020		✓	✓	✓		
19) Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015	✓			✓		
20) Baltic Transport Outlook 2030. Executive Report.	✓		✓	✓		
21) Building a European Culture of Multilevel Governance: Follow-Up to the Committee of The Regions' White Paper			✓	✓	✓	✓
22) Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region		✓	✓	✓		✓
23) Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region	✓			✓	✓	✓
24) Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region					✓	

Green growth and
Blue growth

Green growth and Blue growth: Apart from the State of Region Report (10) green growth is mentioned in quite a few documents, but not as an overriding theme. Growth as such is a key theme in Europe 2020. Blue growth as short sea shipping and offshore wind energy is mentioned in one document; “The future of the Baltic Sea region: Potentials and challenges” (13).

This horizontal objective is primarily linked to:

- TO 1 Strengthening research, technological development and innovation
- TO 4 Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors
- TO 7 promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks infrastructure.

According to the *State of the Region Report (10)*, the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors (TO4) is seen as one of the ways to maintain sustainable economic growth, while ensuring greener economic activity at the same time. Green growth can be achieved mainly through two types of activities. One approach is making more efficient economic sectors account for a larger share of CO₂ emissions - such as transport (TO7), through optimising networks, substituting less environmentally friendly modes of transport with more friendly ones, and through finding and implementing new technical solutions - biofuels, energy-saving technologies, i.e. through innovations (TO1).

Demographic
change

Demographic change: Is mentioned in some of the documents and in a few, it is a key and main theme, e.g. in the Development Perspectives for the NSPA.

This horizontal objective is primarily linked to:

- TO 8 - promoting employment and supporting labour mobility.

During the analysis process, the issue of demographic change has come up first of all in relation to labour market and, closely related, labour mobility required for successful functioning of markets, and has been covered more in-depth by two strategic documents: The future of the *Baltic Sea region: Potentials and challenges (13)* and *Development perspectives for the NSPA: Opportunities and Challenges (14)*. Therefore common initiatives among the Baltic Sea states to improve cross-border job market integration represent a significant option for handling demographic change and the risk of an insufficient labour force⁶. But in order to make the cross-border labour market functional, there is still a need for further input in the fields like standards of professions, comparability of educational curricula and, most importantly, availability and exchange of information to make potential employers and employees meet.

⁶ The future of the Baltic Sea region: Potentials and challenges, p.10

Territorial integration

Territorial integration: Territorial integration is more prominent and mentioned in a number of documents both BSR, documents only cover parts of the region and EU-wide.

This horizontal objective is primarily linked to:

- TO 7 - promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks' infrastructure.

The linkage between the horizontal objective “Territorial integration” and TO7 “Promoting sustainable transport removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructure” can especially be observed in those analysed documents where sustainable transport is recognised as a high-level priority (*The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and Challenges (13)*; *Development Perspectives for the NSPA: Opportunities and Challenges (14)*; *Baltic Transport Outlook 2030 (20)*). This is no surprise, as transport and other network industries are of an explicitly territorial nature, whose main role is to provide access to territories on one hand, and to ensure the reach of citizens and firms by product and service providers in various geographical places on the other, thus promoting territorial development through its accessibility.

Sustainable development: Is a theme which appears in many of the documents and is one of the most predominant of the horizontal themes. One document is fully focused on this, namely the *Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy of Sustainable Development 2010-2015*.

This horizontal objective is primarily linked to:

- TO 1 Strengthening research, technological development and innovation
- TO 4 Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors
- TO 6 protecting the environment and promoting resources efficiently
- TO 7 promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks infrastructure.

The *Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015 (19)* suggests that the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors shall be achieved through increased use of renewable energy, reduction of greenhouse emissions, promoting green economies and implementing climate-smart agriculture. The possibilities of introducing improvements in all the above mentioned sectors are highly dependent on the availability of suitable technologies, which are the result of innovation processes based on academic research (TO1). Simultaneously, the use of modern technologies would normally require fewer natural resources, increase the efficiency of their use and thus contribute to a higher environmental protection level (TO6).

Digital society

Digital society: Is mentioned in some of the documents and one specific document particularly focuses on this topic, namely the *Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region*.

This horizontal objective is primarily linked to

- TO 1 Strengthening research, technological development and innovation
- TO 2 Enhancing access to, and use and quality of information and communication technologies.

The *Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region* links achievement of the overall strategic goal of digital society with strengthening research, technological development, innovation (TO1) and enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies (TO2) through implementation of such innovative solutions as common, open standards for e-invoicing and a common platform for e-procurement in the Baltic Sea Region based on open standards and through enhancing the access, use and quality of ICT by finding options for interoperability in some pilot sectors (health, transportation or energy), availability of roaming, free communication and establishing a common Baltic Sea Region licensing market, which would guarantee much easier access to and wider use of ICT by citizens and companies, as well as to serve as a basis for development of new business forms and models.

Climate change

Climate change: The climate change is the one of the most widely addressed horizontal objectives that is mentioned in several documents in relation to largest part of the thematic objectives, while the linkage with TO 1,5, 6 and 7 is the most explicit.

This horizontal objective is primarily linked to:

- TO 1 Strengthening research, technological development and innovation
- TO 5 Promoting climate changes adaption, risk prevention and management
- TO 6 protecting the environment and promoting resources efficiently
- TO 7 promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks infrastructure

Improvements in transport sector and optimization of networks for various modes of transport (TO1) through investments in infrastructure are closely related to reduction of CO₂ emissions. Upgrading of infrastructure should ideally have a positive impact on climate change. Additional environmental protections and efficient resource use measures (TO6) are needed. Apart from the energy efficiency, nature protection and the establishment of strong incentives for resource efficient consumer behaviour are targeted. Therefore activities promoting the adaption to climate change, risk prevention and management (TO5) are interlinked with the wider horizontal objective of “climate change”, providing solutions and

tools for coexistence with changes in the nature. Research, technological development and innovation serve (TO1) as the main basis for finding and implementing better solutions from point of view of climate change limitation not only in transport sector, but through more environmentally economy in general and through adaptation to potential risks. Some of the very practical steps for BSR recommended are: to establish a process of joint infrastructure planning; develop a transport model that takes into account the specificities of the BSR, inc. the Baltic Sea; improve efficiency of cross-border movements of cargo on the external EU-borders by tackling administrative and fiscal barrier; establish a "BTO Forum" for increased cooperation and interaction between the different stakeholders in the BSR.⁷

As mentioned above, TO 5 is obviously also linked to the horizontal issue climate change. It is however often difficult to determine whether it is a Thematic Objective or a horizontal issue. This assessment therefore has to be viewed with this in mind.

⁷ Baltic Transport Outlook 2030. Executive Report – final version.

Table 5.2 Horizontal Issue covered by Thematic Objectives

Horizontal Issue/ Thematic Objective	Green growth/blue growth	Demographic change	Territorial integration	Sustainable development	Digital society	Climate change
TO 1 Strengthening research, technological development and innovation	X (2, 10,23, 13)	X (1, 2, 13,22)	X (1,13, 22)	X (1, 2, 13, 22, 23)	X (1,23,24)	X (9,10, 19, 22, 23)
TO 2 Enhancing access to, and use and quality of information and communication technologies			X (1)	X (1)	X (1,24)	
TO 3 Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises	X (2)			X (2)	X (2)	X (2)
TO 4 Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors	X (10,12, 13, 19)		X (1, 2)	X (1, 2, 19)	X(1)	X (9,10, 19)
TO 5 Promoting climate changes adaption, risk prevention and management	X (2)	X (22)	X (22)	X (2, 22)		X (2, 19, 22)
TO 6 protecting the environment and promoting resources efficiently		X (3,22)	X (3,22)	X (2, 3,11, 19,22)		X (2, 3,22, 5)
TO 7 promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks infrastructure	X (10,12,20)	X(3,22)	X (1,3,4, 12, 20,22)	X (1, 2, 3,12, 20,22)	X(1)	X(3,10, 22)
TO 8 promoting employment and supporting labour mobility	X(13)	X (1, 2, 12, 13, 14)	X (1,13, 14)	X(1, 2, 13)	X(1)	
TO 9 promoting social inclusion and combating poverty		X (2)	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)	
TO 10 investing in education, skills and lifelong learning		X (2)	X(1)	X (1,19)	X(1)	
TO 11 enhancing institutional capacity and efficient public administration				X (11)		X (9)

6 Draft conclusions and recommendations

The strategic analysis of the reference documents had three overall parts. An assessment of the reference documents as such; an assessment of the correlation of the reference documents with the thematic objectives, and an assessment of which horizontal themes appear in the reference documents and in relation to which thematic objectives.

Assessments of documents

The analysis of the documents as such showed that the documents selected for the analysis are of very different character. Some are strategies, other research documents, and others again political declarations. The demographical scope of the documents also covers different geographies, from EU-wide to selected parts of the BSR. Some documents are multi-sectoral and others concern a single sector. This has clearly been a challenge for the analysis to deal with documents of such a different character and scope.

Correlation with thematic objectives

The second part of the analysis concerned the degrees to which documents covered the thematic objectives 1-11. As the documents were of such different character, it has been difficult to assess the degree. This was however done but with the caveats which were mentioned in the chapters.

BSR-specific issues

BSR-specific issues were to a large extent only mentioned in the documents focused on the BSR alone. There were other documents which also reflected issues which specifically referred to the BSR. Overall BSR-specific issues were identified for most thematic objectives. A preliminary conclusion is that TO 1, 3, 6, 7 are those mostly correlated with BSR-specific issues.

Other issues

During the analysis a number of topics, issues and themes which are difficult to cover under the 11 thematic objectives directly appear in the document which may be relevant to the BSR and indirectly covered under the TOs. Issues such as trade, crime, security, health etc. are at the margin of the TOs and may therefore not appear directly in this analysis.

Horizontal issues

Six horizontal issues were listed for identification and these were found in a number of the documents. Due to the overlap between the thematic objectives issues and the horizontal issues whether an issue is one or the other is not always clear. The analysis shows, however, links between the thematic objectives and the

horizontal issues i.e. the thematic objectives and the horizontal issues appear in conjunction.

Appendix A List of Reference Documents

No	Title	Published by	Date
1	Europe 2020 Strategy	EU COM	2010
2	BSR Strategy	EU COM	2012
3	Territorial Agenda of the EU 2020	EU	2011
4	Proposal for new TEN-E guidelines	EU	2011
5 (6)	Northern Dimension Policy Framework Document		2006
6 (7)	Political Declaration Northern Dimension Policy		2006
7 (8)	EU-Russia Common Spaces Progress Report 2010		(2011)
8 (9)	Joint EU-Russia statement on the Partnership for Modernisation		(2010)
9 (10)	Work plan on activities within the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation		(2010)
Intergovernmental and other documents			
10 (11)	State of the Region Report	BDF	2012
11 (12)	HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan	HELCOM	2007
12 (13)	VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the BSR	VASAB	2010
13 (14)	The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges	HWWI	2011
14 (15)	Development Perspective for the NSPA	NORDREGIO	2009
15 (18)	Joint Communiqué of 12 October 2011	Barents Euro-Arctic Council	2011
16 (21)	Position Paper on the future of Objective 3/INTERREG funding in the period after 2013 submitted by the STRING partnership	STRING	06/2011
17 (22)	The Zealand Agreement	STRING	09/2011
18 (23)	Strategy of Social and Economic Development of the North-West Federal District Until 2020	?	?
Additional documents			
19 (24)	CBSS Strategy on Sustainable Development (22 pages)	CBSS	2011 (1)
20 (25)	Baltic transport Outlook - Executive Report (32 pages)	Tetraplan A/S	2011 (12)

21 (27)	COR Opinion Building a European Culture of Multi-level governance (20 pages)	COR	2012 (02)
22 (31)	Position Paper on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (15 pages)	BSSSC	2008
23 (34)	Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region (147 pages)	Technopolis (European Commission)	2011
24 (35)	Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region (36 pages)	BDF	2012

Appendix B Original list of documents

No	Title	Published by	Date	Comment
1	Europe 2020 Strategy	EU COM	2010	
2	EUSBSR Strategy	EU COM	2009 + 2010 + 2012	Replaced by new strategy and action plan
3	Territorial Agenda of the EU 2020 (1)	EU	2011	
4	Proposal for new TEN-E guidelines	EU	2011	
5	Proposal for new TEN-T guidelines	EU	2011	Replaced by document 25
6	Northern Dimension Policy Framework Document		2006	
7	Political Declaration Northern Dimension Policy		2006	
8	EU-Russia Common Spaces Progress Report 2010 (2)		(2011)	
9	Joint EU-Russia statement on the Partnership for Modernisation (3)		(2010)	
10	Work plan on activities within the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation (4)		(2010)	
Intergovernmental and other documents				
11	State of the Region Report	BDF	2012	2012 used instead of 2011
12	HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (6)	HELCOM	2007	
13	VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the BSR (7)	VASAB	2010	
14	The Future of the Baltic Sea Region: Potentials and challenges (8)	HWWI	2011	
15	Development Perspective for the NSPA (9)	NORDREGIO	2009	The 3 NSPA documents were very similar and on 15 was used
16	NSPA Foresight 2020 - Policy Road Map	NORDREGIO	2009	
17	Strong, Specific and Promising - Towards a vision for the Northern Sparsely Populated areas in 2020	Nordregio	2009	
18	Joint Communiqué of 12 October 2011	Barents Euro-Arctic Council	2011	
19	Talking Barents	The Norwegian Barents Secretariat	2010	This is not a strategic documents - priorities reflected in 18
20	Barents Borders: Delimitation and	The Norwegian	2012	This is not a strategic documents -

	internationalization	Barents Secretariat		priorities reflected in 18
21	Position Paper on the future of Objective 3/INTERREG funding in the period after 2013 submitted by the STRING partnership	STRING	06/2011	
22	The Zealand Agreement	STRING	09/2011	
23	Strategy of Social and Economic Development of the North-West Federal District Until 2020 (5)	?	?	
Additional documents				
24	<u>CBSS Strategy on Sustainable Development (22 pages) (11)</u>	CBSS	2011 (1)	
25	Baltic transport Outlook - Executive Report (32 pages) (10)	Tetraplan A/S	2011 (12)	Replaced document 5
26	COR White Paper on Multi-level Governance (40 pages)	COR	2009 (06)	The COR documents were similar suggest and only 27 was used for the analysis
27	<u>COR Opinion Building a European Culture of Multi-level governance (20 pages) (12)</u>	COR	2012 (02)	
28	BSSSC Statement on Cohesion Policy in the Multi Annual Financial Framework 2014-2020 (4 pages)	BSSSC	No date	31 replaced this document (it was very difficult to identify thematic priorities)
29	Joint Position on the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (4 pages)	BSSSC + more	2012 (04)	31 replaced this document (it was very difficult to identify thematic priorities)
30	Position Paper on the EU Budget for Cohesion Policy after 2013 (11 pages)	BSSSC	2010 (10)	31 replaced this document (it was very difficult to identify thematic priorities)
31	Position Paper on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (15 pages)	BSSSC	2008	This document replaced 28-30
32	Mapping of National Cluster Policies and Programmes in the Baltic Sea Region - Part One (27 pages)	BSR Innonet	2007	34 replaced this document (outdated data in document)
33	Mapping of National Cluster Policies and Programmes in the Baltic Sea Region - Part Two (70 pages)	BSR Innonet	2007	34 replaced this document (outdated data in document)
34	Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region (147 pages)	Technopolis for the European Commission	2011	This document replaced 32-33
35	Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region (36 pages)	BDF	2012	

Appendix C Assessment of the strategic documents

1. Europe 2020

Document title	Europe 2020
Date/date analytical basis	2010/n.a.
Type of document/ Number of pages	Strategy
Structure of document	3 Overall objectives, 7 thematic flagships; 5 headline targets
Geographical Coverage	EU wide
Sectoral focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation; • Education; • digital society; • climate, energy and mobility; • competitiveness; • employment and skills; • fighting poverty;
Correlation with thematic objectives	<p>XXX - 1,2 ,4 ,7 , 8, 9, 10 XX - 3,5 ,6 ,11</p> <p>For obvious reasons more or less full correlation between the flagships and the thematic objectives</p>
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p>Strategy has 7 flagships with key EU actions + member state actions</p> <p>Flagship 1 - Innovative Union: EU: Complete European Research Area; improve framework conditions; European Innovation partnership; strengthen EU instruments; promote knowledge partnerships MS: reform national systems; ensure supply of graduates; priorities expenditure.</p> <p>Flagship 2- Youth on the Move: EU: integration and ensure mobility; modernise education agenda; promote entrepreneurship; recognise non-formal learning; Youth employment framework. MS: invest in education; improve education outcomes; relevant of education; improve youth entry in labour marked.</p> <p>Flagship 3 - A digital Agenda for Europe EU: legal framework; policy; funding; single market; reform funding; promote Internet access. MS: high speed Internet strategies; legal framework; e-</p>

	<p>government.</p> <p>Flagship 4 - Resource efficient Europe EU: mobilise financing; legal framework; modernise transport, EU added value; internal energy market; upgrade networks, revise action plan; vision low-carbon. MS: exits subsidies; market based instruments; coordination of infrastructure; urban dimension; use regulations; incentives energy savings..</p> <p>Flagship 5 - An industrial policy for the globalised area. EU: policy; horizontal approach; business environments, restructuring of sectors; promote technology; internationalisation; transport single market; tourism sector; improve transition of service and manufacturing; CSR. MS: business environment - SMEs; intellectual property; administrative burden; multilevel governance.</p> <p>Flagship 6 - AN agenda for new skills and jobs. EU: flexicurity agenda; legislative framework; labour mobility; strengthen social partners; MS Flexicurity; tax and benefit systems; work-life balance; European Qualifications Framework; basis for further learning; partnership education/training and work.</p> <p>Flagship 7 - European Platform against Poverty. EU: social exclusion and social protection; propose social innovation; social protection and pension systems. MS: combating poverty and social exclusion; groups at risk; social and pension systems.</p>
Specific BSR features/priorities	None
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Smart growth, sustainable growth, Inclusive growth, digital society, territorial integration, sustainable development

2. EU BSR

Document title	EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region 2012 + EUBSR Action Plan July 2012 Version
Date/date analytical basis	23.03.2012 + July 2012/Data sources stated by not necessary date.
Type of document/ Number of pages	Communication from the COM to the European Parliament, The Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions
Structure of document	<p>Framework document with 3 key priorities + indicators and targets:</p> <p>Save the sea; Connect the region; Increase prosperity</p> <p>Action Plan with 3 key objectives, sub-objectives, priority areas, indicators, targets.</p>

Geographical Coverage	EU members of the Baltic Sea Region
Sectoral focus	<p>Environment/transport/socio-economic</p> <p>Save the Sea: MSFD; EU Biodiversity; HELCOM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear water in the Sea; • Rich and healthy wildlife; • Clean and safe shipping; • Better Cooperation. <p>Connect the Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good transport conditions; • Reliable energy markets; • Connecting people in the region; • Better cooperation in fighting cross-border crime. <p>Increase prosperity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EUSBSR as a front runner for deepening and fulfilling the single market; • EUSBSR contributing to the implementation of Europe 2020 Strategy; • Improved global competition of the BSR; • Climate change adaption.
Correlation with thematic objectives	<p>XXX- 1, 3, 5, 6, 7</p> <p>XX - 4, 8, 11</p>
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p>Priority actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PA Nutrients - reducing nutrient inputs to the Sea to acceptable levels 2. PA Hazards - reducing the use and impact of hazardous substances 3. PA Bio - preserving natural zones and biodiversity, including fisheries 4. PA Agri - reinforcing sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries 5. PA Ship - becoming a model region for clean shipping 6. PA Safe - Maritime safety and security, protection from major emergencies at sea and on land 7. PA Transport - improving internal and external transport links 8. PA Energy - improving the access to, and the efficiency and security of the energy markets 9. PA Tourism - reinforcing cohesiveness of the Region through tourism 10. PA Culture - developing a common culture and regional identity

	<p>11. PA Crime - fighting cross-border crime</p> <p>12. PA Market - removing hindrances to the internal market</p> <p>13. PA Inno - exploiting the full potential of the region in research and innovation, including higher education</p> <p>14. PA SME - promoting entrepreneurship, strengthen SMEs and increase the efficient use of human resources, including through better education systems</p> <p>15. PA Health - improving and promoting people's health, including its social aspects</p> <p>Horizontal actions:</p> <p>1. HA Spatial - Encouraging the use of Maritime and Land-based Spatial Planning in all Member States around the Baltic Sea and develop a common approach for cross-border cooperation</p> <p>2. HA Neighbours – To increase the cooperation with Russian regions to tackle joint challenges in the Baltic Sea Region</p> <p>3. HA MLG - Strengthening multi-level governance, place-based planning and sustainable development</p> <p>4. HA Climate - Mitigating and adapting to climate change</p>
Specific BSR features/priorities	<p>Yes as this is the strategy of the BSR the priorities are specific BSR;</p> <p>Baltic energy market;</p> <p>Pan-Baltic Sea Region Innovation Union</p>
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	<p>Policy alignment, funding alignment; governance; cooperation with neighbour countries, private sector; NGOs; international and regional organisations;</p> <p>Internal/external connectivity (travel time)</p>

3. Territorial agenda of the European Union 2020

Document title	Territorial agenda of the European Union 2020
Date/date analytical basis	19.05.2011/ no date for analytical basis
Type of document/ Number of pages	Political declaration/12 pages
Structure of document	<p>Document has the following structure:</p> <p>I. Territorial cohesion is a common goal</p> <p>II. Challenges and potentials for territorial development</p> <p>III. Territorial Priorities for the Development of the European Union</p> <p>IV. Making EU territorial cohesion a reality (including</p>

	<p>Guidelines for future actions).</p> <p>Objective: is to provide strategic orientations for territorial development, fostering integration of territorial dimension within different policies at all governance levels and to ensure implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy according to territorial cohesion principles.</p> <p>6 Priorities: (Promote polycentric and balanced territorial development (1), Encouraging integrated development in cities, rural and specific regions (2), Territorial integration in cross-border and transnational functional regions (3), Ensuring global competitiveness of the regions based on strong local economies (4), Improving territorial connectivity for individuals, communities and enterprises (5), Managing and connecting ecological, landscape and cultural values of regions (6).</p> <p>One of recommendations: territorial cooperation initiatives should be geared towards the long term objectives of territorial cohesion building on the experience of former INTERREG B and current transnational programmes. Integrated macro-regional strategies – as currently pioneered in the Baltic Sea...region.</p>
Geographical Coverage	European Union
Sectoral focus	Spatial planning
Correlation with thematic objectives	XXX – 6,7 X-2
Proposed investment priorities/actions	None
Specific BSR features/priorities	None, but BSR experience with macro-region strategy is highlighted as good practice.
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Demographic change, territorial integration, sustainable development, social inclusion.

4. Energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond

Document title	Energy Tends for 2030 - updated 2009
Date/date analytical basis	2011
Type of document/ Number of pages	Programme framework; C

Structure of document	Challenges, priorities, financing; mechanisms
Geographical Coverage	All EU + parts of ENPI
Sectoral focus	Energy policy objectives established in EU Energy 2007
Correlation with thematic objectives	XXX- 4, 5, 6, 7 XX - 1 and 11
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p>Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority corridors for electricity, gas and oil • Making Europe's electricity grid fit for 2020 • Diversified gas supplies to a fully interconnected and flexible EU gas network • Ensuring the security of oil supply • Roll-out of smart grid technology • Preparing the longer term networks • European Electricity Highways • European CO2 transport network
Specific BSR features/priorities	Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Regional clusters,

5. Northern Dimension Policy Framework Document

Document title	Northern Dimension Policy Framework Document
Date/date analytical basis	2006
Type of document/ Number of pages	Policy Framework
Structure of document	Actors; Objectives; Priority sectors; Institutional arrangement ; Implementation and monitoring
Geographical	European Arctic , BAS, NW Russia, Iceland, Greenland

Coverage	
Sectoral focus	Objective: promotion of dialogue and concrete cooperation, strengthening stability, wellbeing and intensified economic cooperation, promotion of economic integration and competitiveness and sustainable development.
Correlation with thematic objectives	
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic cooperation • Freedom, security and Justice • External security • Research, education and culture • Environmental, nuclear safety, and natural resources • Social welfare and health care
Specific BSR features/priorities	
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	

6. Political Declaration Northern Dimension Policy

Document title	Political Declaration Northern Dimension Policy
Date/date analytical basis	2006
Type of document/ Number of pages	Political - declaration
Structure of document	2006
Geographical Coverage	
Sectoral focus	<p>To make the Northern Dimension policy a regional expression of the four EU – Russia common spaces with the full participation of Iceland and Norway</p> <p>To contribute efforts to ensure that the Northern Dimension Policy provides concrete and pragmatic activities with the objective to achieve tangible results, taking into account the need to endeavour to ensure</p>

	synergies with other regional programmes and initiatives;
Correlation with thematic objectives	
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership (NDEP) • Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Wellbeing (NDPHS) • Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics, • cooperation in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy,
Specific BSR features/priorities	
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	

7. EU-Russia Common Spaces Progress Report 2010

Document title	EU-Russia Common Spaces Progress Report 2010
Date/date analytical basis	March 2011/No analytical data
Type of document/ Number of pages	Progress report/59 pages
Structure of document	<p>The progress report is structured according to Four EU/Russia Common spaces and highlights the future development during 2011 in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) EU-Russia Common economic space; 2) EU-Russia Common Space of freedom, security and justice; 3) External security (no separate chapter outlined on this Common Space) 4) EU-Russia Common Space on research and education including cultural aspects. <p>The achievements in areas of Common Spaces in 2010 are analysed as well as next steps in coming years have been indicated within the document.</p>
Geographical Coverage	European Union and Russia
Sectoral focus	EU-Russia Common Spaces cover very broad sectoral focus (starting from automotive and textile industries and ending with judiciary system), but in particular:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Industry related dialogue b. Trade related dialogues c. customs and cross-border cooperation (not CBC) d. Competition e. financial services and Macro-economic policy dialogue, Statistics f. Energy g. Environment h. Climate action i. Transport j. Agriculture, Forestry, Timber, Fisheries, Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Measures k. Interregional and Cross-Border Cooperation l. public health
Correlation with thematic objectives	XX – 1.-7., 10.
Proposed investment priorities/actions	As the report is more retrospective document, it provides coverage of already ongoing projects rather than proposes new ones.
Specific BSR features/priorities	Mainly maritime related: sea transport, maritime data exchange, fisheries.
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Sustainable development

8. Joint EU-Russia statement on the Partnership for Modernisation

Document title	Joint EU-Russia statement on the Partnership for Modernisation
Date/date analytical basis	1 June 2010/No analytical data
Type of document/ Number of pages	Statement/2 pages
Structure of document	<p>Political declaration no specific structure</p> <p>It lists many and various priority areas of Partnership: opportunities for investment in key sectors driving growth and innovation, bilateral trade and economic relations, small and medium sized enterprises; alignment of technical regulations and standards, enforcement of intellectual property rights, transport, low-carbon economy and energy efficiency, climate change, innovation, research and</p>

	development, space, regional and social development, function of judiciary, people-to-people, dialogue with civil society.
Geographical Coverage	EU & Russia
Sectoral focus	No specific sectorial focus, only lists priority areas of cooperation (please, see, above).
Correlation with thematic objectives	XX – 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 X - 7
Proposed investment priorities/actions	Not identified - The European Union and Russia will encourage implementation of specific projects within the framework of the Partnership for Modernisation.
Specific BSR features/priorities	Not Applicable
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	As the balanced regional development has been touched upon in the document, perhaps, it could be considered that horizontal theme “territorial integration” is present in the document at least to certain extent. Trade, competition.

9. Work Plan for activities within the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation

Document title	Work Plan for activities within the EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation
Date/date analytical basis	December 2010
Type of document/ Number of pages	Working document/9 pages
Structure of document	The work plan is structured around five priorities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of diversified, competitive and sustainable low-carbon economy; 2. Facilitating and liberalising trade in the global economy, enhancing and deepening bilateral trade and economic relations; 3. Enhancing cooperation in innovation and research and development, including space and nuclear research; 4. Rule of law, strengthening the legal environment, improving investment and the social climate;

	5. Promoting people-to-people links and enhancing dialogue with civil society; Which are further subdivided.
Geographical Coverage	European Union and Russia
Sectoral focus	Broad sectoral coverage in line with the above listed priorities: energy, telecommunications, transport, environment, technical regulations and standards, research (inc. Nuclear), innovations (emphasis on SMEs), space, judiciary (inc. Intellectual property rights), education.
Correlation with thematic objectives	XXX-1, 4 and 11. X – 8.
Proposed investment priorities/actions	There are potential/ongoing projects/fields of activities listed under each of the priorities.
Specific BSR features/priorities	BSR is covered in the context of maritime transport - Motorways of the Sea concept has been identified as area for activities.
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Trade

10. State of Region Report

Document title	State of the Region
Date/date analytical basis	2011 (has to be redone for 2012)
Type of document/ Number of pages	Economic analysis
Structure of document	Assessment; recommendations (153 pages)
Geographical Coverage	BSR
Sectoral focus	Economic development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitiveness • Collaboration • Entrepreneurships
Correlation with thematic	XXX - 1, 3, 4, 7

objectives	XX -2, Key focus is on competitiveness throughout the report.
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities with significant cross-border externalities; • Transport; • Knowledge exchange and common learning; • Shared knowledge infrastructure • Green Growth
Specific BSR features/priorities	Focused on the BSR
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Collaboration; green growth

11. HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan

Document title	HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan
Date/date analytical basis	15 November 2007/ 2003
Type of document/ Number of pages	Action Plan/101 pages
Structure of document	<p>Vision (objective) - healthy Baltic Sea by 2021</p> <p>Actions address the four priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eutrophication (overall goal, ecological objectives, recommendations, indicators) • Hazardous substances (overall goal, ecological objectives, recommendations, indicators) • Biodiversity and nature conservation (overall goal, ecological objectives, recommendations, indicators) • Maritime activities (overall goal, ecological objectives, recommendations, indicators) <p>+ Development of assessment tools and methodologies + Awareness raising and capacity building + Financing aspects</p>
Geographical Coverage	BSR
Sectoral focus	Environment

	<p>Priority areas (ecological objectives):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eutrophication (country-wise annual nutrient input reduction targets for both nitrogen and phosphorus) • Hazardous substances (concentrations of hazardous substance close to natural levels; all Baltic fish are safe to eat; to safeguard the health of wildlife; pre-Chernobyl levels of radioactivity) • Biodiversity and nature conservation (natural marine and costal landscapes, thriving and balanced communities of animals and plants, viable populations of species) • Maritime activities (8 management objectives to carry out maritime activities in an environmentally friendly way) <p>+ Development of assessment tools and methodologies + Awareness raising an capacity building</p>
<p>Correlation with thematic objectives</p>	<p>XXX – 6 XX – 11</p>
<p>Proposed investment priorities/actions</p>	<p><u>Eutrophication:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop national programmes, by 2010 • specific measures to improve the treatment of wastewater, phosphorous removal from 80% to 90%, and substituting phosphorous in detergents.. • measures to drastically reduce agricultural inputs, including changes in manure handling and fertilisation practices. <p><u>Hazardous substances:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • launch national programmes addressing hazardous substances • promote substitutions with less hazardous substances in industry and other sectors • guidelines and capacity building to increase awareness of how pollution (hazardous substances) elimination <p><u>Biodiversity and nature conservation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • marine spatial planning • long-term management plans for threatened species and habitats • the promotion of research to fill in the information gaps that currently hamper the planning of further actions <p><u>Maritime activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enforcement of international regulations - No illegal discharges

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safe maritime traffic without accidental pollution • efficient emergency and response capability • minimum sewage pollution from ships • no introductions of alien species from ships • minimum air pollution from ships • zero discharges from offshore platforms • minimum threats from offshore installations
Specific BSR features/priorities	Healthy Baltic Sea by 2021.
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Sustainable human economic and social activities; sustainable use and protection of marine resources; sustainable management of coastal fish.

12. VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region

Document title	VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region
Date/date analytical basis	March 2010/ 2009 (cartographic material)
Type of document/ Number of pages	Transnational strategic spatial planning document /56 pages
Structure of document	<p>Trends and challenges for territorial development</p> <p>BSR territorial cohesion perspective (objectives) in 2030:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-integrated and coherent macro-region (has overcome the divides) • Successful model of territorial cohesion and cooperation • Well-balanced setup of metropolitan centres, small and medium-size cities and towns with high quality of life • Fast, reliable and environmentally efficient technologies of transport, information and communication • Integrated energy, diversified sources of energy (including renewable) • Integrated land and sea-space planning and management <p>Policy guidelines and specific actions to achieve the territorial cohesion perspective with focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban networking and urban-rural cooperation, • Internal and external accessibility • Maritime spatial planning and management

Geographical Coverage	BSR
Sectoral focus	Spatial planning (horizontal) Transport, energy, economic development
Correlation with thematic objectives	XXX – 7 XX – 2, 4, 8 X – 1, 11
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p><u>Urban networking and urban-rural cooperation:</u> cooperation strategy for the metropolitan areas, transnat. networking of the eastern and western for innovation; map of clusters in North-West Russia and Belarus of non metropolitan areas, harmonising the investment plans of St. Petersburg with the regional needs; small and medium-sized cities and towns as centres of innovation and specialised services; cooperation with North-West Russian entities; transnational and cross-border initiatives for better development of metropolitan areas and their rural surroundings and facilitate the foreign direct investments there; pan-Baltic conference for counteracting the impact the demographic trends and labour market development have on the urban-rural polarisation and social cohesion).</p> <p><u>Internal and external accessibility:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address the obstacle of cross-border deficits in primary (TEN-T) and secondary (interregional connections) transport networks of the BSR countries for developing transborder labour markets in the Region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ During the revision of the EU transport policy and work on the EU Strategy for BSR, consider the number of concrete examples of road and rail links (like The Rail Baltica corridor, Corridor IA of the TEN-T network connecting seaports of Gdańsk, Kaliningrad and Riga, North-South routes from Scandinavian countries via Central Europe to the Adriatic Sea, etc.) ○ road connections in some key cross-border areas • In the EU Strategy for BSR consider the air transport issues (Murmansk, Hamburg, and Berlin to BSR, Kaliningrad) and monitoring; • Motorways as a systemic solution; intelligent sea transport corridors in the BSR, • East-West connections of electricity transmission grid; BSR Energy Supergrid, better utilisation of renewable resources; • Map the coverage status for the ICT services in the BSR • <u>Maritime spatial planning and management (MSPM)</u> • BSR conference for common approach for the MSPM; • demonstration projects for some Baltic Sea areas of severe use conflicts (e.g. the Gulf of Finland, the Gulf of

	<p>Riga, Norra Kvarken, southern part of the Gulf of Bothnia and archipelago, the Danish straits, and offshore areas south and east of Öland and Gotland)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate joint capacity building actions in maritime spatial planning
Specific BSR features/priorities	All actions are specific to BSR
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Transnational cooperation in spatial planning; Demographic change; Sustainable development; Territorial cohesion; Sustainable use and management of sea resources; Sustainable transport network; Green growth (green transport corridors, renewable energy)

13. The future of the Baltic Sea region: Potentials and challenges

Document title	The future of the Baltic Sea region: Potentials and challenges
Date/date analytical basis	February 2011/2010
Type of document/ Number of pages	Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI) Policy Report Nr.16 (Study)/ 55 pages
Structure of document	<p>The study analyses the development possibilities of the Baltic Sea region from various perspectives. It deals with the current situation, the potential and the future challenges.</p> <p>Focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade with the "Mare Balticum" • Demography and labour market integration • The Baltic Sea area of innovation • Cities as initiators for the development of the Baltic Sea Region
Geographical Coverage	BSR (more narrow federal states of Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania for Germany; the Western Pomeranian, Pomeranian, Warmian-Masurian and Podlaski voivodeships in the north of Poland; and St Petersburg and Kaliningrad for Russia)
Sectoral focus	Overall socio-economic (Trade/Innovation/Employment)
Correlation with thematic objectives	<p>XXX – 1,3, 8</p> <p>XX – 4, 7</p> <p>X - 10</p>
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p>There are no particular investment priorities/actions</p> <p>Some future challenges/recommendations are:</p> <p><u>Trade with the "Mare Balticum"</u></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New technologies for shipping; clean shipping; hub-and-spoke strategy in the Baltic Sea; short sea shipping; • Infrastructure development large projects (e.g. Fehmarn Belt) • Improve accessibility – e.g. the railway connections <p><u>Demography and labour market integration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-border labour market integration in BSR • Suitable work environment and life-long learning for aging employees • New forms of work organisation adjusting to a changing demography and benefiting for the older employees • Increasing the participation of people from all age groups in the labour force • Facilitate the compatibility of family and career • Improving the recognition of education received abroad <p><u>The Baltic Sea area of innovation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transfer of knowledge through face-to-face contact and the cross-border mobility of the labour force • Cluster formation in healthcare (e.g. Medicon Valley) • The experience economy (to include the areas of sports, tourism, toys and games and entertainment) • Model region for the environmentally friendly energy (renewable, innovative solutions, offshore wind energy) <p><u>Cities as initiators for the development of the Baltic Sea Region:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urban centres as the driving forces behind regional development • Locational advantages for knowledge-intensive services and research-intensive industries • Concentration of specialised labour in specific industries to reach the “critical mass” for cluster formation in cities
Specific BSR features/priorities	BSR - model region for clean shipping, BSR - model region for the environmentally friendly use of energy.
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Green growth (renewable energy); Blue growth (short sea shipping, offshore wind energy); Sustainable development; demographic change (one of the key issues of the document), territorial integration/urban development (one of the key issues of the document) and trade (one of the key issues of the document)

14. Development perspectives for the NSPA: Opportunities and challenges

Document title	Development perspectives for the NSPA: Opportunities and Challenges
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Date/date analytical basis	2009/2008
Type of document/ Number of pages	Analytical Report/85 pages
Structure of document	<p>Analysis and assessment, future challenges.</p> <p>on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human resources in the NSPA • Industrial profiles and entrepreneurship in the NSPA • Different types of geographic contexts in the NSPA <p>+ needed infrastructure strategies</p> <p>Report has mainly functioned as an input to the discussions in the Foresight workshops that were organised in Stockholm September, 11th and 12th and October 16th and 17th, 2008.</p>
Geographical Coverage	Northern Sparsely Populated Areas - the regions of northern Finland, Norway and Sweden
Sectoral focus	Demographic development/ Labour market/ Innovations R&D /Transport (accessibility)
Correlation with thematic objectives	XX – 8 X – 1, 7
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p>There are no particular investment priorities/actions</p> <p>Some transport infrastructure development suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Barents Link from Narvik to Russia via Luleå and Kainu • The Via Baltica from Nordland and Västerbotten to Poland • The North-East Cargo Link from Trøndelag to Russia via Savo and North Carelia
Specific BSR features/priorities	n.a.
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Territorial integration, demographic change (one of the key issue of the document), social inclusion

15. Joint Communiqué of 12 October 2011

Document title	Joint Communiqué. The Barents Euro Arctic Region
Date/date analytical basis	12 October 2011/no date for analytical basis
Type of document/	Political declaration/9 pages

Number of pages	
Structure of document	<p>Three priority areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green and responsible growth • Living in the Barents region • Strengthening the mechanisms of cooperation and political influence
Geographical Coverage	Barents Region
Sectoral focus	Environment, transport network including energy, economic development, health and social
Correlation with thematic objectives	<p>Almost all thematic objectives are mentioned in the document; most prominent environment and transport</p> <p>XX - 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10</p> <p>X - 5 + 11</p>
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p>The document supports a number of actions and activities undertaken in the framework of other programmes and initiatives under each of the priorities (not all expressed as actions)</p> <p>Green and responsible growth: Renewable energy and energy efficiency (awareness raising and regional cooperation); Forestry sector and bioenergy; hot spots; water (concrete activities - coordination);</p> <p>Living in the Barents region: supports implementation of initiative in relation to indigenous groups; concerning culture, education; SME; youth; Emergency preparedness;</p> <p>Strengthening the mechanisms of cooperation and political influence.</p>
Specific BSR features/priorities	Indigenous peoples; external cooperation (customs and border crossings)
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Culture; youth; governance (political and administrative); green growth; sustainable development;

16. Position paper on the future of Objective 3/INTERREG funding in the period after 2013 submitted by the STRING partnership

Document title	Position paper on the future of Objective 3/INTERREG funding in the period after 2013 submitted by the STRING partnership
Date/date analytical basis	2011
Type of document/ Number of pages	Position paper

Structure of document	Mostly focused on structure and organisation of new programmes (question is if the document is really relevant for this purpose)
Geographical Coverage	South-western Baltic Sea (also Broader BSR)
Sectoral focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • green growth; • labour market; • innovation; • climate policy; • knowledge based society + culture, language and education
Correlation with thematic objectives	XX - 1, 3, X - 5, 8, 10 Document is very brief and not really a strategy or analysis - objectives are generally in lists.
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate protection, • Knowledge based development of the economy and competitiveness in a globalised world, • adjustment of the demographic development
Specific BSR features/priorities	Link up to and knowledge transfer from BSR
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Green growth; interregional and transnational cooperation; urban-rural partnerships; Internationalisation of clusters, demographic development,

17. The Zealand Agreement

Document title	The Zealand Agreement
Date/date analytical basis	2011 (September 7
Type of document/ Number of pages	Political declaration
Structure of document	2 pages - Global objectives
Geographical Coverage	South-western Baltic Sea
Sectoral focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green growth

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic sectors (selected) • Research • Transport
Correlation with thematic objectives	X - 1, 3, 7, 8, 9 XX - 10 Very short document - the objectives are mentioned in lists
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material Science • Life Science • Cleantech • Transport and logistics • Food industry • Media Industry • Tourism
Specific BSR features/priorities	The BSR is mentioned as a area where one wishes to work on knowledge, growth, welfare and sustainability
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Green growth; sustainability,

18. Strategy of social and economic development of the North-West Federal District until 2020

Document title	Strategy of social and economic development of the North-West Federal District until 2020
Date/date analytical basis	2011/there are no data available in summary of the Strategy
Type of document/ Number of pages	Strategy/6 pages
Structure of document	<p>Strategy defines challenging objectives and development directions of the social and economic complex of sub-regional importance.</p> <p>Document is summary of the Strategy describing in short what is in seven chapters of Strategy:</p> <p>I. General provisions</p> <p>II. Evaluation of background situation and basic principles of the Strategy</p> <p>III. Evaluation of factors and strategic directions of backbone industry distribution</p> <p>IV. Current situation and development prospects of common regional infrastructure</p> <p>V. Main directions of social development and labour force management</p> <p>VI. Competitive advantages and strategic directions of the</p>

	subjects of the North-West Federal District development VII. Mechanisms of implementation of the priority objectives and tasks of social and economic development of the North-West Federal District.
Geographical Coverage	Northwest Federal District of Russia
Sectoral focus	Comprehensive: many branches of industry, energy, transport, tourism, social sphere, health, education, etc.
Correlation with thematic objectives	XX - 7, X - 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 10
Proposed investment priorities/actions	Implementation of the projects of the outgoing growth zones within the urban agglomerations, territorial industrial and tourist recreational complexes, and engineering, transport, energy, social infrastructure and priority investment projects.
Specific BSR features/priorities	There is no particular focus on BSR evident in Summary of the Strategy, however, whole Strategy is targeted for that part of Russia which is part of BSR.
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Demographic change, Territorial integration, Sustainable development.

19. Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015

Document title	Council of the Baltic Sea States Strategy on Sustainable Development 2010-2015
Date/date analytical basis	26 January 2011/n.a.
Type of document/ Number of pages	Strategy/22 pages
Structure of document	<p>BSR long-term vision – sustainable development. Goal - transforming into the world's first Eco-region</p> <p>In the years 2010 to 2015 focus on four strategic areas of cooperation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change <i>Goal:</i> Become a low-carbon and climate resilient region <i>Objectives:</i> Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to change • Sustainable urban and rural development <i>Goal:</i> Be a region of sustainable cities and towns in symbiosis with vibrant rural landscapes <i>Objectives:</i> Improve quality of life in both urban and

	<p>rural settings, and strengthen urban-rural linkage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable consumption and production <i>Goal:</i> Reduce the ecological impact by the average citizen in our region <i>Objectives:</i> Promote sustainable lifestyles and the development of green economies Innovation and education for sustainable development <i>Goal:</i> Be a leading region on education for sustainable development and eco-innovations <i>Objectives:</i> Facilitate the integration of knowledge, skills and competencies for sustainability into education and lifelong learning
Geographical Coverage	BSR
Sectoral focus	Environment/ Energy/ Education
Correlation with thematic objectives	XX – 4, 5, 10 X – 1, 3
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p><u>Climate change:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote climate-smart agriculture and forestry (mainly through projects such as EcoRegion and Ecosystem Health and Sustainable Agriculture) Promote the sustainable bioenergy (mainly through the Bioenergy Promotion Project) Address climate change adaptation (mainly through BALTADAPT project) <p><u>Sustainable urban and rural development:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote better management of urban-rural interactions (mainly through projects NEW BRIDGES and EcoRegion) integrated management of natural resources (EcoVillages, Ecosystem Health & Sustainable Agriculture, EcoRegion, Agriculture Sector Network initiatives) strategies for sustainable tourism (projects such as AGORA 2.0 , EcoRegion lead by the Baltic 21 Tourism Sector Network) <p><u>Sustainable consumption and production:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support sustainable consumption and production as well as corporate social responsibility programs in SMEs (mainly through SPIN project and new initiatives) Initiate experience-sharing on sustainable public procurement (flagship project. Sweden will take the lead on initiating the network) Create enabling environments for youth culture and sustainable lifestyles (the project could be developed within the framework of the EcoRegion project) <p><u>Innovation and education for sustainable development:</u></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> practical methods of sustainable development teaching, cooperation and networking between educational institutions and others (Baltic University Programme, other initiatives like learning platform www.sustain.no) adoption of Education for Sustainable Development policies in each country and monitor the implementation (will be done by Baltic 21 Education Sector Network) Modernisation of the industrial base for uptake of eco-innovations (SPIN project and new initiatives with emphasis on eco-innovations in NW Russia)
Specific BSR features/priorities	All actions are specific to BSR. Lighthouse Projects. Partnership for a sustainable BSR (The 15th Ministerial Session of the CBSS decided that Baltic 21 should, as of 1 January 2010, become integrated into CBSS as an Expert Group of the Council)
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Sustainable development (key issue of the document); climate change; Renewable energy.

20. Baltic Transport Outlook 2030

Document title	Baltic Transport Outlook 2030. Executive Report – final version.
Date/date analytical basis	December 2011/ 2009; BSR Road Network and BSR Rail Network development between 2010 and 2030
Type of document/ Number of pages	Study (Executive Report)/32 pages
Structure of document	<p>Objectives: The BTO2030 aims at contributing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a common view of transport flows and economic growth development; a joint awareness of future challenges and potentials; better knowledge exchange of national and regional transport systems. <p>Four main prioritised recommendations.</p> <p><u>Seven key issues – infrastructure:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and promote the BSR Strategic Network Enhance railway links in the BSR Strategic Network Via Baltica and Rail Baltica as EU priority projects Baltic Motorways of the Sea and Short Sea Shipping Bridge maritime channels Bothnian corridor, CETC and other in the north-south direction Regional hubs and intermodal terminal capacity together with sufficient hinterland network.

	<p><u>Key issues – policy:</u></p> <p>8) Green Corridor concept in the Strategic BSR network 9) Road safety measures in the Baltic States and Poland. 10) Innovative ICT applications in transport 11) Single European Sky initiative 12) Technology shift towards cleaner 13) complete liberalization of cabotage and the introduction of a European modular system (EMS) 14) Development of landbridge railway connections between the BSR and Asian economies 15) Air transport to low population-density, peripheral areas and with insufficient transport connections 16) Initiatives, projects focusing on more efficient use of the infrastructure.</p>
Geographical Coverage	BSR (Baltic Sea Macro Region, which constitutes of Sweden, Finland, North-West Russia, Kaliningrad exclave, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Denmark, Norway and the north-eastern parts of Germany)
Sectoral focus	<p>Transport</p> <p>Road: <u>Key issues – infrastructure:</u></p> <p>3) Implement Via Baltica and Rail Baltica projects as EU priority projects.</p> <p><u>Key issues – policy:</u> (Green Corridor concept, Road safety measures , Technology shift towards cleaner vehicles</p> <p>Railway: <u>Key issues – infrastructure:</u></p> <p>2) Enhance railway links in the BSR Strategic Network by implementing the ETCS on busy lines. 3) Implement Via Baltica and Rail Baltica projects as EU priority projects. 6) Promote the relevant sections of the BSR Strategic Network within the Bothnian corridor, CETC and other projects also in the north-south direction.</p> <p><u>Key issues – policy:</u> (Green Corridor concept, landbridge railway connections between the BSR and Asian economies).</p>
Correlation with thematic objectives	XXX – 7 X - 3
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p><u>Key issues – infrastructure</u></p> <p>1) Development of BSR Strategic Network, especially when it goes beyond the TEN-T 2)Enhance railway links in the BSR Strategic Network by implementing the ETCS on busy lines</p>

	<p>3) Implement Via Baltica and Rail Baltica projects as EU priority projects.</p> <p>4) Promote Baltic Motorways of the Sea and Short Sea Shipping</p> <p>5) Bridge maritime channels by fixed links and connecting hinterland infrastructure</p> <p>6) Development of sections of the BSR Strategic Network within the Bothnian corridor, the north-south direction.</p> <p>7) Regional hubs and intermodal terminal capacity together with sufficient hinterland network.</p>
Specific BSR features/priorities	<p>The main BTO2030 study conclusion: there is a vast potential for more intense cooperation at all levels, i.e. between governments, non-governmental organisations and the private sector.</p> <p>The study has prioritised 4 main recommendations concerning all BSR countries or main groups: (1) establish a process of joint infrastructure planning; (2) develop a transport model that takes into account the specificities of the BSR, inc. the Baltic Sea; (3) improve efficiency of cross-border movements of cargo on the external EU-borders by tackling administrative and fiscal barrier; (4) establish a "BTO Forum" for increased cooperation and interaction between the different stakeholders in the BSR.</p>
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	<p>The only horizontal issue mentioned in the document is sustainable development of transport. territorial integration</p>

21. Building a European Culture of Multilevel Governance: Follow-Up to the Committee of The Regions' White Paper

Document title	Building a European Culture of Multilevel Governance: Follow-Up to the Committee of The Regions' White Paper
Date/date analytical basis	15-16.2.2012/no analytical date
Type of document/ Number of pages	Official EU document– Opinion of Committee of the Regions/ 20 pages
Structure of document	<p>The Political recommendations that are divided under four headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. General Principles of Multilevel Governance B. Consolidating the values and principles of multilevel governance: progress and strengthening C. Transposing Multilevel Governance into the European Union's strategy and policy D. Further stages in the implementation of multilevel

	governance
Geographical Coverage	European Union, European Neighbourhood Policy countries, for some aspect the whole World.
Sectoral focus	Energy, social inclusion, rural development and agriculture
Correlation with thematic objectives	6 - XX 4,5,9 - X
Proposed investment priorities/actions	Not explicit, but some indications: "...is in favour of the setting-up of an Erasmus for local and regional elected representatives within the context of institutional cooperation with the European Parliament and the Commission, and welcomes the funding of a pilot project as proposed by the European Parliament." "... the use of structural funds for energy investments."
Specific BSR features/priorities	None
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	Territorial integration, sustainable development, digital society, multi level governance, partnership, subsidiarity, proportionality.

22. Position Paper on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

Document title	Joint Position Paper on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
Date/date analytical basis	01 December 2008/no analytical date
Type of document/ Number of pages	Position Paper/15 pages
Structure of document	<p>Joint position of 6 organisations: The Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation (BSSSC), B7 Baltic Islands Network, Euroregion Baltic, Baltic Development Forum (BDF), CPMR - Baltic Sea Commission and UBC – Union of the Baltic Cities on EU Strategy for BSR.</p> <p>Content of the position paper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A position paper with concrete areas of actions for the Baltic Sea Strategy • A Model of Governance (BDF is not part of) • A summary of proposals for flagship projects supported by the six Baltic Sea organisations The concrete flagship project proposals are attached as an appendix to this document

Geographical Coverage	EU Member States of the Baltic Sea Region, Russia, Norway.
Sectoral focus	<p>The areas of action are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature and environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○Initiatives for establishing a structure of BSR coastal zone planning for a healthier water environment with a focus on the large hot spots of pollution on land as well as discharge from small diffuse sources ○Coordinate tourism strategies for the Baltic Sea Region directed to the world tourism market. ○Strengthen effective response to environmental disasters, which also builds on a cross-sector approach, involving new actors and partners to be part of new environmental solutions ○The Baltic Sea Region as a pilot-testing area for some of the sustainability principles formulated in the report from the Tourism Sustainability Group (TSG) • Energy and climate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○Increase the investment in research, development and demonstration of new energy-efficient and environmentally friendly technologies across the Baltic Sea Region ○Political focus on the provision of stable energy supplies ○The Baltic Sea as a model region for EU's goals for reducing the overall energy use ○A common strategy to combat climate change based on a multi stakeholder approach and ○through presentation of different scenarios for increased cooperation. • Physical infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○Support of strategic initiatives and projects aiming at improved cooperation between all modes of transport in competitive and sustainable logistic chains – integrating the TEN-T corridors and the Motorways of the Sea in the Baltic Sea Region by East-West as well as North-South links. ○Integration of the legal and administrative transport conditions in the region ○Development of the physical land and sea infrastructure. ○Measures to intensify the monitoring of ships movement in the Baltic Sea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○Further measures to protect environmental vulnerability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge based infrastructure and a borderless region within R&D: ○The education and R&D network should therefore be further developed to enable further mobility and knowledge transfer in the Baltic Sea Region. New industries are increasingly knowledge intensive, and it is necessary for the BSR to compete in knowledge,

	<p>innovation and skills in order to attract new companies and continue the economic development of the region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There is already a developed platform for university cooperation, but the extensive network in the BSR should be increased in order to make the Baltic Sea the most innovative research region in Europe ○ The Baltic Sea Region could be a perfect frontrunner in the creation of the 5th freedom of the internal market – an internal market for knowledge as proposed by the European Council. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and sustainable growth • Human resources • Intercultural dialogue and identity building • Cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region <p>There more specific actions indicated under each “area of action”.</p>
Correlation with thematic objectives	<p>XXX – 1,5,6,7 XX - 4,8,10 X -3</p>
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p>The proposed 13 priority (flagship) project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maritime Safety and Security – Clean Baltic Shipping 2. Technology transfer 3. Water Resources – Water Frame Directive 4. Safe and Secure Baltic Sea Region 5. An Integrated Transport System 6. Enhanced Energy Cooperation 7. Energy Actions for Baltic Competitiveness 8. LED - Light for Urban and Rural Areas 9. Baltic Sea Region Youth Integration and Intercultural Dialogue 10. Attractiveness, Tourism and Competitiveness 11. Promotion of SMEs through R&D 12. Wastewater Treatment 13. Incorporating the External dimension
Specific BSR features/priorities	<p>All listed priorities are with focus on BSR.</p>
Coverage of Horizontal objectives	<p>Demographic change, territorial integration, sustainable development, equality, integration, involvement of regional and local levels (multilevel governance).</p>

23. Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region

Document title	Innovation in the Baltic Sea region
Date/date analytical basis	April 2011/2010
Type of	Study (Final Report to the European Commission,

document/ Number of pages	Directorate-General Regional Policy)/ 146 pages
Structure of document	<p>Objectives: to provide an overview of existing national and regional innovation strategies of the Member States covered by the European Union’s Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR).</p> <p>In more detail, the study addresses the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy overview - mapping of existing innovation strategies • Matching of findings with the contribution of ERDF to national and regional innovation policies • Organisational mapping – who does what? • Transnational cooperation • Good practice and recommendations <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased coordination of innovation strategies and ‘joint programming’ in a number of fields (at least 5) • Macro-region clusters and ‘competence centres’: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ programming driven approach to ‘cluster’ cooperation in BSR; ○ investigate need for supporting long-term cooperation of regional ‘competence centres’. • A Baltic Sea Fund for financing of innovative enterprises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ early-stage funds; ○ innovative public procurement (cleantech or renewable energies should be explored); ○ future EU (ERDF and EIB) support for early-stage funding should be made conditional on regional and national funds not being restricted to investing in ‘local companies’ and on the linking or merging of sub-critical national funds (eventually be through a BSR Fund-of- Funds). • An open access network of Baltic Sea research infrastructures. Pre-conditions for all future ERDF co-financed investments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ international peer-reviewed regional or national research infrastructure plans (investments ensure synergy with ESFRI and generate ‘value added’ compared to pre-existing infrastructure in neighbouring Baltic Sea regions); ○ ‘open access business plans’ proving demand from national and BSR researchers/ businesses for buying time or sharing facilities; ○ From the Commission’s side: need to review ERDF rules on revenue generation so as not to discourage to make R&D centres ‘self-financing’ (bring eligibility rules of op. costs into line with those of the FP7). • Joint programming rather than project based funding of BSR research and innovation programmes:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ shift away from a ‘bottom-up’ project based funding. Available funds structured into a limited number (3-4) of strategic BSR research and innovation funding programmes; ○ In addition to ERANETS to develop joint programmes (examples: Nordic Top-Level Research Initiative; the Scottish Research Pools) ● The need for a BSR Mobile Expertise programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ enhance access to expertise in emerging or advanced technologies; ○ possible examples of actions: 1) to develop Baltic educational (doctoral schools, etc.), mobility programmes, or lifelong learning programmes in priority fields (ESF co-financed actions); 2) pooling expertise available to S&T parks, centres and incubators, etc. through a BSR Innovation Advisory network potentially linked to an innovation vouchers scheme (ERDF co-financed actions).
Geographical Coverage	EU Member States in the Baltic Sea Region (Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the German länder of Schleswig-Holstein and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and the Polish voivodships of Zachodniopomorskie, Pomorskie and Warmińsko-Mazurskie).
Sectoral focus	Innovations (multi- sector)
Correlation with thematic objectives	XXX – 1 X - 3
Proposed investment priorities/actions	<p>The mapping of policy priorities highlights a number of key areas where stakeholders consider available funding should be focused, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ICT; ● Life science (notably biotechnology); ● Healthcare (and ‘wellness’) services; ● Agro-food; ● ‘Cleantech’ (notably in Denmark and Finland); ● Energy (notably renewables) (with some overlap with cleantech field); ● Materials (ranging from nanotech, through plasma to more traditional materials).
Specific BSR features/priorities	Study objectives, analysis, conclusions and recommendations are BSR-specific.
Coverage of Horizontal	Transnational cooperation

objectives	
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24. Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region

Document title	Priorities towards a Digital Single Market in the Baltic Sea Region
Date/date analytical basis	June 2012/2012
Type of document/ Number of pages	Report/36 pages
Structure of document	<p>Report is a result of collaboration between The Baltic Development Forum (BDF) and the Baltic Chambers of Commerce Association (BCCA).</p> <p>Report is structured according to 9 barriers for single digital market in BSR:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trust 2. Privacy and Data Protection 3. Cybercrime and Security 4. Digital Content and Copyright 5. Interoperability and Standards 6. e-Payments 7. Electronic Contracting, Tendering and Invoicing 8. e-Government 9. Digital Infrastructure <p>Further the 4 key issues (drivers) are investigated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. e-Procurement 2. Public Sector Information and Open Data 3. Roaming, and 4. Online intermediaries <p>Analysis of each issue and key issue (driver) is followed by 'policy approaches' or 'policy recommendations'. Distinctively, on each of 'key issues' estimates in monetary terms are provided.</p>
Geographical Coverage	EU Member States of Baltic Sea region
Sectoral focus	Information and Communication technologies
Correlation with thematic objectives	<p>XXX – 1,2</p> <p>XX – 3,7,11</p>

<p>Proposed investment priorities/actions</p>	<p>Among ‘policy approaches’ and ‘policy recommendations’ there are also few rather practical and realisable suggestions available, like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map the intensity and origin of cybercrime in order to estimate the regional nature of the problem. • Coordinate the use of open, international standards for technology and information in the public sector between the countries in the region. Identify priority or pilot areas for interoperability (health, transportation or energy). • Coordinate the participation in SEPA between the countries in the region. • Establish common, open standards for e-invoicing in the Baltic Sea Region. • Establish a common platform for e-procurement in the Baltic Sea Region based on open standards. • Establish common technological platforms based on open standards for cross-border innovation in prioritised areas. • Roaming-free communication. • Correlate mobile connectivity to broadband strategies. • Establish a Baltic Sea Region licensing market to enable the cross-border use of data regulated by licenses. • Establish profile test cases for the Baltic Sea Region to work with and promote the reuse of public sector information.
<p>Specific BSR features/priorities</p>	<p>The report and its policy recommendations are BSR-specific.</p>
<p>Coverage of Horizontal objectives</p>	<p>Digital society, Digital Single market, economic growth.</p>