



## **The Interreg South Baltic Programme's Newsflash is back**

Dear friends of the South Baltic! We're back with the newsletter after a too-long time of keeping silent. Read, enjoy and don't hesitate to contact us!

### **Goals for 2019**

This year we plan to increase the visibility of the Programme. We will focus on strengthening the Programme's image online and offline, as well as building awareness of the projects' results and benefits for people who live in the region.

In order to meet the goals, the Interreg South Baltic Programme needs information from all parties involved. Contact Points, Lead Partners and Projects Partners are invited to send information related to their activities, such as events (workshops, trainings, conferences), projects updates, people involved, study visits, newsletters, promotional materials (videos, infographics) etc.

Please, send the information to the Programme's Communication Officer: [katarzyna.sempolowicz-lipska@southbaltic.eu](mailto:katarzyna.sempolowicz-lipska@southbaltic.eu)

### **Reminder on projects publicity duties**

We receive questions about publicity rules for the SB Programme. All the information can be found on our [website](#) in the Programme's Manual version 6, in section 5.2 on pages 104-106.

### **Events organised by Contact Points**

#### **Region Skåne Contact Point**

Projects meeting in Växjö, Sweden

In January, Swedish projects and representatives from the Interreg South Baltic, Baltic Sea, North Sea, Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak, ERDF Småland and the Islands and ERDF Skåne-Blekinge gathered in Region Kronoberg to get information and inspiration, as well as exchange experiences. The event encouraged all parties to be interactive and gave them an opportunity to meet across programmes, projects and borders. The participants learned about success factors, good examples, cooperation and capitalisation possibilities, talked about challenges and how to overcome them. The meeting resulted in concrete knowledge about driving forces and challenges in projects, security of results in projects, plans for implementation of new project initiatives and ideas, and guidelines as a helpful tool for internal and external routines and cooperation. The participants expressed a wish for similar meetings in future. The ambition is therefore to arrange something in autumn 2019.

The meeting was arranged by Region Kronoberg in cooperation with Region Kalmar, Region Blekinge and Region Skåne and was co-financed by the Interreg South Baltic Programme.

SBPIN Continuation Workshop

In February, the capacity building project [SBPIN – South Baltic Public Innovators Network](#) is drawing to its closure. The partnership met in Lund in February to have their concluding conference, or as it was named, continuation workshop. Initiatives sprung from SBPIN are supposed to develop into new projects within a cross-border context. Three topics have been on SBPIN's agenda: Green growth, Blue growth and Inclusive growth. The results so far are two approved applications and a number of initiatives to be further developed. The processes have been documented in thematic action plans. In addition to the result dissemination and workshopping, there was also, during the conference, a chance to listen to interesting key note speakers, make study visits and meet and mingle.

## **Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Contact Point**

SL 2014 system training for German beneficiaries in Greifswald, Germany

On the 14<sup>th</sup> February, the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Contact Point based in Greifswald, Germany, organised and conducted a training on the SL2014 reporting system. The training was addressed to German-speaking projects beneficiaries. Six participants used the opportunity to learn the reporting procedure. They independently prepared a progress report and submitted it in the training system.

Here is a short interview with one of the participants:

Q: Why did you sign up for the training?

A: In our previous EU projects we worked with other accounting programmes, so the SL2014 system was a new territory for us. It was very helpful for us to go through a seminar with Mr. Schwock directly on the live system. Most of the questions about the system only come during the first payment claim and so we were able to discuss concrete questions directly.

Q: What did the workshop give you in general?

A: First and foremost, the system has been clarified. There are some hurdles in the system, which one would not implement correctly without references.

Q: How will the gained knowledge influence or improve your future work with the SL2014 system?

A: In close cooperation with our FLC and a project coordinator, we pay more attention to the given data or the changes, which are changed in the system without notice.

## **Events organised by Projects**

### **FilmNet**

Partners of the [FilmNet - South Baltic Film and Culture Network](#) project from Poland, Germany and Sweden took part in a four-day study visit organised by the Baltic Sea Cultural Centre in Gdansk. During the first day of the event, participants took part in discussions focused on audience development, and in an innovative meeting "Pitching Pomerania". The project partners together with institutions, organisations and associations connected to film education and film promotion had an opportunity to present themselves, their activities and offerings, and their expectations from the FilmNet network and international partnership. The second day continued with a discussion about audience: its development, increase and searching for new. It was followed by visits in the Film Studies Department at the University of Gdansk, the cultural centre Club Zak and its cinema, gallery and café, and the European Solidarity Centre. During the third day, the project's partners talked about the Baltic Identity Film Tour, which is one of the priorities of the project and about exploring Gdansk in

the context of film (film productions and already non-existing cinemas), as well as brainstormed the project's future after its completion. The last day was fulfilled with a workshop led by the Swedish expert – the Film Club Lab, in which film educators from the Pomeranian region also participated. They all discussed possibilities of implementing film clubs for children and youth in Poland and Lithuania.

The study visit resulted not only in expanding knowledge and further plans, but also in strengthening contacts, exchange of experience and broadening horizons.

## **CICPA**

"Common Initiatives in Conserved and Protected Areas. Over the water, around the Lagoon" was the name of the conference organised by the project [CICPA - Common Initiatives in Conserved and Protected Areas](#). The event took place in Stepnica, Poland, and its main focus was on building cooperation in natural areas, in particular within the Natura 2000 Network.

The full report from the event and a photo gallery can be found [here](#).

## **Upcoming events**

### **[Transport Week 2019](#)**

5-7.03.2019, Gdynia, Poland.

The Interreg South Baltic Programme will promote its transport and green technology projects.

### **Monitoring Committee (MC) meeting**

15-16.05.2019, Palanga, Lithuania

Members of the MC will meet to select projects for co-financing and discuss the Programme's issues.

### **Communication training – save the date!**

22-23.05.2019, Gdansk, Poland

The training is addressed to projects Communication Managers and will have a form of a workshop. Participants will share their experiences, communication practices and discuss how to make project's communication more effective. The main topic of the training will be communicated soon.

### **[The 10th Annual Forum of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region \(EUSBSR\)](#)**

12-13.06.2019, Gdansk, Poland

### **[European Week of Regions and Cities \(EWRC\)](#)**

7-10.10.2019, Brussels, Belgium

On both events the Interreg South Baltic Programme is planning to present its achievements and projects' results. Please, stay alert as we will contact selected projects to involve them in the EWRC's agenda.

## **Staff changes in the Joint Secretariat**

### **Resignation of the Head of the Joint Secretariat**

After nearly ten years of working for the South Baltic Programme, **Igor Kaniecki** decided to resign from the position of Head of the Joint Secretariat. He plans to stay in the INTERREG community and as part of the private sector he will support implementation and development of projects.

The recruitment process for the new Head of JS is ongoing.

### **New Communication Officer**

**Katarzyna Sempołowicz-Lipska** joined the Joint Secretariat in December 2018. She previously worked for both corporate and governmental institutions in the investment, news and PR sectors. Katarzyna has extensive experience in event organisation and communication. She spends her free time riding a bike and reading books about communication, personal development and start ups.

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