

Minutes from the 6th Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Interreg South Baltic Programme 2021-2027

25 November 2025 | On-line meeting

Chairperson: Mr. Michał Korczak

Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy of Poland

Item 1. Words of welcome & Opening of the meeting

The meeting was officially opened by the Chairperson Mr. Michał Korczak who welcomed all the representatives of the MC delegations, all observers, and the representatives of the evaluation team. Ms. Marlies Peeters from European Commission DG REGIO introduced herself and passed the words of welcome.

Item 2. Adoption of the agenda (D)

The Monitoring Committee (MC) members approved the agenda as proposed, without changes.

Item 3. State of play of the Programme implementation (I)

The MC members were informed of the Programme state of implementation after the closure of the 5th call for proposals and 3rd Small-scale projects call, including an overview on the progress of projects contracted within previous calls. Possible next steps in the decision-making including scenarios for the next calls were summed up. JS representatives confirmed that a concrete proposal for the next call/s will be prepared after the current process of projects' assessment is finished.

This was followed by a reminder on the implementation plan for 2025 and 2026 and an overview of events scheduled by operations of strategic importance – OSI projects. The presentation also included a brief summary of the progress of the Technical Assistance settlement.

Item 4. Information on ISBP 2021-2027 mid-term evaluation (I)

The Chairperson summed up the evaluation process covered until the meeting. The Evaluator presented the first findings of the mid-term evaluation of the Programme along with initial conclusions for the future. The need to refer to the various sources of information when drawing final conclusions, especially when assessing the Contact Points role, was emphasized. The timeframe of the next steps in the evaluation process was summarized, including the deadline to submit the comments to the presentation and information presented by the Evaluator (until 5 December to JS).

Item 5. ISBP Post-2027+ (I)

First impressions on Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) package for 2027+ were addressed by Ms. Marlies Peeters from DG REGIO, including the layers of legislation, chapters' structure for post 2027 programmes, and main changes in the Commission proposals. In reference to continuity, it was highlighted that neither changes in the programmes' geography nor changes to co-financing level (80%) are foreseen. In summer/autumn 2026, Cooperation Orientation Papers (COPs) are expected to be published. The approach to COPs is under development. It will be an input for further discussions with the programmes.

Members of the MC shared their observations on the future framework. In particular:

- Representative of Poland listed positive aspects in the European Commission proposal, and gave general comments, and remarks regarding the Interreg Plan resulting from official position of Polish government. The need to advance the next programming period according to new challenges coming from the draft regulation was highlighted.

- Representative of Lithuania welcomed the good approach of the future Interreg continuation but noted the implementation issues that remain without clear provisions in regulations. The need for Cooperation Orientation Paper to start future programming was expressed.
- Representative of Sweden expressed positive attitude towards the new proposal especially in reference to the simplification and performance based approach. The main concern about the implementing act was expressed similarly to Polish and Lithuanian remarks.
- Representative of Denmark highlighted the need to connect the future reforms with socioeconomic context of regions and the need for the draft implementing act. The continuity is foreseen as very positive aspect for future programming.

Item 6. Any other business (I)

No additional matters were raised.

Item 7. Approval of the minutes from the 6th Monitoring Committee meeting (D)

The minutes were approved by the MC.

Item 8. Closure of the meeting (I)

The meeting was closed by the Chairperson.

I – Information/ D – Decision

The minutes were drafted by the JS.