

Transnational Cooperation and Value Chains

The case of Baltic Sea Region:

BSR Stars Flagship: Strengthening inclusive growth in the Baltic Sea Region

BSR Stars is a flagship initiative within **the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region** which aims to strengthen competitiveness and economic growth in the Baltic Sea macro-region by bringing together research institutions, clusters and SME networks. In particular, the programme is aiming at the establishment of **cross-sectoral partnerships that address the common challenges of the Baltic Sea Region**. The flagship also has a focus on strengthening policy capabilities to work with smart specialisation on regional and intra-regional levels.

From a strategic transnational perspective BSR Stars mobilises transnational cooperation through actions such as **facilitating transnational linkages between specialised research and innovation nodes, developing collaborative strengths, and strengthening the policy framework** for the Baltic Sea Region.

The ambitions of the BSR Stars Flagship initiative are in practice **implemented through individual projects**, funded e.g. through the EU territorial cooperation funds. One of the projects within the BSR Stars Flagship is the **BSR Stars S3 project** which is an international venture seeking to **enhance smart specialisation strategies in bio-, circular- and digital economy in the Baltic Sea Region**. The project brings together various stakeholders, regional authorities, development organisation and companies from the Baltic Sea Region, involving also the coordinating body for Policy Area Innovation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. BSR Stars S3 project also stimulates transnational and cross-sectoral partnerships, develops integrated innovations support infrastructure and tools for innovation management and engages in policy development for innovation collaboration across the Baltic Sea Region.

Read more:

BSR Stars in the S3 Implementation Handbook: <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/s3-implementation-handbook> (Gianelle, C., D. Kyriakou, C. Cohen and M. Przeor (eds) (2016), Implementing Smart Specialisation: A Handbook, Brussels: European Commission, EUR 28053 EN, doi:10.2791/53569)

BSR Stars S3 Project: <http://www.bsr-stars.eu/bsr-stars-s3/>