

Priority 2: External and internal accessibility of the BSR

The objective: to increase the area's external and internal accessibility through development of transnational solutions diminishing the functional barriers to diffusion of innovation and to traffic flows.

The priority is open for projects aiming at:

- **smooth transport** of goods and passengers using **different transport means** across the BSR;
- **improving** traffic and ICT **connections of disadvantage areas**
- increasing the **sustainability of transport**
- securing the further development of **transnational development zones** along the transport corridors

Areas of support:

1. Promotion of transport and ICT measures enhancing accessibility and sustainable socio-economic growth
2. Actions stimulating further integration within existing transnational development zones and creation of new ones

Expected results of the Priority 2 are:

COMMON RESULTS	PRIORITY SPECIFIC RESULTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased political recognition for transnational solutions improving BSR area's external and internal accessibility ▪ Increased sustainability of co-operative networks aiming at improvement of accessibility in the BSR ▪ Unlocking public /private investments in transport and ICT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accelerated increase of capacity and/or interoperability of different transport and ICT networks ▪ Speeded up integration of areas with low accessibility ▪ Influenced policies, strategies and regulations in the field of transport and ICT ▪ Increased role of sustainable transport

Areas of support:

1. Promotion of transport and ICT measures enhancing accessibility and sustainable socio-economic growth

- to port-hinterland connections and links between transnational-national-regional networks (addressing worst cases, highlighting good examples and creating new ones)
- Planning and implementation schemes for the Baltic Motorways of the Sea as extensions and connecting sections of land-side transport corridors
- Action plans optimising air transport connections in the BSR in the context of sustainable development, economic growth and accessibility
- Preparation of investments in and raising quality of public transportation catering for better connectivity of disadvantaged areas (e.g. remote areas, areas with low and scattered population pattern etc.)
- Promotion, elaboration and testing of BSR-wide models of sustainable transportation alternatives, including the use of biofuels and improvement of public transportation systems in urban areas
- Preparation of investments to increase absorption of ICT in peripheral and rural areas and to counteract the territorial digital divide
- Provision, testing and territorial impact assessment of solutions in transport and ICT adjusted to low population density in the North and to increased demand for transport infrastructure and services in the South
- Capacity building and harmonisation of transport and ICT policies across countries and with translation to comprehensive regional development policies, supplemented with education actions
- Creating BSR-wide institutional arrangements for integrated policy and decision-making on transport, environment and health

2. Actions stimulating further integration within existing transnational development zones and creation of new ones (aimed to better exploit socio-economic potential of the adjacent territories)

- Preparation of multimodal transport solutions (with particular attention to maritime, inland waterway and rail transport) aimed at combating bottlenecks and missing links along transnational transport corridors and allowing to transform them to transnational development zones
- Development of solutions safeguarding stability of development zones identified and investigated under Interreg IIC and IIIB (joint transnational development programmes and thematic strategies, establishment of institutionalised structures for monitoring and counselling on investments, elaboration of common brand products etc.)
- Elaboration, testing and dissemination of models and tools for efficient management of transnational development zones