

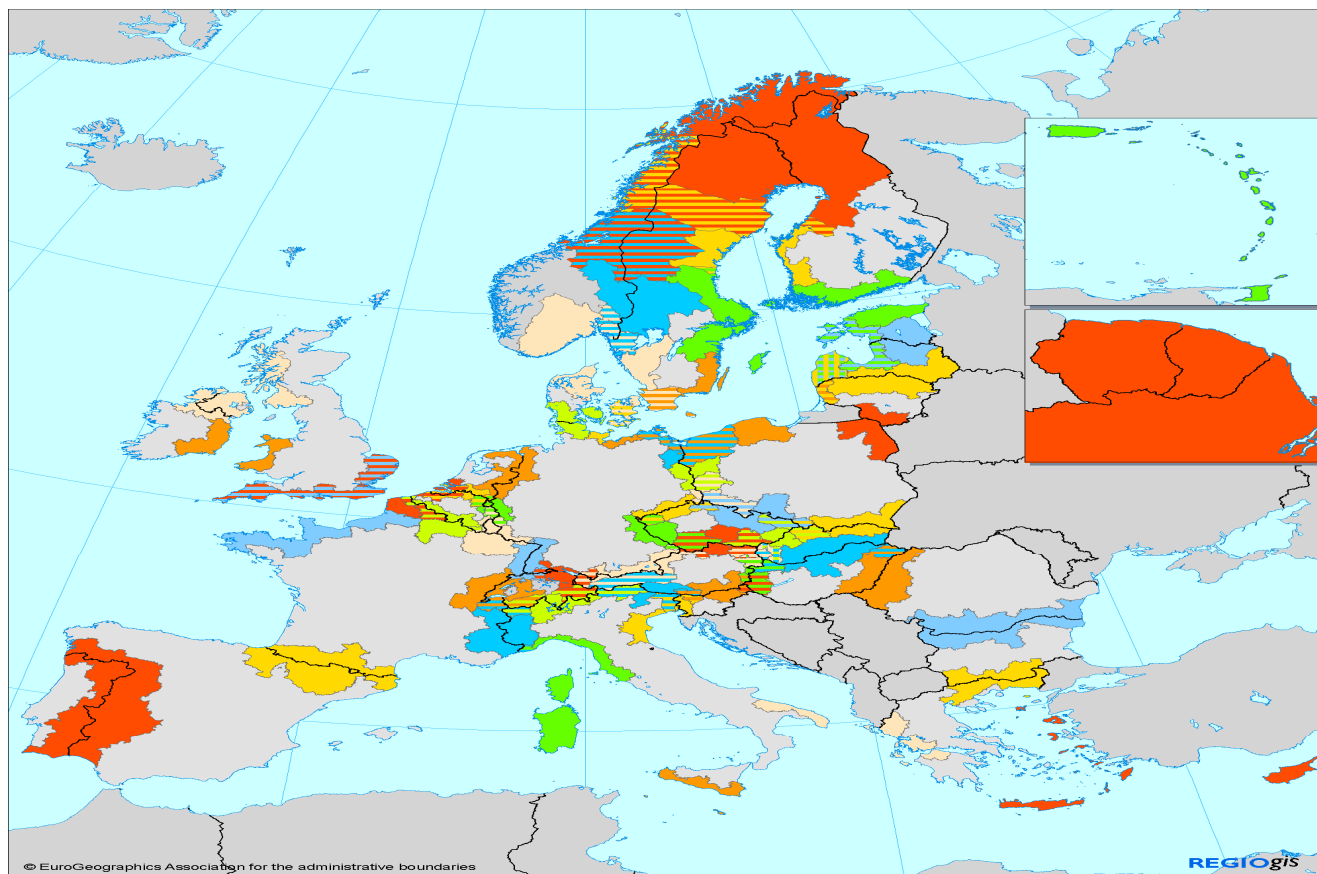
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# EU:s Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

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Murcia 5 February 2010

A decorative horizontal band consisting of a grid of small plus signs (+) in a light blue color, spanning the width of the slide.



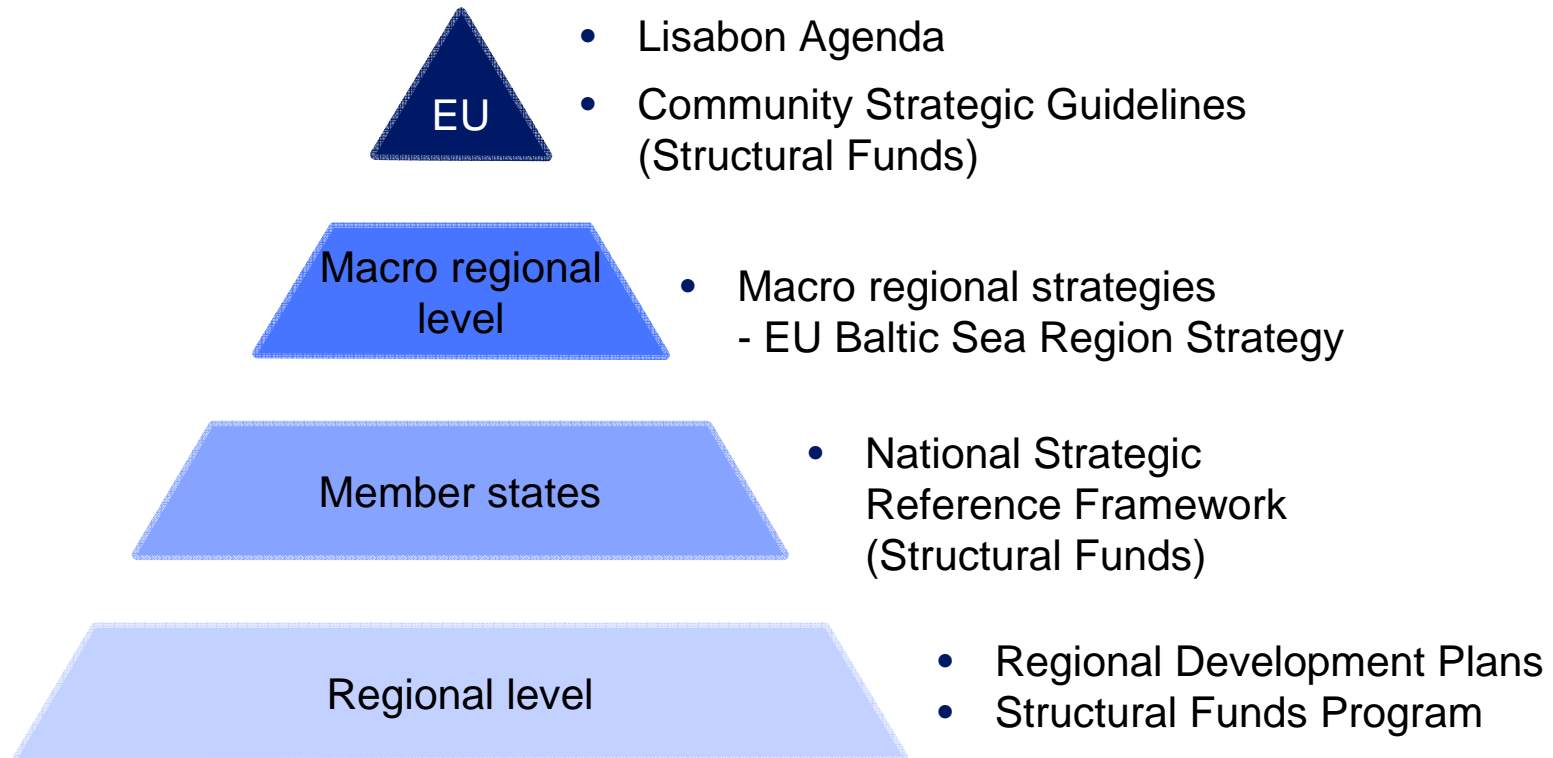
**Structural Funds 2007 - 2013:  
Cross-border Cooperation programmes**

0 1,000 Km

## Baltic Sea Strategy initiative – why?

- Urgent state of the Baltic sea
- Unused potential for growth
- New political context for cooperation – EU-enlargement, integration
- Underline priorities and pressure to deliver
- More strategic use of EU-funding
- EU policy development to take territorial differences into account – Lisbon treaty, Territorial green paper, Territorial Agenda

## A new level in policy implementation i.a. cohesion policy



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## 4 pillars and 15 regions to make the Baltic Sea Region

- An environmentally sustainable place
- A prosperous place
- An accessible and attractive place
- A safe and secure place

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## National commitment for each action. The Swedish commitment:

- To reduce the use and impact of hazardous substances, 3
- To exploit the full potential of the region in research and innovation (together with Poland), 7
- To reinforce sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries (together with Finland), 9
- To improve internal and external transport links (together with Lithuania), 11

## Baltic Sea Strategy – how?

- Aligned existing EU-funding – EU-programmes in the BSR contribute to the realisation of the Strategy
- Additional financing sources such as the European Investment Bank and the Nordic Investment Bank
- Existing organisation, no additional structure

## Baltic Sea Strategy – how?

An EU governance structure for delivery:

- General Affairs Council responsible
- Commission to facilitate, monitor, update, evaluate, report
- High level group
- Coordinators for 15 Priority Areas of Action Plan
- Lead Partners for flagship projects



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## APPROACH

- Expectations from all levels that Strategy should have an impact on EU-programmes – a big challenge
- All Agencies and Ministries involved
- Mindset important – from region to macroregion
- Action Plan - an ongoing process

## Macro Regional Strategies – What can be transferred?

- The territorial starting point – an EU policy development process
- The stakeholder process and the multi-level governance ambitions
- Models for coordinated use of EU funding
- Transnational methods of work in i.a. innovation and clustering, infrastructure, land & maritime spatial planning

**Thank you for your attention!**