

## **Amended Operational Programme version 3.0 approved by the Commission on 5 January 2012**

On 5 January 2012 the EU Commission approved an amendment of the Operational Programme of the Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013. Main changes concern the financial table. The ENPI funding has been reduced from 22.6 to 8.8 Million Euros. This reduction was necessary due to the non-signature of the Financing Agreement between Russia and the EU. Due to this the ENPI funds have been reduced to support only the involvement of partners from Belarus. Furthermore, a shift of ERDF funds between priorities was implemented in the Financing Plan to reflect the reviewed programme priorities. Additional amendments include some updates, e.g. related to the non-eligibility of Russia, the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, the planned internal evaluation, and ENPI-related requirements. Finally, minor linguistic corrections in various chapters were made. The overview on all amendments in the amended Operational Programme is shown in the table below.

The amended Operational Programme v3.0 was approved by the Programme's Monitoring Committee at a meeting in Berlin on 27-28 September 2011 and was submitted to the EU Commission for approval in October 2011.

### **List of adjustments in the Operational Programme**

The following list summarizes all changes that were incorporated in the Operational Programme version v3.0.

<b>Chapter(s)</b>	<b>Modification</b>
<b>Whole OP</b>	Streamlined use of capital/small letters for Programme terminology
<b>Introduction and chapters 1, 9.1.2</b>	Foot-note was added that Russia is not eligible for ENPI funds due to non-signature of FA by 31.12.2008.
<b>4</b>	Reference to EU Strategy for the BSR was added, based on COM guidance to MC/MA/JTS of 28 Oct 2009.
<b>6.6.2</b>	Chapter on Programme level evaluation was updated: The initially planned internal mid-term evaluation on the achievement of Programme targets by the MA/JTS when 25% of the committed funds are spent by the approved projects was deleted from the chapter. As the majority of funds are spent after the 4th call, there are no means for steering the Programme implementation through new projects anymore. Therefore, the purpose of the internal mid-term evaluation – to launch pro-active measures - cannot be met anymore.
<b>8.4.1.</b>	Additional explanation on ENPI was added: The Certifying Authority takes the role of authorizing officer for ENPI funds.

**10.2.**

Stipulation regarding the designation of first level controller/auditor for ENPI funds was amended as the updated COM requirements/PRAG rules are less strict than OP requirements towards the ENPI FLC/auditor status.

Furthermore, the administrative and verification requirements related to ENPI funds were amended to reflect the current practice in the Programme.

**Annex 1  
Financial table**

**Changes made**

(all amounts in EUR)

Priority axis	ERDF				ENPI		
	Community Funding - ERDF (a)	National Public funding (b)	National Private funding (c)	Total funding (d) = (a)+(b)+(c)	Community Funding - ENPI (f)	National Public funding (g)	Total funding (h) = (f) + (g)
Priority Axis 1	-2,724,837	-520,377	-77,758	-3,322,972	-4,344,444	-482,716	-4,827,160
Priority Axis 2	301,277	57,536	8,598	367,411	-3,206,875	-356,319	-3,563,194
Priority Axis 3	-770,142	-147,079	-21,977	-939,198	61,450	6,828	68,278
Priority Axis 4	3,193,702	609,920	91,137	3,894,759	-5,612,922	-623,658	-6,236,580
Priority Axis 5	0	0	0	0	-705,419	0	-705,419
Total [EUR]	0	0	0	0	-13,808,210	-1,455,865	-15,264,075