

## Message from the Leader

### Building Capacity for the 6th Call



Management  
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Capacity Building Project actively supported the development of projects for the 6th Call for Proposals. Beginners were given guidelines and tools necessary for project development during national trainings. More advanced beneficiaries took part in the cross-border workshops, where they received structured feedback on their ideas from a panel of experts. Many projects received support under the Rent-an-Expert service: they were supported in the development of their project idea by either an external expert or a mentor from the CBP team. Altogether 17 projects that submitted their proposal in the 6th Call received support from the Capacity Building Project via the Rent-an-Expert facility. The successes and challenges of the Rent-an-Expert service were analysed and presented for the authorities of the Programme. If you would like to learn what it looked like from the perspective of those who received our help, please read the testimonial of one of our beneficiaries below.

## Analysis of barriers

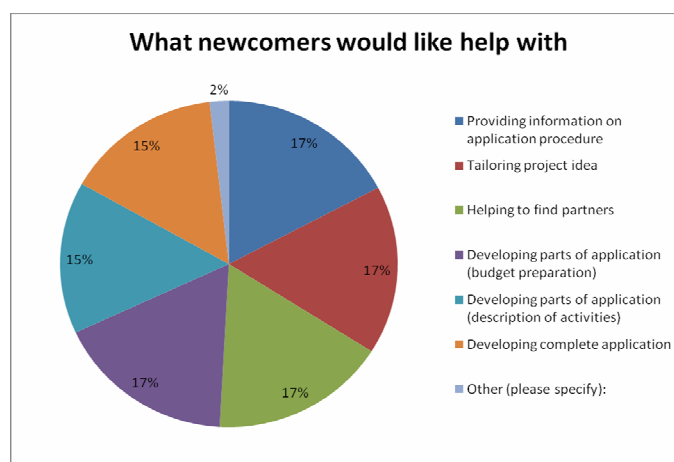
### Results of the analysis of barriers



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„The aim of the Capacity Building Project is to attract the main target group (new comers) of the South Baltic Programme and to strengthen their capacity. To better understand where our training needed to focus a questionnaire was sent out and several in-depth interviews were conducted. The conclusions from the analyzed material showed that there was a general insufficient knowledge about the programme in all countries. The main barriers were financial issues and a lack of human resources. Also the application process was perceived as complicated. More than 90% of the questionnaire respondents would be more interested in applying for funds from the SBP if they got support. Some of the interviewees explained that due to the limited knowledge about the SBP in combination with a lack of resources there was no time to understand the programme and the benefits of cross-border cooperation. National programmes seemed to be the easier option especially since the language barrier (which was quite significant in some countries) could then be eliminated. With this background we set out to develop

our training materials. A very practical and hands on method was used. For the regional workshops the focus was on spreading knowledge about the programme and the benefits of cross-border cooperation as well as generating ideas and developing them into an application. Some important parts of the application form were highlighted to get rid of the perception of it being more complicated than it is. The cross-border workshops were directed to people who already had an idea but needed help to develop it. During these, individual support was given, but some extra focus and general information was made to explain the budget procedure since the analysis had shown a need for this.



## WORKSHOPS

### Second round of cross-border workshops

We are happy to announce the second round of the Cross-border Workshops. The first workshop will take place in Karlskrona, Sweden, on March 3-4. The second workshop is planned for Rostock in early May. The workshops are prepared for the beneficiaries who have already identified ideas for development of projects within the South Baltic Programme. So, if you have a concrete project idea to be developed on a cross-border level and if you want to receive support of a panel of experts that will assess and develop your idea, then the workshops are for you.

Before attending the workshop you will be asked to send your project idea to the Capacity Building Project that will distribute it to the panel of experts. The ideas will be presented, discussed and examined with support of the

experts. All participants will listen to your presentation and be able to give feed back as well. During the workshops there also will be time for hands-on exercises to improve your project description.

As the workshop will have participants from all over the Programme area it is also an excellent opportunity to find partners. The workshops will have a thematic approach to facilitate for better partner search. You have to apply for participation and a limited number of prioritized participants (mainly newcomers in the South Baltic Programme from smaller municipalities and NGO's) will have travel and accommodation paid for by the CAPACITY project. The workshops are free of charge for participants. To register for the workshops, please visit our website: [www.sbpcapacity.org/](http://www.sbpcapacity.org/).

## Support from Capacity

### Reflections on support received from the Capacity Building project

Clemens Malmberg,  
Municipality of Sölvesborg:

The first time I used the Capacity Building Project was when we used Eva-Lisa Ahnström as an expert in the very last preparations for our first InterLoc application. We received many valuable and good views of both the content and structure of the project application.

The second time was when I participated in a regional training about how to develop projects for the South Baltic Programme in Lund, Sweden, arranged by the CAPACITY.

This training was one of the best I have participated in when it comes to project development. It was general, ie. the methodology can be used in all projects and also specific, linked to the South Baltic Programme. One thing that made it so good was the structured material we had to taken on, which was linked to real applications. It was very useful and chal-

lenging to reflect on application texts that were unclear and try to identify how they could be elaborated on to be clear and concrete. Very well spent hours!

I also participated in the Capacity Building Project cross border workshop in Gdynia in October 2010. We got feed-

back from the panel of experts with comments and specific tips and ideas on our new application, for the 6th call. The workshop was also attended by partners from Poland and Denmark, which made it possible to transform the experts' conclusions into the new application directly with partners.

Summary of the benefits of the Capacity Building Project: for me it was the clarity, structure, challenge and encouragement, practical tips and ideas that have been possible to achieve in a project application. The support was very stimulating for me personally and for the project.

