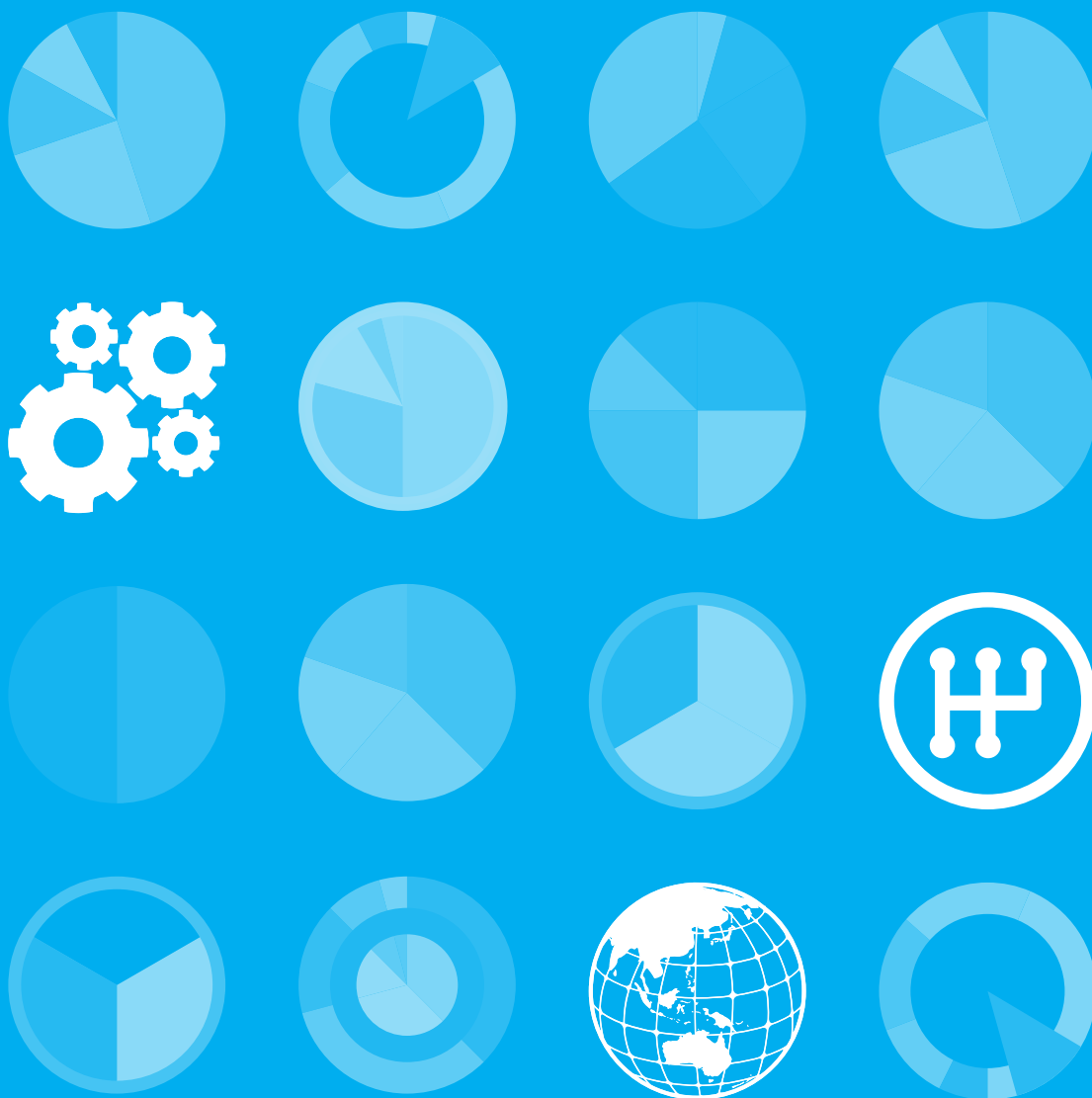


# Annual Implementation Report 2020

## Citizen's summary



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# Brief overview

In our four funding priorities, we have 113 projects. The project distribution within the priorities is as follows: economy(26), environment(30), logistics(19) and people (38).

The total project number was complemented during the year by 16 new projects from the 4th call. As the fourth call was only open for certain parts of our funding priorities, the number of applications received was expectedly a bit lower than in other calls (37 in comparison to 92 for the 3rd call).

In 2019, we also launched the 5th and final call of the programme. The call closed in December and a total of 69 applications were received. By the end of 2019, 67 projects had finished implementing.

During the year, we arranged many activities which aimed at showing the benefits of EU funding in the programme regions. These included, for example thematic seminars, call-related match-making events and outreach related to the EU in My Region, European Cooperation Day and Europe Day campaigns. For example, the Europe Day activities at Narinkkatori, Helsinki attracted 400 visitors directly to the stand. On the following pages, you can find some examples of our activities.

## Where to find project information?

**We host all project-related information in our project database. By visiting [database.centralbaltic.eu](https://database.centralbaltic.eu) you can get an overview of not only what has been funded but also about the concrete results that were created, thanks to cross-border cooperation.**



*In 2019, our national Contact Points arranged a Communication seminar for our projects in Stockholm to support implementing projects.*



*The Road Trip project and their visit to Åland in August 2019. In this photo, the team is preparing themselves for learning more about the archipelago by visiting Rödhamn (project MASAPO and Smart Marina) and Kobbå Klintar.*



*The discussion panel in the national event Almedalen in Visby, Sweden, 4 July 2019, discussing the use and positive effects of EU projects in a seminar. In the panel participated regional politicians, a representative from the Swedish Agency of Economic and Regional Growth and representatives from two Central Baltic projects.*

# We are well on track

Our programme was evaluated in 2018 and 2019 by an external company. The evaluators had a look at various aspects of the programme and using different approaches, determined how we are doing.

In short, the finding was that the programme is well on track for achieving its goals. This means that the areas we fund (our four Priorities and the more specific areas within them) have been well-chosen to suit the needs of the region. Additionally, we have been able to acquire good projects that have reached their aims.

On the following pages, you can review a Summary from the numerical findings of the evaluation in the form of infographics along with additional statistics which describe interest in the programme, its state and allocation of funding. **NB! The infographics portray programme state during the evaluation which is the end of 2018.**

To accompany the statistics, at the end of the document you can find three project examples that give an idea, what the funding is doing in the regions as well as direct quotes from the evaluation report.

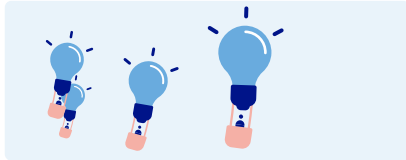
## Where to find the Impact Evaluation?

If you are interested in the Impact Evaluation, you can download the final document here: <http://centralbaltic.eu/document-categories/impact-evaluationco-operation>.

Programme state in late 2018, as found in the evaluation

## PRIORITY 1 Competitive economy

### 1.1 New Central Baltic knowledge intensive companies



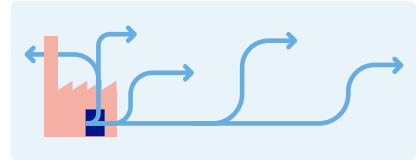
	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b>		
Number of new enterprises supported	150	<b>208</b>
Number of enterprises supported	150	<b>281</b>
<b>RESULT</b>		
Number of joint or co-operating knowledge intensive enterprises	100	<b>12</b>

### 1.2 More entrepreneurial youth



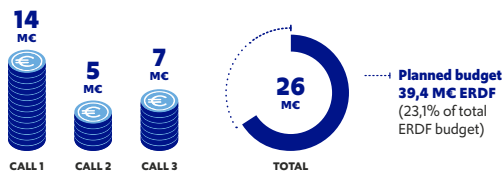
	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b>		
Number of participating young people	150	<b>1261</b>
<b>RESULT</b>		
Number of established joint student companies	60	<b>208</b>

### 1.3 More exports by the Central Baltic companies to new markets



	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b>		
Number of enterprises receiving support	300	<b>505</b>
Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	300	<b>716</b>
Number of enterprises supported to introduce new to the market products	60	<b>86</b>
<b>RESULT</b>		
Number of cluster co-operations exporting to new markets	10	<b>4</b>

#### Funding



One of the main additional results of the projects was the creation of non-cross-border start-ups.

## PRIORITY 2 Sustainable use of common resources

### 2.1 Natural and cultural resources developed into sustainable tourist attractions



	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b>		
Number of targeted joint attractions	10	<b>6</b>
Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	125 600	<b>43 190</b>
<b>RESULT</b>		
More sustainable joint natural and cultural heritage-based tourist attractions	12	<b>5</b>

### 2.3 Better urban planning in the Central Baltic region



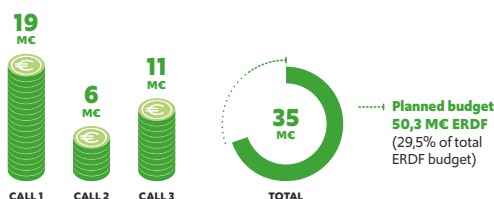
	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b>		
Indicator Number of targeted integrated urban plans	10	<b>16</b>
<b>RESULT</b>		
Share of urban areas covered with integrated urban management	N/A	<b>N/A</b>

### 2.4 Reduced nutrients, hazardous substances and toxins inflow into the Baltic Sea



	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b>		
Number of targeted sources of nutrients, hazardous substances and toxins	20	<b>44,5</b>
<b>RESULT</b>		
Amounts of nutrients, hazardous substances and toxins inflows into the Baltic Sea	N/A	<b>N/A</b>

#### Funding



The SO 2.4 projects have been innovative in finding ways to map, measure, manage and prevent phosphorus inflows into the Baltic Sea.



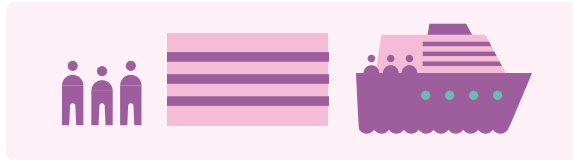
### PRIORITY 3 Sustainable use of common resources

#### 3.1 Improved transport flows of people and goods



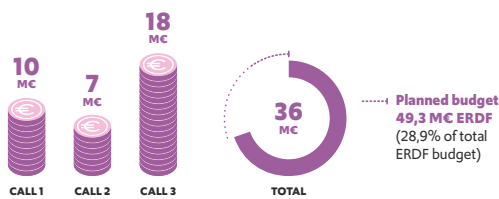
	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b> Number of developed and improved transport corridors and nodes	25	1
<b>RESULT</b> Travel time of passengers	N/A	N/A

#### 3.2 Improved services of existing small ports to improve local and regional mobility and contribute to tourism development



	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b> Number of ports with improved services	15	37
<b>RESULT</b> Share of Central Baltic small ports with good services	N/A	N/A

#### Funding



*The SO 3.2 projects have improved the safety, port services, and port amenities in small ports.*

### PRIORITY 4 Sustainable use of common resources

#### 4.1 More people benefiting from stronger Central Baltic communities



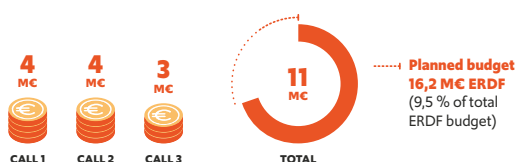
	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b> Number of participants	5000	8262
<b>RESULT</b> Communities with improvements	30	15

#### 4.2 More aligned vocational education and training programmes in the Central Baltic region



	Target	Realised
<b>OUTPUT</b> Number of benefitting vocational education schools	22	22
<b>RESULT</b> Share of aligned vocational education and training (VET) programmes in the Central Baltic region	18	12

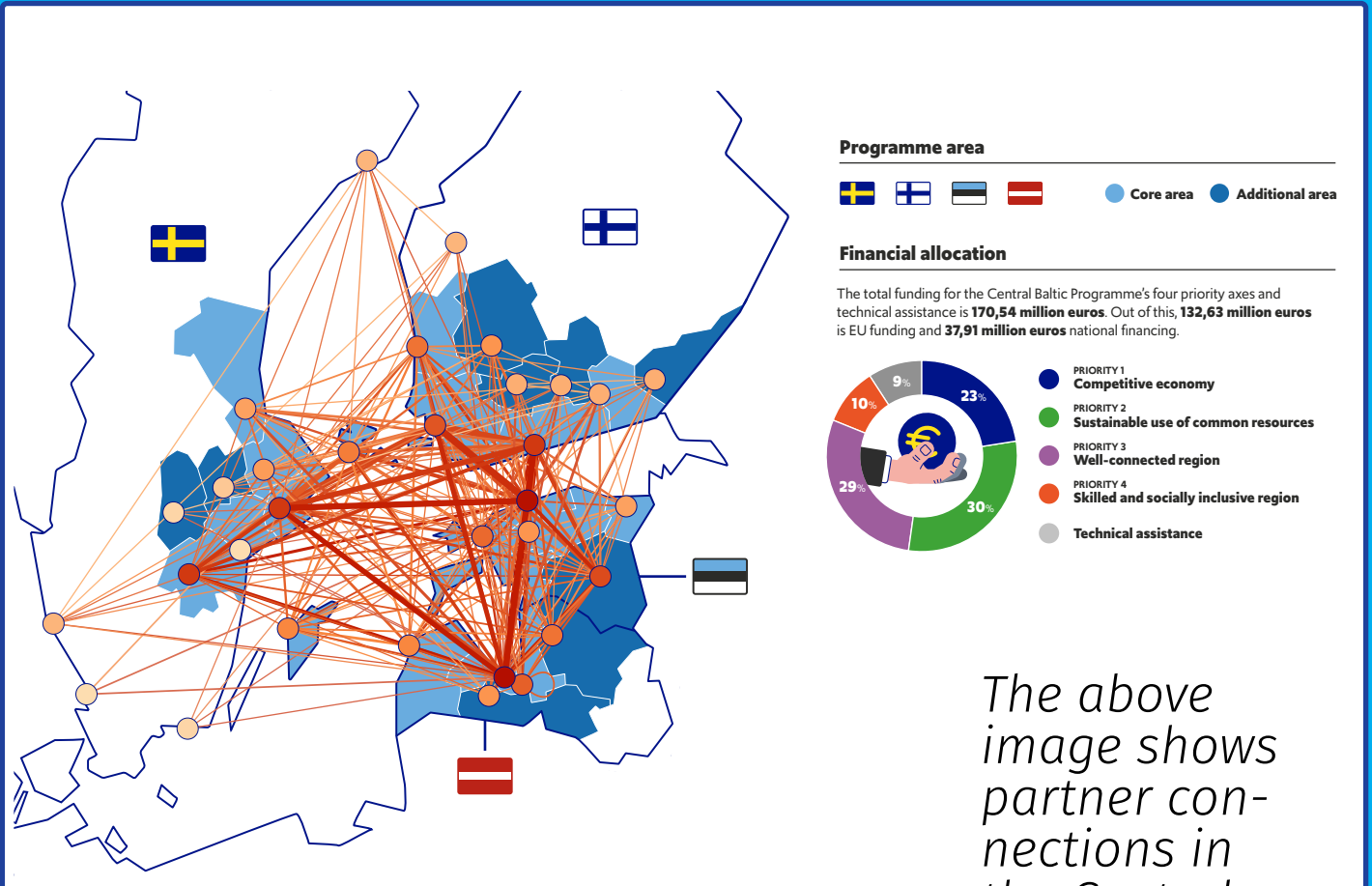
#### Funding



*The aligned VET curricula have been successfully implemented, and there is positive feedback from students.*

# An area working together

Diagrams are from programme evaluation which represents the state in late 2018.

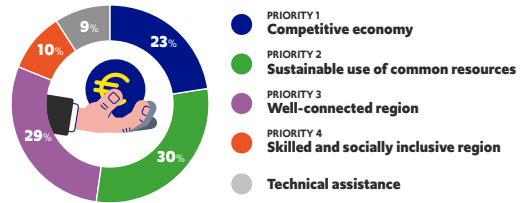


**Programme area**



**Financial allocation**

The total funding for the Central Baltic Programme's four priority axes and technical assistance is **170,54 million euros**. Out of this, **132,63 million euros** is EU funding and **37,91 million euros** national financing.



**OVERVIEW Interreg Central Baltic Project**

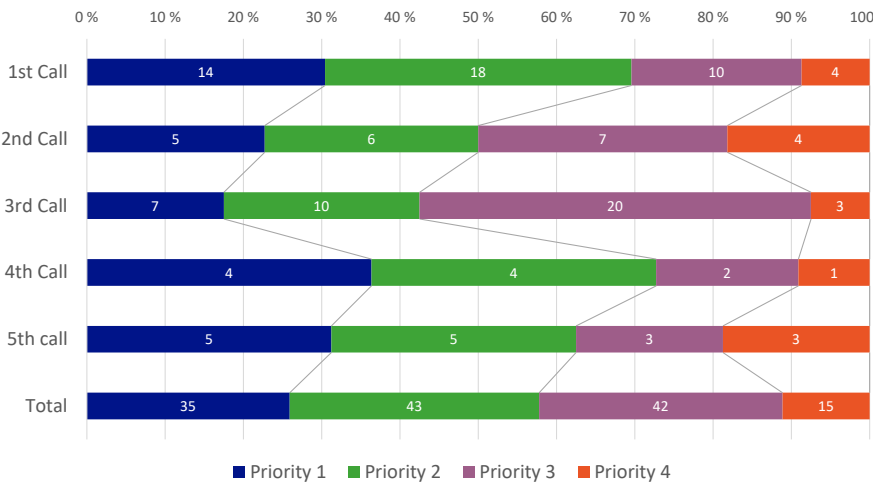
**Partners**

97 funded projects have a total of 622 partners.

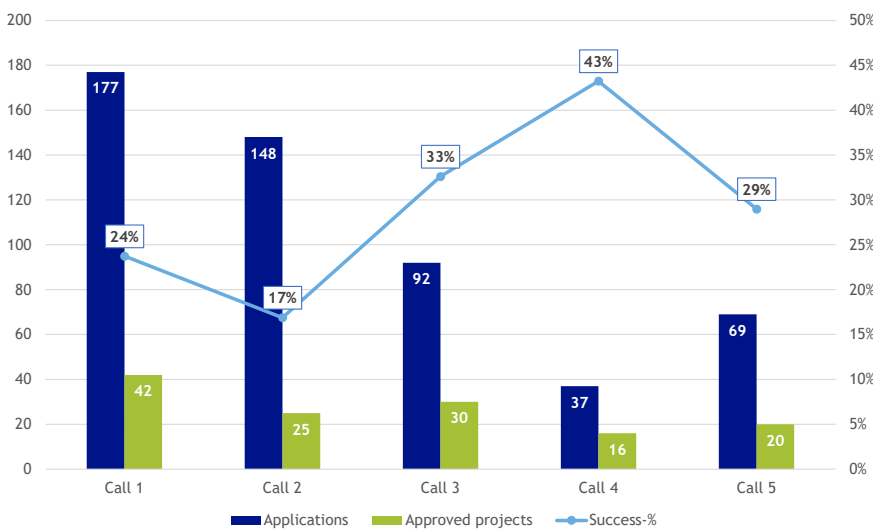


The above image shows partner connections in the Central Baltic region. Darker and thicker lines mean more connections. The type of partner is listed on the left hand side.

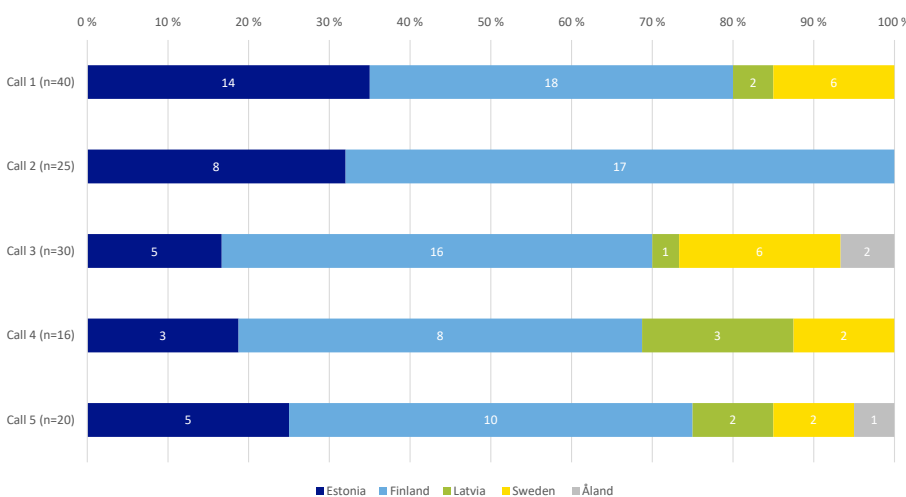
# Funding and projects



Allocation of funding per programme priority between calls (meur).



Applications v approved projects between calls, including their success rate.



Distribution of project Lead Partner between country and call

## Project example 1

# PIM: A bi-lingual education process for children

- Improved bi-lingual education process for children within minority groups around the Baltic Sea
- Over 700 parents were involved
- Globally applicable best practices

**P**IM improved bi-lingual education process for children within Russian-speaking minority groups in Estonia, Finland and Latvia. This was achieved by creating a Parent Involvement Model (PIM). The focus was on children with ages between 5-10.

The Parent Involvement Model was piloted in pre-schools (1 in Finland, 2 in Estonia and 5 in Latvia) and elementary schools (1 in Finland, 2 in Estonia and 2 in Latvia). In total, 719 parents were involved in the pilots, thus exceeding the set aim of 250. The pilots included educational information activities that emphasised co-operation between families and schools, as well as family events organised together with pre-schools.

The project produced globally applicable guidelines for cooperation between ethnic minorities and schools, background information regarding parent involvement models within Russian-speaking families, a training programme for educators with focus on bi-lingual education, and a practical work package for developing parent involvement models.



*A Parent Involvement Model (PIM) was developed within the project to better support children in minority groups.*

## Project example 2

# YOUTH-SPORT-VOL: A platform to find volunteering work

- Improved employment possibilities for youngsters through volunteering opportunities
- Close to 1000 people reached directly
- A web service for finding volunteering opportunities

**T**o improve possibilities for young people to enter the labour market, YOUTH-SPORT-VOL implemented a sport volunteering model. The model allows young adults to gain working knowledge in the framework of volunteering, thus improving their possibilities to find work. To make volunteering easily discoverable, the project created a web service that allows browsing of events and registering as a volunteer in them. A permanent secretariat for sport volunteering was established at the Tallinn University as well. The project engaged with 985 unemployed young adults, nearly twice as many as planned.



## Project example 3

# NUTRINFLOW: Sustainable and approachable nutrient reduction

- Reduced nutrients from agriculture to immediate watersheds and into the Baltic Sea
- Five pilot sites with good experiences
- EUSBSR flagship project

**N**UTRINFLOW reduced nutrient losses from agriculture to immediate watersheds and into the Baltic Sea. Reduction was achieved through pilot investments implemented in Finland, Sweden and Latvia, where various nutrient sources were targeted.

Instead of the planned five nutrient sources, the project ended up choosing 11 sources. Actions included river channel restorations, building wetlands and flood plains, mounting or renovating culverts and improving subsurface drainage. Direct improvements from these actions were reduced nutrient losses in phosphorus and nitrogen.

Knowledge gained from the pilot sites serve as a reference for a holistic drainage management, offering farmers and other stakeholder organisations important information on these issues. The project also increased general awareness among farmers, advisors and municipal authorities and services on drainage techniques and approaches to integrate field and basic drainage measures.

Due to its high relevance, good implementation and re-usability of results, the project gained the Baltic Sea Strategy Flagship (Flow Baltic) status.

The outcomes of the NUTRINFLOW will be further utilised by the Ministry of Agriculture to prepare suggestions on nutrient retention measures in agricultural drainage to be supported in Latvia during the next planning period of the Common Agricultural Policy (2021-2027).



*Digging a trench in relation to one of the pilots performed in the project NUTRINFLOW.*



What did others say about us? Quotes from the Central Baltic programme's Impact evaluation in 2019.

*“The Interreg Central Baltic Programme is a very compact and concentrated programme. The selected investment priorities, linked to the Priorities and Specific Objectives, have clearly been chosen with reference to the perceived “added value” of the Central Baltic added value.”*

*“97% of the respondents thought that cross-border cooperation brings added value to the project”*

*“JS staff generally provide a very professional assessment of the content of particular projects as well as mentoring, advice and monitoring of projects to -a highly professional level”*

*”cooperation with the JS was very fluent, something I have not experienced ever before with any other programme secretariat. Their guidance was prompt, very friendly and based on mutual understanding. They wanted to paint a picture for us that we are on this journey together.”*