

ПРОГРАММА ПРИГРАНИЧНОГО СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА ТАСИС

Developing EXcellence - DEX

**EXCELLENCE CENTRES' NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION**



**ПРОЕКТ РАЗВИТИЯ СЕТИ ОПОРНЫХ ЦЕНТРОВ
ТРАНСГРАНИЧНОГО ДЕЛОВОГО СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА В
РЕГИОНЕ БАЛТИЙСКОГО МОРЯ**



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BACKGROUND

VISION & STRATEGIES 2010 AROUND THE BALTIC

VASAB promoted projects

2001 - 2006
Interreg IIB - PHARE - TACIS

East-West Spatial Planning Forum for Sustainable Development in the Baltic Sea Region

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT STAGES

2003. EVF project application had been submitted to BSR INTERREG III B Seed Money and Approved. The decision to apply to Taxis and BSR Interreg III B programme have been made by partners.

2004. Promoting Spatial Development by Creating COMMon MINDscapes - COMMIN had been submitted to BSR INTERREG IIB Programme and Excellence Centres' Network for Sustainable Development in the Baltic Sea Region" - DEX had been submitted to Taxis Programme.

June 2004. Interreg application COMMIN approved on the Steering Committee meeting.

July 2004. Taxis application Developing Excellence - DEX approved.

EAST-WEST FORUM: INTERREG AND TACIS COMPONENTS

COMMIN
Promoting Spatial Development by Creating COMMon MINDscapes.
Derived from "mind" and "landscape" stands for "idea" or "understanding" of what in the individual countries is to be understood under spatial development and planning and how they work, each time.
WP1: Web Based Portal on Spatial Development in the Baltic Sea Region
WP2: Advanced training network on Spatial Planning and Regional Development in BSR
WP3: Transnational Exchange of innovative approaches of Spatial Development in the Baltic Sea Region
Lead applicant: Academy for Spatial Research and Planning (ARL)
www.arl.rat.eu

EAST-WEST FORUM
Vasab Flag Project

COMMIN
Interreg IIB

DEX
Taxis CND

FORUM COOPERATION AREA

- BELARUS
- DENMARK
- ESTONIA
- FINLAND
- GERMANY
- LATVIA
- LITHUANIA
- NORWAY
- POLAND
- RUSSIA
- SWEDEN

DEX
Developing Excellence - DEX, Excellence Centres' network for sustainable development in BSR.
In the context of the EU engagement and start of the future RSR NRP multi-regional co-operation in the field of regional economic development it is necessary to undertake major capacity building to enable Russia to take part in this co-operation.
The main idea is to establish a network of excellence centres focused on cooperation of authorities responsible for local and regional economic and spatial development, aim to engage other local actors in a goal-oriented development work.
Main Activities: knowledge exchange and learning, input into the spatial and information system creation within the frame of "COMMIN", dissemination of best practices in spatial planning and regional economic development within the BSR.
Lead applicant: Jyväskylä Regional Development Company Jykes Ltd
www.jykes.fi

The Project Developing "EXcellence - DEX, Excellence Centres' network for sustainable development in the Baltic Sea Region" has been carried out fully in line with the proposed methodology elaborated during the umbrella Interreg Seed Money project **East-West Forum for sustainable development in the Baltic Sea Region**, initiated by Russian national Sub-Committee of **BSR INTERREG III B Programme** with its complementary part of the Interreg IIB BSR **COMMIN** project - **Promoting Spatial Development by creating COMon MINDscapes, BSR Interreg III B.**

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MAIN IDEA

Developing EXcellence – DEX is a project in context with the EU enlargement and BSR Neighbourhood Programme multi-regional co-operation in the field of regional economic development.

The main idea of DEX is to establish a network of excellence centres focused on co-operation of authorities responsible for local and regional economic and spatial development able to engage other local actors (e.g. enterprises) in goal oriented regional development work in:

- **Leningrad oblast**
- **Murmansk oblast**
- **Pskov oblast**
- **Republic of Karelia**
- **St. Petersburg**

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PARTNERS



JYVASKYLA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY JYKES LTD

Jyvaskyla Regional Development Company Jykes Ltd promotes profitable business activity in the Jyvaskyla Region, provides contacts with regional enterprises and operates as a link between companies, local government and regional players. Jykes' international services support companies in their efforts to internationalize their operations and penetrate new markets. Jykes has its own liaison office in St. Petersburg.
Official Web site: <http://www.jykes.fi>



LENINGRAD OBLAST GOVERNMENT

Main goal of the Committee on SME and Consumer Market Development, Leningrad oblast Government is realization of the State Programme for SME support in Leningrad region.
Official Web site: <http://www.lenobl.ru>



ICSER LEONTIEF CENTRE

Leontief Centre mission is to promote top international standards of quality in social and economic studies and consultancy with a view towards fostering more professional methods of governance for Russian cities and regions.
Official Web site: <http://www.leontief.ru>



CITY OF JYVASKYLA

The City of Jyvaskyla is a local authority in Central Finland. Jyvaskyla has special expertise in the fields of paper manufacturing and paper machinery, energy production, environmental and information technology. The city is also known for its excellent offer of education, culture and sports.
Official Web site: <http://www.jyvaskyla.fi>

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MAIN OBJECTIVE



In line with the connected Interreg project “COMMIN” the present Tacis DEX project also aimed at institution building with the main objective to build capacity of the North-West Russian regions to fully participate in opportunities created by the new Neighbourhood instrument. The basic idea is to foster cross-border and translational co-operation project between regions, cities and local authorities. This become possible through the creation of a network of Excellence Centres and a comprehensive training package offered by “COMMIN”, participation which became available to Russian regional stakeholders through Tacis funding. Implemented activities, study trips, seminars and workshops provided good platform an arena for exchange of information and experience, necessary for understanding different developmental patterns, methods and views prevailing in the various parts of the Baltic Sea region.

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EXCELLENCE CENTRES NETWORK



The Excellence Centres Network, build by project partners during the project implementation through intensive networking and knowledge sharing training platform, comprises of the following selected institutions, closely linked to the regional administrations responsible for economic development and SME support programs in order to enhance their capacity for international co-operation and fully participate in the opportunities created by New Neighborhood Instrument:

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5 EXCELLENCE CENTRES

- **LENINGRAD OBLAST CENTRE FOR SME SUPPORT**, acting as the main implementator of Leningrad region SME support Programme under the mandate of the Committee for SME and Consumer Market Development of Leningrad Oblast Government
- **STATE FOUNDATION OF SME DEVELOPMENT IN THE MURMANSK REGION (FORMAP)** acting as the main financial and consulting agency in the process of implementation of the Strategy of regional development and Program "Development of entrepreneurship in Murmansk region for 2005-2008 mandated by Committee for Economic Development of Murmansk region administration
- **PSKOV REGIONAL FOUNDATION OF SME SUPPORT** closely linked to the Committee for Economic Development and State Property Relations of Pskov Government in the process of implementation of SME support international, national and regional programmes
- **KARELIAN RESEARCH CENTRE OF THE RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE** acting as a key coordinator of elaboration of regional strategic plans and programs under the commissioner of the Ministry for Economic Development of Republic of Karelia
- **RUSSIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION (ASSET)** acting as the main networking instrument of the national Resource Centre for strategic spatial planning and regional/municipal development in Russia with closed working relations with RF Ministry for Regional Development and Saint-Petersburg Government

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COMMUN - DEX KNOWLEDGE SHARING PLATFORM

- 28 decision-makers and other regional stakeholders from the North West Russia, responsible for regional and SME development, trained in the field of European Regional policy tools and Neighborhood instruments, best practices in spatial planning and regional economic development within the BSR within strong knowledge sharing platform created by DEX and COMMUN project partners in Jyväskylä region
- More than 100 Russian regional and local stakeholders received in-depth knowledge on mechanisms of transnational cooperation and financing sources based on Jyväskylä best practice model during pilot seminars in the participating regions and expert seminar within 4th all-Russian forum of strategic planning leaders

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COMMIN - DEX RESEARCH PLATFORM

- The Russian input on Spatial Planning Development, including a catalogue of best practices elaborated by Russian project partners for the complementary Interreg III B COMMIN project and received high evaluation from the COMMIN lead partner applicant (140 pages of English Version, 150 pages of Russian Version, 165 terms selected and described)
- The study on Preconditions for international goal-oriented co-operation in the field of regional development and regions' development potential was implemented by the Russian and EU project partners with regard to participation of the North-West Russian entities in the common pan-Baltic developmental projects were prepared and used by Russian National Sub Committee in the preparation of Starting points for the discussion of the Programme for Transnational Territorial Cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region 2007-2013 from Russian Perspective

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JOINT PROJECT IDEAS AND INITIATIVES

- The potential lines for cooperation and joint pilot projects with Finish local and regional authorities and other Baltic stakeholders were elaborated for the 9th Call for proposals of the Baltic Sea Interreg III B Neighbourhood Programme on Transnational Co-operation on Spatial Planning and Regional Development and applications were submitted to the Forth Application Call of Interreg III B Neighbourhood Programme, Priority North: Russia/Latvia/Estonia
- EU project partners established close co-operation links with regional stakeholders and received profile documents and better understanding of the main strategic goals and priorities for regional development and SME support in Leningrad Oblast, Murmansk Oblast, Pskov Oblast, Republic of Karelia and St. Petersburg and significantly improved the communication links and networks in Russia. In the framework of the project the information business Centre of St. Petersburg was opened in the office space of Jykes in order to promote the development plans and business opportunities of St. Petersburg for Finish public and business communities.

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COOPERATION LINKS WITH EU RUSSIA PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

- According to project methodology strong working relationships were build by Russian partners with BSR Interreg III B Neighbourhood Programme and Russian National Sub-committee and NP Secretariats: Estonia-Latvia-Russia, Euregio Karelia, Kolarctic, South-East Finland
- From the very beginning of the project close links were developed with Regional Capacity Building Initiative (RCBI) Project and St.Petersburg Tacis local office and Petrozavodsk Tacis Local Support Office
- In the process of the preparation and organization Third International SME Capacity Building Forum in the North-West of Russia the RU project partners and participants established cooperation links with Tacis E-skills for Russian SMEs project and other Tacis project teams presented on the Forum: EU Tacis Projects E-Karelia and Development of Internet Based Interactive Government to Business in the North-West of Russia, Tacis Project Support for export oriented innovative SMEs

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DEX WEB SITE PLATFORM



The screenshot displays the DEX website interface. At the top, it features the title 'Developing EXcellence' and the subtitle 'EXCELLENCE CENTRES NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION'. Below this is a navigation menu with tabs for 'About project', 'Partners', 'Centres', 'Regions', 'Programs', and 'Seminars'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains sections for 'ABOUT PROJECT', 'East-West Forum', 'Tactic component DEX', 'Interreg component COMMUN', and 'VASAR promoted projects'. The right column contains a detailed 'ABOUT PROJECT' section with the following text:

ABOUT PROJECT

Developing Excellence – DEX is a project in context with the EU enlargement and the future BSR NP multi-regional co-operation in the field of regional economic development. The main idea of DEX is to establish a network of excellence centres focused on co-operation of authorities responsible for local and regional economic and spatial development able to engage other local actors (e.g. enterprises) in goal oriented regional development work.

MAIN IDEA

Developing Excellence – DEX places a high importance on cross-border co-operation and its aim is to build capacity of the North-West Russian regions to fully participate in opportunities created by the new Neighbourhood instrument. The basic idea is to foster cross-border and translational co-operation project between regions, cities and local authorities.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

The main objective of DEX is to prepare North-West Russian regional stakeholders to better participation in common BSR co-operation:

- to strengthen the grass-root involvement of Russia in the Baltic problems and issues counterbalancing possible negative results of EU enlargement.
- to bring new economic stimuli to the development of the North-West part of Russia and increases face-to-face international contacts at local and regional level.
- to encourage Russian regional and local decision makers to change their development patterns and behaviours to more entrepreneurial ones and enhance co-operation of Russian regions on transnational level.
- to ensure involvement of the North-West Russia in the economic and social development of the BSR and create better climate among the citizens of North-West Russia towards EU enlargement.
- to contribute to better implementation of the Northern Dimension Action programme of EU.

DEX TARGET GROUPS

The target group for DEX are decision makers and stakeholders from the target regions as well as SME's and local population.

WWW.DEX.LEONTIEF.NET

Project Web site was established and due to the efforts of all project partners and participants became

- **efficient working and communication platform**, providing operative access to the main project information and networking opportunities
- **knowledge sharing platform** with developed project package of training materials
- **good marketing and dissemination platform** promoting Project activities, Regions and Participating organizations

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DEX PROMOTION MATERIALS AND INITIATIVES

Project Brochure in Russian and English languages (5000 copies) was printed and disseminated on the following events with presentation of DEX project and complementary Interreg COMMIN part:

- 4th all- Russian forum of strategic planning leaders for 191 participants - key federal, regional and local stakeholders responsible for strategic planning and regional development in Russia from 66 regional and municipal RF regions
- Third International SME Capacity Building Forum in the North-West of Russia for the 130 participants – key federal, regional and local stakeholders responsible for SME support and development in the North-West of Russia
- Pilot seminars in Murmansk, Pskov, Republic of Karelia, St.Petersburg

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FIFTH ALL-RUSSIAN FORUM OF STRATEGIC PLANNING LEADERS

DEX project partners will present final results on the

**Fifth All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders
October 18-20, 2006, St. Petersburg**

Main Forum Goal is to strengthen cooperation networks and to share experience between cities and regions - strategic planning leaders with discussions of best international and Russian practice, achieved practical results, and key-factors constraining development and implementation processes of strategic plans.

Forum Organizers: Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, RF Ministry for Regional Development, RF Ministry for Economic Development and Trade, International Assembly of Capitals and Big Cities (MAG), Moscow Public Science Foundation, ICSER Leontief Centre, Russian Economic Developers Association (ASSET)

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**Thank you for your attention and
welcome on the DEX web site!**
www.dex.leontief.net