

Summer 2011

THE CROSS BORDERER


TIME FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION IN EASTERN EUROPE

**NEWSLETTER OF THE CROSS-BORDER
COOPERATION PROGRAMME
POLAND - BELARUS - UKRAINE 2007-2013**



PL-BY-UA
2007-2013



Financed by the European Union
under the European Neighbourhood
and Partnership Instrument.

W H I CROSS BORDERER

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ISN'T IT INTERESTING?

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The Cross-border Cooperation Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013 contributes to the transboundary development on the borderland of Poland, Belarus and Ukraine. The aim is realized by financing the projects that bring advantage to the border areas supporting entrepreneurship, tourism development, improving access to the region, natural environment protection in the borderland, efficient and secure borders, networking and people-to-people cooperation, regional and local cross-border cooperation capacity building, local initiatives. Each project has to consist of at least one Partner from Poland and at least one Partner from Ukraine or Belarus. The total Programme budget co-financed by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument is 186,2 mln Euro.



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On May 16, 2011 the Ministry of Regional Development of Poland, acting as the Joint Managing Authority of the Programme, launched the second Call for Proposals. The overall indicative amount available for projects is 88 143 349,25 Euro. It has been the first time in the history of territorial cooperation that such a huge amount of funds has been reserved for a single Call for Proposals. Therefore, I kindly invite all potential applicants from Belarus, Poland and Ukraine to develop joint projects in order to take full advantage of the funds available within the second Call for Proposals.

I would also like to inform you that on June 30 – July 1, 2011 in Mukachevo, Ukraine an ENPI CBC conference will take place. The conference has been organized jointly by 2 programmes: Poland-Belarus-Ukraine and Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine. The programmes and the border regions need real champions of cross-border co-operation. Therefore, the event will be held under the name “Time for championships of cross-border cooperation in Eastern Europe”.

The conference will be held in a particular moment of the European Agenda. On the July 1, 2011 Poland takes over the Presidency in the Council of the European Union for the next 6 months. Later on, in Autumn, the European Commission is expected to publish draft regulations for territorial cooperation programmes beyond 2013. Polish Presidency is ready to launch a formal discussion on the draft regulations. What is more, one of the crucial issues for the Polish Presidency is to strengthen the Eastern Partnership. We believe that ENPI CBC programmes should be an important tool in achieving this goal.

In order to assure the integrated approach to development at border areas, it will be important to include cross-border cooperation programmes of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument into the future objective of Cohesion Policy - European Territorial Cooperation. Principles of implementation and procedures of the European Territorial Co-operation and the ENPI CBC Programmes should be harmonized.

Marceli Niezgoda
Undersecretary of the State



Joint Managing Authority
Ministry of Regional Development
Cross-border Cooperation Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013

THE SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS IS OPENED

The Ministry of Regional Development of Poland acting as the Joint Managing Authority is seeking proposals within the Programme Poland – Belarus – Ukraine 2007-2013. The deadline for submission of proposals is September 30, 2011. The Applicants may request a grant contribution up to 90% of the total costs of the action. Requested contribution may not be lower than 100 000 Euro and higher than 4 000 000 Euro. The overall indicative amount made available under this call for proposals is 88 143 349,25 Euro.

The Applicants

Partnerships must consist of at least one Partner from Poland and at least one Partner from Ukraine or Belarus. The call is open to non-governmental organisations, public sector operators, local authorities, bodies governed by public law, international (inter-governmental) organisations as defined by Article 43 of the Implementing Rules to the EC Financial Regulation registered in the cooperation area.

Projects

The place of project implementation has to be located in the Programme cooperation area. It is possible to apply for the financial contribution of the infrastructural¹, investment² and soft³ projects. Infrastructure projects and infrastructure activities will be financed only in the cooperation areas. The integrated⁴ projects and the projects with a balanced budget division between applicant and partner(s) will be prioritized and encouraged. Grant contribution cannot be the source of income for the beneficiary.

Priorities

The Call is open to 6 measures within 3 Priorities of the Programme:

Priority 1. Increasing competitiveness of the border area:

Measure 1.1. Better conditions for entrepreneurship,

Measure 1.2. Tourism development,

Measure 1.3. Improving access to the region

Priority 2. Improving the quality of life:

Measure 2.1. Natural environment protection in the borderland,

Measure 2.2. Efficient and secure borders

Priority 3. Networking and people-to-people cooperation:

Measure 3.1. Regional and local cross-border cooperation capacity building

1 Infrastructural project - each project which requires building permission or its equivalent according to the national legislation in force for the country where works take place or each project including infrastructure activities (defined in the Budget as works line 6) with a total value over 50 000 EUR.

2 Investment project - project with supplies of fixed assets worth more than 50 000 EUR.

3 Soft projects - other projects not defined as "infrastructure" or "investment".

4 Integrated projects - where each partner carries out a part of the activities of the joint project on its own territory

Applications submission

Applications must be submitted to the address: Joint Technical Secretariat, Cross-border Cooperation Programme, Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013, Centre of European Projects, 39a, Domaniewska St., 02-672 Warsaw, Poland.

Applications must be submitted in a sealed envelope by registered mail, private courier service or delivered by applicants. Applications sent by any other means (e.g. by fax or by e-mail) or delivered to other addresses will be rejected. The deadline for the submission of applications is 30 September 2011 as is evidenced by the date of dispatch, the postmark or the date of the deposit slip. In the case of hand-deliveries, the deadline for receipt is 15.00 local time as is evidenced by the signed and dated receipt. Any application submitted after the deadline will be automatically rejected.

Application Pack

All documents including Guidelines for Applicants, criteria of projects selections are available on the Program's website www.pl-by-ua.eu. Applicants are obliged to fill in the application form documents in one of the languages Polish, Russian, Ukrainian or English. The complete grant application form shall consist of the application form and all necessary annexes (the check list is in the section IV of the Application form). Applications must be submitted in one original and two copies in A4 size, each bound separately. Application form, Budget, Logical Framework and Project summary in English have to be attached in the electronic format (e.g. CD/DVD).

Questions

Questions shall be sent by e-mail at pbu@cpe.gov.pl. All questions and answers will be published on the website www.pl-by-ua.eu. Detailed information on the Call for proposals will be spread also during the seminars organized on the cooperation area. The information on the timetable of the seminars will be placed on the website of the Programme.

Trainings for Applicants in Poland, Belarus and Ukraine under the second Call for Proposals

The Joint Technical Secretariat is organizing information sessions for Applicants who are in the process of preparing project applications in the framework of the second Call for proposals of the ENPI CBC Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013. The aim of the trainings is to provide the applicants and partners with detailed information on the application package, especially focusing on how to fill in the application form and the project budget as well as give the opportunity to receive information on mistakes from the previous Call for Proposals.

Dates and places:

IN POLAND:

DATE	PLACE	DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION
28 June	Rzeszów	24 June
29 June	Krosno	24 June
5 July	Zamość	28 June
6 July	Lublin	28 June
7 July	Chełm	28 June
8 July	Biała Podlaska	1 July
12 July	Suwałki	1 July
13 July	Białystok	4 July
14 July	Siedlce	5 July
15 July	Łomża	5 July

IN BELARUS:

DATE	PLACE	DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION
5 July	Brest	28 June
6 July	Pinsk	28 June
7 July	Baranavičy	28 June
12 July	Hrodna	1 July
13 July	Lida	4 July
14 July	Minsk	5 July
19 July	Maładziečna	8 July
21 July	Homiel	11 July

IN UKRAINE:

DATE	PLACE	DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION
29 June	Uzhgorod	24 June
1 July	Vynohradiv	27 June
4 July	Lviv	27 June
5 July	Stryj	28 June
6 July	Ivano-Frankivsk	28 June
7 July	Ternopil	28 June
12 July	Kovel	1 July
13 July	Lutsk	4 July
14 July	Rivne	5 July

Prior registration is needed for attending the above listed events. Due to the limited capacities of conference-halls you are kindly asked not to register more than 3 representatives of the same organization to any above-mentioned event.

RCBI WORKSHOPS FOR APPLICANTS

We would like to inform you that additionally to the trainings organized by the JTS our Applicants will be supported by the RCBI team. You are welcome to attend as well workshops to be conducted by the RCBI experts in Belarus and Ukraine:

IN BELARUS:

RCBI WORKSHOP DATE	LOCATION
19/07	Hrodna
20/07	Minsk
21/07	Brest
26/07	Gomel

IN UKRAINE:

RCBI WORKSHOP DATE	LOCATION
01/07	Uzhgorod
05/07	Lviv
07/07	Ivano Frankivsk
19/07	Ternopil
21/07	Lutsk
22/07	Rivne

The main purpose of the workshops is to provide the applicants and partners with detailed information on project management issues, development of an activities based budget, defining of objectively verifiable indicators etc. Detailed information on venues of events and registration procedure will be available on the RCBI website (www.rcbi.info) in due time.

PRINCIPLES OF GOOD CBC PROJECT – an extract

I. PROJECT IDEA

Good project idea is one of the main factors of projects positive evaluation and cofinancing. However, it is only the first step, step to the labor-intensive and hard work.

The first step of the project preparation is exactly this „initial” idea of some events, activities which could affect in the future the development and continuous improvement of human life and society in general. Even if the scale of this idea does not go beyond the small towns, the results of these joint actions can greatly change the series of events not only locally but also go far beyond. You are a non-governmental organization whose objectives have been already described in the Statute, or any public body, which is intended to act on the common good of its local community. You know well relevant problems disturbing your community, and these existing problems should generate a desire to solve them. The project is actually one of tools that allows you to overcome these problems.

The Programme is focused on the ideas of cross-border nature. And precisely because of this requirement you must put your initial idea beyond local boundaries and give attention to your foreign partners (but please do not even in your mind go beyond the Programme area J).

This is where the obstacles begin: “I’m not sure this idea will be interesting for some organization from abroad”, “this idea is too progressive/regressive for that side of the border”, “there this problem is not already actual / is not actual yet”, etc.

Thus, some of these explanations may indeed be justified. All areas are characterized by close historical ties.

Maybe your idea a priori needs to be implemented in collaboration with the foreign partner. For example, you plan to adopt best international experience in an issue, or vice versa, “share” the available experience. In this case it is always possible to find an organization willing to learn something new and useful or to teach.

Before you start any activities, carefully learn the Programme documents, above all, those from the open Call for Proposals, and make sure that your idea is consistent with its priorities and measures.

Remember - the idea has to have a cross-border nature. It is the priority of our Programme. And your task is to elaborate the project from a cross-border idea. “Think globally - act locally!” – this expression will be useful for you in the identification of a cross-border idea.



II. PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

Your project idea has already a cross-border nature, but to realize it without foreign partner won't be possible.

Type of partner-organizations that you would have to find, depends on your project idea. For example, if your project aims to implement cross-border activities in health care sphere, it will be difficult to implement the project without engaging specialized medical institutions or public bodies on health issues. Project partnership network clearly reflects the reality of the Action Plan implementation. This results in the necessity to pay special attention and spend a lot of efforts in order to create a good partnership.

Remember that each partner is interested, above all, in its own role, its responsibilities in the project. However, at the initial stage of your partnership creation, without defining the final version of the project, you cannot fully describe your partners' role. First of all you should identify partners from abroad. There you can find some obstacles - distance, different languages, different mentalities, different laws. But you must overcome this step to ensure submission of the project proposal. Finding a foreign partner is necessary because no such partner is a reason for automatic rejection of the proposal. The Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) is trying to help you in different ways (for example, organizing partners search forums, setting out special section for partners search purpose on the Programme website) and thereby to facilitate the implementation of this task.



LATEST EVENTS

The 4th meeting of the Joint Monitoring Committee

The 4th meeting of the Joint Monitoring Committee of the ENPI Cross-border Cooperation Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013 took place in Łańcut (Poland) on April 19th, 2011. The representatives of the national and regional authorities from all three countries participated in the meeting. The representatives of the civil society organisations and the European Commission took part in the meeting as the observers. During this meeting, the progress of the Programme implementation was presented. The information on the current contracting progress of the projects selected within the 1st Call for proposals and the activities of the JTS Branch Office in Lviv were featured. The JMC members approved also the Technical Assistance data sheets of the JMA and JTS for the years 2011-2012.

The Joint Monitoring Committee discussed also the assumptions of the upcoming third Call for proposals which shall be open for the Measure 3.2 (Local communities' initiatives). The Application pack for the third Call for proposals had been prepared by the Joint Task Force on 22-23 September 2010 and was later enriched with additional technical amendments resulting from the new version of PRAG and lessons learned from the 1st Call for Proposals. The JMC members during its meeting in Łańcut approved these documents without any objections. The third Call for Proposals will start immediately after the ongoing second Call for Proposals is finished. This will be a specific Call for proposals for the so called Umbrella projects. These are the projects in which there is one lead partner (beneficiary) and many other micro-partners. Each partner implements a specified part of the project (so-called micro-project). All the activities of the micro-projects within an umbrella project must form a globally coherent project with common objectives.



Signing the agreement on co-financing the construction of the border checkpoint Polowce-Pieszczałka.

On 19 April 2011 Marcei Niezgoda, Undersecretary of the State in the Ministry of Regional Development and Maciej Żywno, Podlasie Voivode signed the agreement on co-financing the construction of the border checkpoint Polowce-Pieszczałka in the framework of the cross-border cooperation Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013. A new modern border checkpoint for light and heavy vehicles as well as buses will be opened thanks to the project. The project will equally contribute to enhancing security and strengthening borders of Poland and the European Union.



This is the first agreement in Europe on co-financing a large-scale cross-border project in the framework of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). The ENPI has been the source for financing cross-border cooperation programmes of the European Union with neighbouring countries and includes 15 cross-border cooperation programmes, carried out on external borders of the EU. These programmes envision the possibility for financing the so-called large-scale projects, i.e. large-scale investment projects, important for the achieving the goals of the given Programme on both sides of the EU border.

The project "Infrastructural development of the Polowce – Pieszczałka road border crossing – Stage III (Polish – Belarusian border) – powiat of Hajnowka RP – Brest district RB" will be granted the sum of 8.0 mln EURO, which constitutes 90% of the total cost of the project. The beneficiary of the project is the Voivode Administration of Podlasie while the partner in the project from Belarus is the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Belarus. The aim of the project is the construction of the border checkpoint Polowce-Pieszczałka on the Polish side of the border (locality of Polowce).

Branch Office of the Joint Technical Secretariat in Brest - signature of the contract

On April 29, 2011, a contract for establishing the Branch Office of the Joint Technical Secretariat in Brest was signed. The new Branch Office will support the Joint Technical Secretariat in the process of implementing the information and visibility plan of the Programme on the territory of Belarus.

The Branch's operations will be performed by 3 experts: Maxim Aldanov (Head of the Branch Office), Alexander Zhabinski and Maryna Kivel. In particular they will be informing applicants about funding possibilities of the Cross-border Cooperation Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013, the applicable documents, procedures and Programme activities including training seminars. The Branch Office in Brest will be engaged in assisting at the upcoming seminars for the applicants of the 2nd Call for Proposals, which will take place in Belarus in the summer 2011.

The new Branch Office of JTS will be located in the Brest Transboundary Infocenter, 46, Sovetskaya St., 224005 Brest, Republic of Belarus. Tel. : + 375 162 23 15 83, e-mail brest@pl-by-ua.eu.



From the left:
Maxim Aldanov, Maryna Kivel, Alexander Zhabinski



Trainings for the beneficiaries and project partners

On May 23-27, 2011 a series of trainings were conducted in Lublin, Poland and Lutsk, Ukraine for the beneficiaries and project partners that will embark on the implementation of projects in the framework of the first Call for Proposals within the Cross-border Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013.

Trainings in Lublin on May 23-25th 2011 gathered 66 representatives of governmental, non-governmental, stage budget and other organizations from Poland and Ukraine. The Joint Technical Secretariat, which organized the event, provided the attendees with essential and most demanded information on the overall project implementation covering also the detailed aspects of reporting, expenditure verification, subcontracting, general conditions, financial flows and Communication and Visibility requirements. The training was conducted by the Joint Technical Secretariat with support of the Joint Managing Authority.



On May 25-27th 2011, the similar two-day training took place in Lutsk, Ukraine. The event was attended by 51 persons representing Ukrainian, Belarusian and Polish state institutions, public organizations and NGOs. The training was organized by the Joint Technical Secretariat, which, for the purpose of the training, conducted a series of presentations on project implementation. The representative of INTERACT presented the Guide on secondary procurement in ENPI CBC programmes - Procurement Matrix, which will be useful for Ukrainian and Belarusian beneficiaries. Also the national requirements of the project implementation in Belarus and Ukraine were presented by representatives of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine as well as the Tacis National Coordinating Unit of the Republic of Belarus.

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ISN'T IT INTERESTING?

Zakarpattia – in the crossing of nations

Zakarpattia is the youngest region of Ukraine situated in the west-southern part of the country. Transcarpathia is the only one region of Ukraine bordering with the following four countries: Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Romania. The unique geo-political and geo-economic location in the crossing of economic, business, trade and other ways has always been a supporting point for development and subsequent intensification of comprehensive international cooperation and the region's transformation into an international resort, cure, tourist and sport centre. The region has always played an important part in the process of Ukraine's integration into European structures and supported the development of trans-border cooperation.

The territory of the region is not large - 12,8 thousand km². According to the census returns of December 5, 2001 the population of the region numbers 1257,7 thousand inhabitants or 2,6% of the whole country's population. The region takes the 18th place in Ukraine's population number and the 6-th one in population density (98 people per 1 km²). The national structure of the region is considered unique not only in Ukraine but also in Europe. People of 75 nationalities live here: Ukrainians (78,4%), Hungarians (12,5%), Russians (4,0%), Romanians (2,5%), Gypsies (1,0%), Slovaks (0,6%), Germans (0,3%), Jews (0,2%) and others.



The region is divided into 13 administrative districts, 609 settlements (10 of them are towns). Uzhgorod, Mukachevo, Berehovo, Khust and Chop are towns of regional subordination. The region's administrative centre is Uzhgorod with 117,6 thousand inhabitants. 192 settlements with 250 thousand inhabitants have a mountainous status. The landscape of the region is various. A part of the territory is mountainous, the other is a plain. The Carpathians cover nearly 2/3 of the territory, the rest is lowland.

The region is rich in natural and mineral resources. Forests are the real treasure of the region. They cover the bigger part of the territory. The wood reserves are the largest in Ukraine (200 million m³). A huge part of it is truly valuable. More than 1 million m³ of wood is stored up every year satisfying inner needs as well as production for export.

Transcarpathia is famous for its resorts. Perhaps, while having a rest here you'll find a place and some business to invest in or establish your own business in the most wonderful region of Ukraine. Only here, in the centre of Europe, you will feel comfortable, healthy and wealthy at any time!



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Cross-border Cooperation Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013 together with Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine CBC Programme is co-organizing a joint conference of the two ENPI Programmes, which will be held on June 30th – July 1st, 2011 in Mukachevo, Ukraine. There are three goals of the conference: resuming development needs of the border regions, promoting the border regions and informing local authorities.



**JOINT CONFERENCE OF ENPI CROSS-BORDER
COOPERATION PROGRAMMES 2007-2013:**
 ▫ **HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA-ROMANIA-UKRAINE**
 ▫ **POLAND-BELARUS-UKRAINE**



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