

2014–2020

# Develop Sweden!

The EU Structural and Investment Funds  
in Sweden 2014–2020



EUROPEAN  
UNION  
European  
Structural and  
Investment Funds



The Swedish  
ESF Council



Swedish Agency  
for Economic and  
Regional Growth



# Develop Sweden!

The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) provide opportunities for major investments to develop regions, individuals and enterprises throughout Sweden.

A total of SEK 67 billion (including public and/or private co-financing) is to be invested in the years 2014–2020. In order for this funding to have the greatest possible benefit, Sweden has agreed with the European Commission (EC) on certain priorities:

- Enhance competitiveness, knowledge and innovation
- Sustainable and efficient utilisation of resources for sustainable growth
- Increase employment, enhance employability and improve access to the labour market

In the years 2014–2020, Sweden will be participating in 27 programmes financed by one of four ESIF.

This brochure provides an overview of the programmes under the ESIF that concern Sweden, and the programmes in which Swedish organisations, government agencies and enterprises can participate. For those requiring more in-depth information, for example in order to seek funding, it includes references to the responsible government agencies and organisations.

This brochure has been produced collaboratively by the Managing Authorities of the ESIF in Sweden.

For more information about these four funds and 27 programmes, visit **[www.eufonder.se](http://www.eufonder.se)**

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# EU Structural and Investment Funds in Sweden 2014–2020

All EU support in Sweden is intended to help achieve the objectives of Europe 2020, which is the EU's common strategy for growth and jobs. This strategy has three overall priorities that are central to the growth and development of Europe by 2020:

- Smart growth – develop an economy based on knowledge and innovation.
- Sustainable growth – promote a more resource-efficient, greener and more competitive economy.
- Inclusive growth (growth for all) – stimulate an economy with a high level of employment and social and territorial cohesion.

## Complementarity of the Baltic Sea Strategy

In the countries around the Baltic Sea, Europe 2020 is complemented by the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, also termed the Baltic Sea Strategy. This macro-regional strategy has been developed to assist countries to jointly respond to the specific challenges of the region.

The strategy's three main objectives are to:

- Save the sea
- Connect the region
- Increase prosperity.

The Baltic Sea Region strategy is to serve as guidance and help in prioritising joint actions in the region. No funds have been earmarked especially to implement the strategy, but all the EU programmes in the region are to take it into account.

## Four ESIF

The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the main tools for achieving Europe 2020 and the Baltic Sea Strategy. These funds are to be used to stimulate sustainable growth and reduce economic and social disparities between regions in Europe.

The four ESIF in Sweden are:

- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- European Social Fund (ESF)
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

Each of these funds has its own specific orientation. The ERDF aims to enhance the competitiveness of the regions and develop the economy; the ESF aims to reinforce and build on national labour market policy; the EAFRD aims to provide support and payments to develop rural areas; and the EMFF provides support for the development of aquaculture and sustainable fishing.

All the funds are also to incorporate the horizontal principles: Gender equality, Accessibility for people with disabilities, Sustainable development, Equality of treatment, and Non-discrimination. These principles are important for achieving the objective of a sustainable and inclusive working life and are to guide the projects from start to finish.

## Partnership Agreements

How the money available in the ESIF is to be used in each Member State is described in the Partnership Agreement that the EC signs with each Member State. This Agreement specifies ten thematic objectives that the funds are to work towards: some of the objectives apply to only one of the funds and some are covered by several funds. The figure on the next page shows the connection between the funds and the thematic objectives.

## 27 EU programmes – SEK 67 billion

The support provided by the four ESIF is distributed via a number of programmes. In Sweden, the ERDF is financing 23 programmes, while the other three funds are financing one programme each. All in all, Sweden is participating in 27 EU programmes.

National co-financing of projects is required in all the programmes. This co-financing may be public or private, and is usually equal to the support from the EU. EU support and co-financing together are providing approximately SEK 67 billion to invest for smart and sustainable growth for everyone in Sweden.

The Interreg programmes' budget is not included in this SEK 67 billion (see page 28). The 14 programmes in which Sweden is participating have a total budget of almost SEK 19 billion, which is being invested in all participating countries.

## Which funds are working towards which objectives

European Regional Development Fund	European Social Fund	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund	Thematic Objective
●		●		Research, technological development and innovation
●		●		ICT (including broadband)
●		●	●	Competitiveness of SMEs
●		●		Transition to a low-carbon economy
		●		Climate change adaptation
		●	●	Protect the environment and promote the sustainable utilisation of resources
●				Sustainable transport
	●	●	●	Sustainable employment and labour mobility
	●	●		Social inclusion
	●	●		Education and lifelong learning

# European Social Fund

The European Social Fund (ESF) is EU's most important tool for creating more and better jobs in Europe. By investing in Europe's human capital – workers, young people and all those seeking a job – ESF is improving job prospects for millions of Europeans, in particular those who find it difficult to get work.

In the period 2014–2020, ESF will invest around SEK 6 billion in Sweden. This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Eight regions – eight plans

The programme is being implemented in eight geographical regions (see map). For each region, there is an action plan.

There is also an action plan at the national level.

## Three programme areas

In Sweden today, there are far too many people outside the labour market. In order to promote skills development and combat exclusion, ESF is focusing on three priority axis:

### **Skills development**

Priority axis 1 is focusing on better matching between education and the labour market. It can support projects that give men and women opportunities to develop their skills in pace with the demands of the labour market.

Skills development should contribute to employment, growth and a sustainable working life. The initiative covers competence development to satisfy the needs of the labour market for a better skilled labour force and measures to strengthen the link between education, training and the working life.

### **Improved transition to work**

ESF's second priority axis aim at making it easier for youth (15–24 years), long-term unemployed (more than 12 months), people with functional impairments, newly arrived migrants and long-term sick leavers to obtain employment or improve their chances of getting a job.



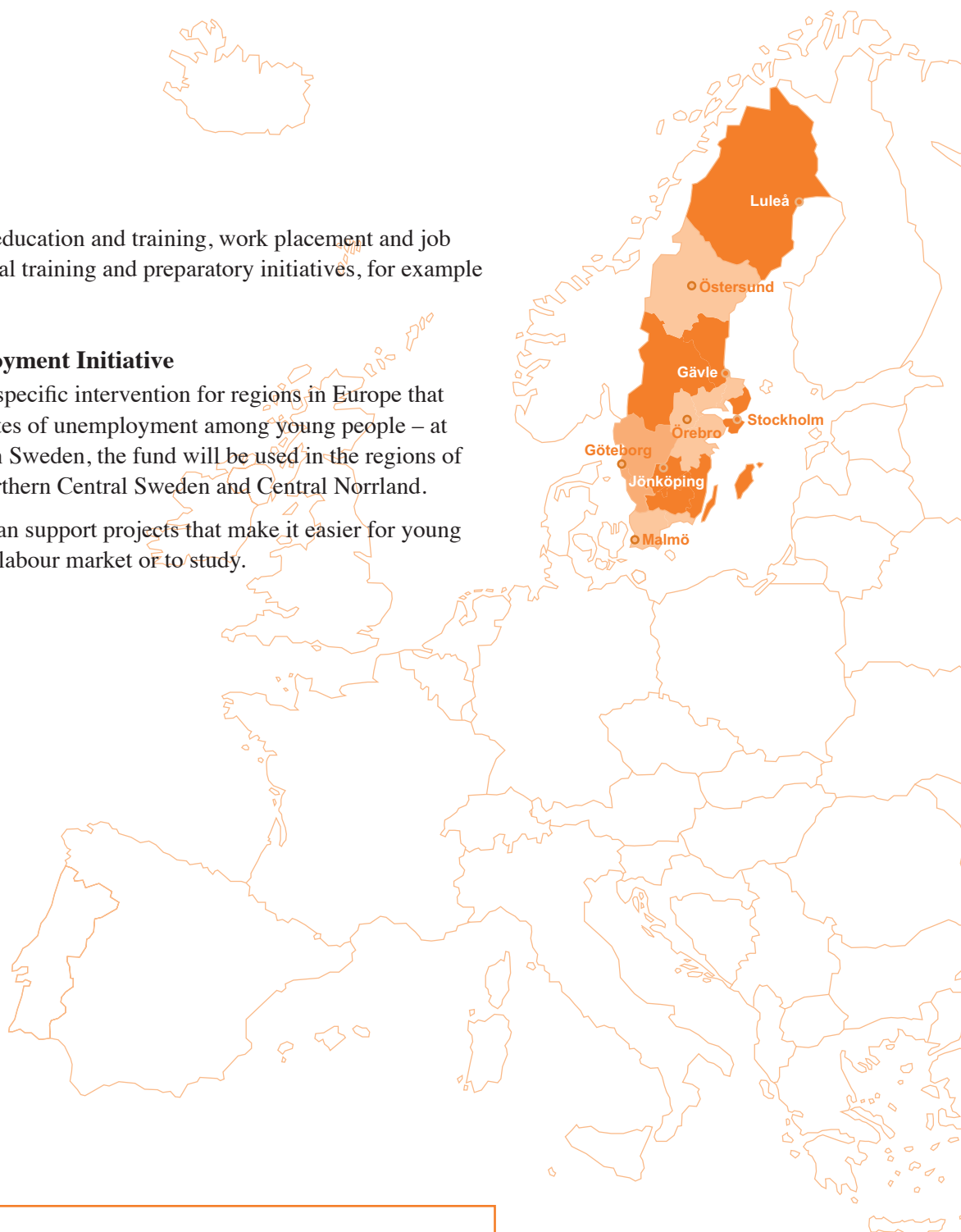


Examples include education and training, work placement and job matching, vocational training and preparatory initiatives, for example validation of skills.

### **The Youth Employment Initiative**

Priority axis 3 is a specific intervention for regions in Europe that have the highest rates of unemployment among young people – at least 25 per cent. In Sweden, the fund will be used in the regions of South Sweden, Northern Central Sweden and Central Norrland.

This priority axis can support projects that make it easier for young people to enter the labour market or to study.



### **Information and applications**

**[www.esf.se](http://www.esf.se), [esf@esf.se](mailto:esf@esf.se)**

Phone: +46(0)20-33 33 90

The Swedish ESF Council is the Managing Authority for the ESF in Sweden.

# European Regional Development Fund

The purpose of the ERDF is to strengthen economic and social cohesion within the EU by reducing regional disparities. The ERDF invests in growth and employment to strengthen regional development.

## Regional Structural Fund Programmes

The regional Structural Fund programmes are working towards the thematic objective of growth and jobs. They finance actions to develop the Swedish economy in the areas of innovation, entrepreneurship and the green economy. In Sweden, there are eight regional Structural Fund programmes and one national Structural Fund programme.

The eight regional programmes are based on the region's conditions and needs and are based on regional development strategies.

## National ERDF Operational Programme

The National ERDF Operational Programme, which is new for the 2014–2020 programming period, is to enable actions that are desirable but difficult to implement within the framework of the regional Structural Fund programmes.

## Interreg programmes

European Territorial Cooperation (Interreg) programmes also get their funds from the ERDF.

Interreg programmes aim to solve problems that cross administrative boundaries and require a joint solution. They are also intended to develop the potential of different geographical areas. The programmes are geared towards one of three main areas: cross-border, trans-national or interregional cooperation.

Sweden participates in 14 Interreg programmes.



# Upper-North Sweden

The Upper-North Sweden programme aims to contribute to regional growth and employment. The chosen priority axes are based on the needs and prevailing conditions in the programme area and are well in line with the regional strategies.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 1.7 billion in Upper-North Sweden.

This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Geographical areas concerned

The counties of Norrbotten and Västerbotten.

## Priority axes

### 1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation

#### *Specific objectives*

- Increase research and innovation collaboration between academia, industry, government agencies and civil society.
- Increase innovation activities in enterprises and promote the development of and access to innovation support systems and environments.

### 2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies

#### *Specific objectives*

- More enterprises have access to broadband of high quality and capacity.
- More digital services are developed to increase access to private and public services.
- The use of digital services developed to enhance digital participation.



### 3. Enhance the competitiveness of SMEs

#### *Specific objectives*

- More start-ups in Upper-North Sweden
- More growth enterprises in Upper-North Sweden
- More SMEs expanding onto new, international markets.

### 4. Support the transition to a low-carbon economy in all sectors

#### *Specific objectives*

- Increase energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy in Upper-North Sweden's SMEs.
- Increase energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy in the public sector and housing sector.

### 5. Promoting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructures

#### *Specific objectives*

- Increase the capacity of existing transport infrastructure for more efficient and sustainable transport for the benefit of the economy.
- New and developed multimodal transport links for a more sustainable and effective transition between various transport modes, for the benefit of the economy.

#### **Information and applications**

[www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se](http://www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se)

[ovrenorrland@tillvaxtverket.se](mailto:ovrenorrland@tillvaxtverket.se)

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the Managing Authority for the Upper-North Sweden programme.

# Mid-North Sweden

The overall objective of the programme is to increase employment in the region as well as the competitiveness of the region's enterprises through actions for economic renewal and by making the region more accessible and attractive. Examples of this are infrastructure projects, roads and railways, and the development of sustainable transport systems.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 1.24 billion in Mid-North Sweden.

This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Geographical areas concerned

The counties of Jämtland and Västernorrland.

## Priority axes

### 1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation

*Examples of specific objectives:*

- Increased investment in research and development in the programme area's enterprises.
- Increase the proportion of SMEs that develop innovative products and services.

### 2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies

*Examples of specific objectives:*

- A larger proportion of the programme area's enterprises are to have the opportunity to connect to high-speed networks (100 Mbit/s).
- Establish new and develop existing digital services to improve access to private and public services.



### 3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs

*Examples of specific objectives:*

- Advanced product and service development to promote growth SMEs.
- Increased proportion of enterprises cooperating in international markets.

### 4. Supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy in all sectors

*Examples of specific objectives:*

- Increase the overall energy efficiency of SMEs by 20 per cent by 2020, and increase the proportion of renewable energy.
- Increase energy efficiency in the public sector and housing sector by 20 per cent by 2020.

### 5. Promoting sustainable transport and improving network infrastructures.

*Examples of specific objectives:*

- The function of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) in the programme area has developed by 2020 compared with 2014 in terms of improved access and capacity.
- By 2020, all passengers use green modes of transport.

#### Information and applications

[www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se](http://www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se)

[mellerstanorrrland@tillvaxtverket.se](mailto:mellerstanorrrland@tillvaxtverket.se)

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the Managing Authority for the Mid-North Sweden programme.

# North Mid-Sweden

The programme is to contribute to investments in regional growth and employment in North Mid-Sweden. The chosen priority axes are based on the needs and prevailing conditions in North Mid-Sweden and are well in line with regional growth strategies.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 1.18 billion in North Mid-Sweden.

This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Geographical areas concerned

The counties of Gävleborg, Värmland and Dalarna.

## Priority axes

### 1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation

*Specific objective:*

- Increase the number of innovative SMEs.

### 2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies

*Specific objectives*

- Increase the number of SMEs with access to high-capacity broadband.
- Increased the number of SMEs cooperating with the public sector in the development of ICT applications.

### 3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs

*Specific objectives*

- Increase the number of new enterprises with growth potential
- Increased growth in the region's SMEs.

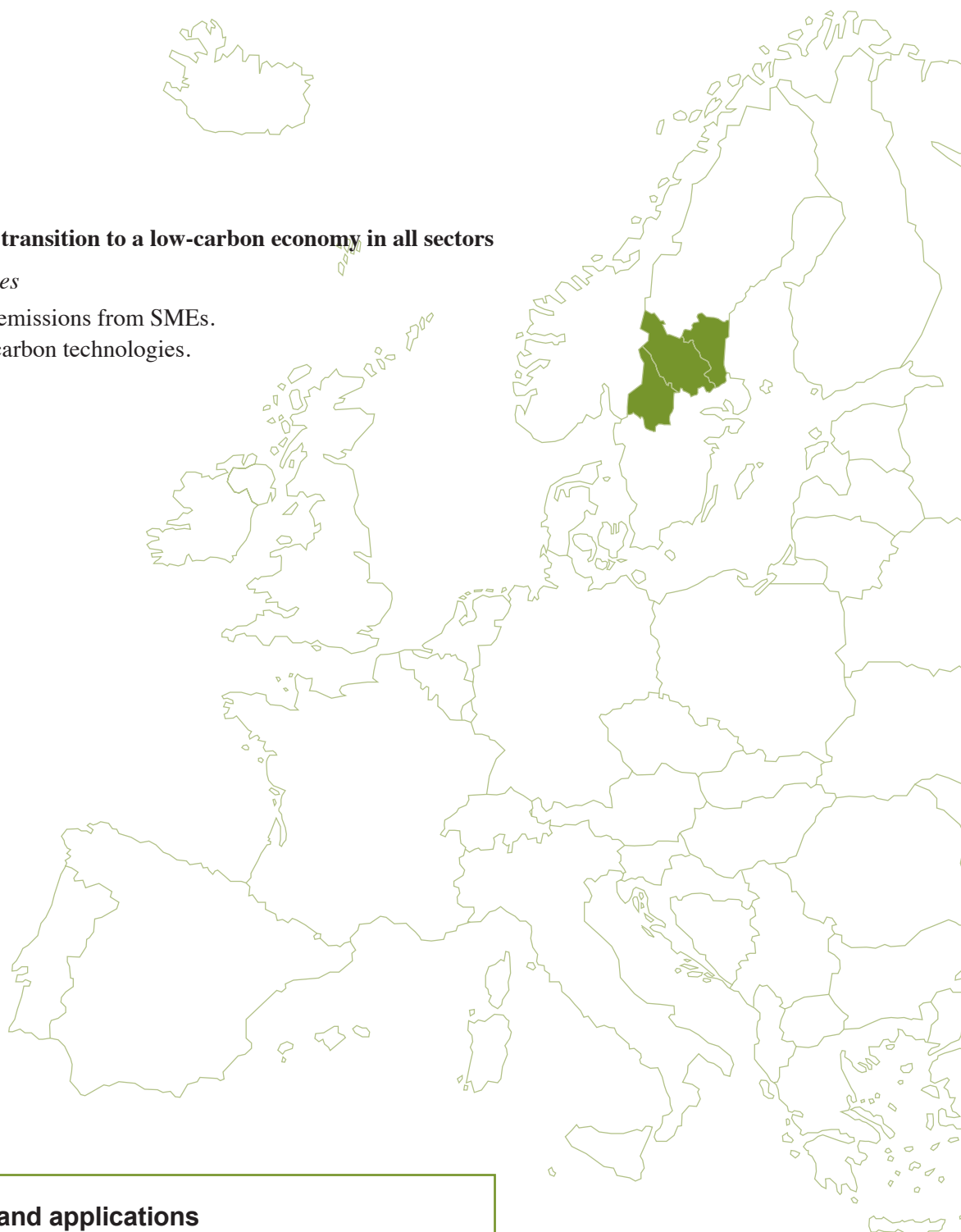




#### 4. Supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy in all sectors

##### *Specific objectives*

- Reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from SMEs.  
Improve low-carbon technologies.



#### **Information and applications**

[www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se](http://www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se)

[norramellansverige@tillvaxtverket.se](mailto:norramellansverige@tillvaxtverket.se)

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the Managing Authority for the North Mid-Sweden programme.

# East Mid-Sweden

The overall objective of the East Mid-Sweden programme is to contribute to regional growth and employment. The development strategies in the region's five counties are the basis for the selected priority axes. East Mid-Sweden aims to offer a beneficial environment for entrepreneurship, economic development and innovation.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 564 million in East Mid-Sweden.

This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Geographical areas concerned

The counties of Örebro, Västmanland, Uppsala, Södermanland and Östergötland.

## Priority axes

### **1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation**

#### *Specific objectives*

- Strengthened cooperation to increase the capacity for innovation among SMEs in all parts of the region.
- Increased innovation activities for SMEs ambitious to grow and improved conditions for the commercialisation of innovations in the local economy.

### **2. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs**

#### *Specific objectives*

- Increased growth in the region's SMEs.
- More growth companies active in the international marketplace.



### 3. Supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy in all sectors

#### *Specific objectives*

- Reduced climate impact through SMEs reducing their use of fossil fuel based energy sources while making them more energy-efficient.
- Reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and increased energy efficiency in the housing, transport and public sectors.



#### **Information and applications**

[www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se](http://www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se)

[ostramellansverige@tillvaxtverket.se](mailto:ostramellansverige@tillvaxtverket.se)

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the Managing Authority for the East Mid-Sweden programme.

# Stockholm

The Stockholm programme aims to contribute to investments in regional growth and employment. The chosen priority axes are based on the needs and prevailing conditions in the County of Stockholm and are well in line with regional growth strategies.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 298 million in the County of Stockholm.

This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Geographical area concerned

County of Stockholm.

## Priority axis

The programme consists of one priority axis, **Specific challenges of capital city regions**. Under this overarching priority axis, the operational programme has three investment priorities:

### 1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation

*Specific objective:*

- More growing, innovative enterprises through increased cooperation in the fields of research and innovation.

### 2. Support the capacity of SMEs to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes

*Specific objective:*

- More growing, innovative enterprises achieved through supporting the capacity of SMEs to reach new markets.

### 3. Promote research and innovation in and the adoption of low-carbon technologies

*Specific objective:*

- Enhanced conditions for developing and applying low-carbon solutions through more growing, innovative enterprises.



### **Information and applications**

**[www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se](http://www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se)**

**[stockholm@tillvaxtverket.se](mailto:stockholm@tillvaxtverket.se)**

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is  
the Managing Authority for the Stockholm programme.

# West Sweden

The West Sweden programme aims to boost the economy and increase the competitiveness of and employment in SMEs. In addition, the programme is to contribute to a low-carbon economy and promote sustainable urban development. This is to be achieved through the programme providing support to innovative projects working closely with SMEs. Projects are to build bridges and partnerships for the exchange of ideas and knowledge, with the ultimate goal of stimulating regional development and growth.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 450 million in West Sweden.

This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Geographical areas concerned

The counties of Västra Götaland and Halland.

## Priority axes

### 1. Cooperation in research and innovation

*Specific objectives:*

- Strengthening cooperation in research and innovation in the regional areas of strength.

### 2. Competitive SMEs

*Specific objectives:*

- More new, innovative companies
- More innovative growth companies

### 3. Innovation for a low-carbon economy

*Specific objectives:*

- Strengthened cooperation in research and innovation in the regional areas of strength which will contribute to a low-carbon economy.
- Enhanced capacity to develop and commercialise new products, services and solutions that contribute to a low-carbon economy.



### **Information and applications**

**[www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se](http://www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se)**

**[vastsverige@tillvaxtverket.se](mailto:vastsverige@tillvaxtverket.se)**

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is  
the Managing Authority for the West Sweden programme.

# Småland and the Islands

The overall objective of the Småland and the Islands programme is to contribute to regional growth. The chosen priority axes are based on the needs and prevailing conditions in the region and are well in line with regional growth strategies.

The majority of the funds in the programme are to be used for investments in economic renewal that will develop the economy.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 532 million in Småland and the Islands.

This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Geographical areas concerned

The counties of Jönköping, Kronoberg, Kalmar and Gotland.

## Priority axes

### 1. Strengthen research, technological development and innovation

*Specific objective:*

- Improved conditions for the development of SMEs' innovation processes.

### 2. Enhance access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies

*Specific objectives*

- More effective coordination of increased access to broadband throughout the region.
- Develop more digital services to improve access to private and public services.
- Increased proportion of private individuals using IT services, stimulating the development of services in the local economy.

### 3. Enhance the competitiveness of SMEs

*Specific objective:*

- Increased growth in existing SMEs.





#### 4. Support the transition to a low-carbon economy in all sectors

*Specific objective:*

- Stimulate energy-efficient transport and increased use of renewable energy in the transport sector.



#### Information and applications

[www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se](http://www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se)

[smalandchoarna@tillvaxtverket.se](mailto:smalandchoarna@tillvaxtverket.se)

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the Managing Authority for the Småland and the Islands programme.

# Skåne-Blekinge

The overall objective of the Skåne-Blekinge programme is to contribute to regional growth and employment. The chosen priority axes are based on the needs and prevailing conditions in the Skåne-Blekinge and are well in line with regional growth strategies.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 500 million in Skåne-Blekinge.

This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Geographical areas concerned

The counties of Skåne and Blekinge.

## Priority axes

### 1. Smart growth – innovation

#### *Specific objectives*

- Increased cooperation for sustainable, efficient innovation infrastructure that delivers results.
- Increased capacity for innovation in the region, focused on the region's strategic areas of strength.

### 2. Smart growth – SMEs

#### *Specific objectives*

- Strengthened entrepreneurship and enterprise.
- More new enterprises with growth potential
- Increased growth in existing SMEs.

### 3. Sustainable growth – low-carbon economy

#### *Specific objectives*

- Reduced climate impact through SMEs increasing their use of renewable energy sources while becoming more energy-efficient.
- Reduced climate impact through the public and housing sectors increasing their use of renewable energy sources while becoming more energy-efficient.



#### 4. Inclusive growth – Broadband

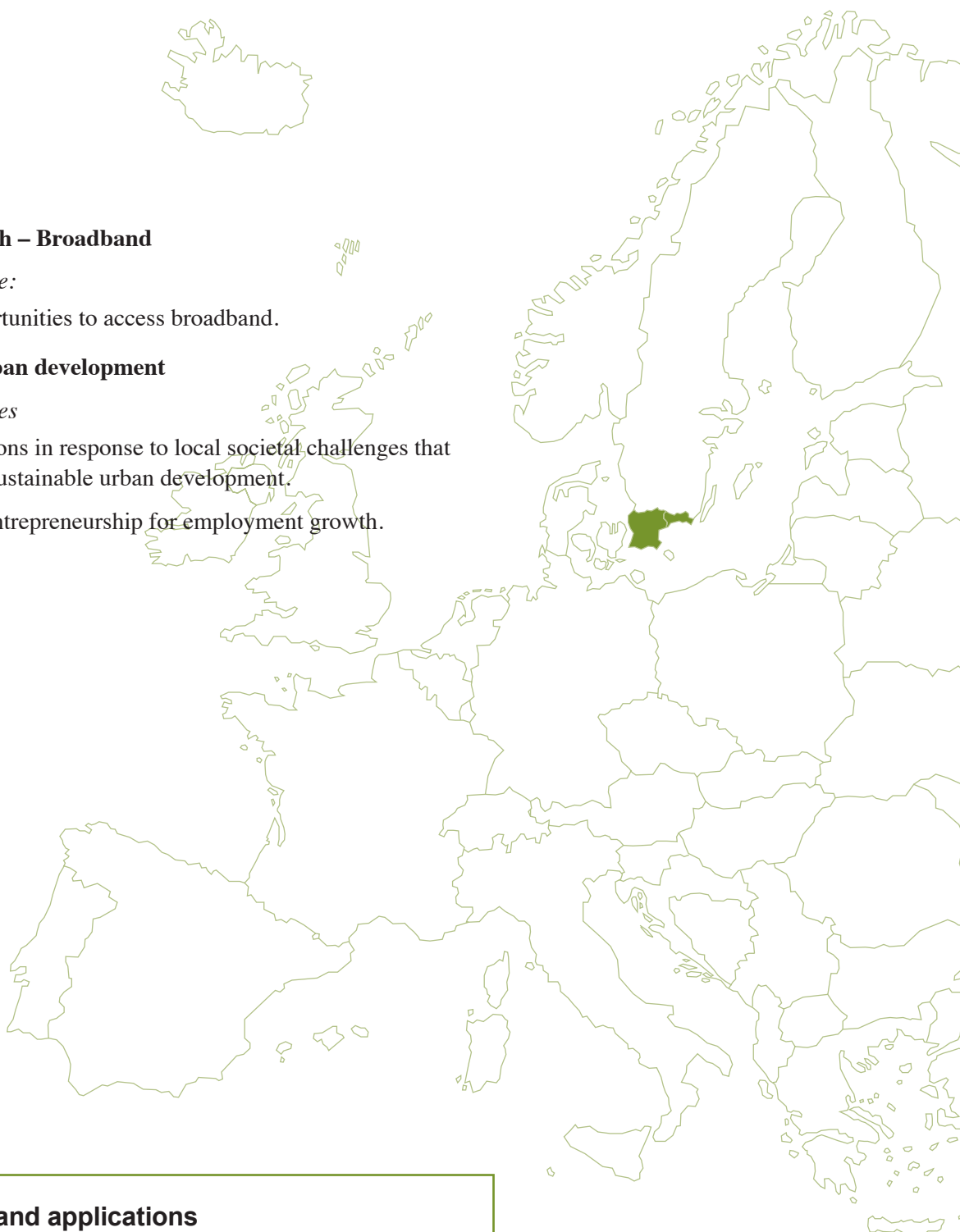
*Specific objective:*

- Improve opportunities to access broadband.

#### 5. Sustainable urban development

*Specific objectives*

- More innovations in response to local societal challenges that contribute to sustainable urban development.
- Strong local entrepreneurship for employment growth.



#### Information and applications

[www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se](http://www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se)

[skaneblekinge@tillvaxtverket.se](mailto:skaneblekinge@tillvaxtverket.se)

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the Managing Authority for the Skåne-Blekinge programme.

# National ERDF Operational Programme

The National ERDF Operational Programme is to add value to regional growth activities by supplementing the actions being carried out in the eight regional Structural Fund programmes. The programme aims to identify and enable synergies between regional, national and European policy.

During the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will invest just over SEK 1 billion in Sweden's National ERDF Operational Programme.

This will be matched by equal national co-financing, which may come from both public and private sources.

## Priority axes

### **1. Strengthen research, technological development and innovation**

This part of the programme consists of two parts: One aims to establish a research infrastructure that will attract international researchers, businesses and government agencies. Principally, the construction of the European Spallation Source (ESS) in Lund will be supported.

The second part aims to stimulate regional, transnational and sectorial cross-border cooperation by reinforcing interventions that are national and regional priorities.

### **2. Enhance the competitiveness of SMEs**

This part of the programme aims to increase dynamism and diversity in the private venture capital market in the early stages of an enterprise's development and to increase the number of new funds managers.

### **3. Support the transition to a low-carbon economy in all sectors**

This part of the programme aims to stimulate SMEs to make their activities energy-efficient. This priority axis will be implemented primarily in the form of a coordinated national intervention.

This priority axis also aims to increase the offering of venture capital to SMEs whose activities are contributing to the transition to a low-carbon economy.



### **Information and applications**

**[www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se](http://www.eu.tillvaxtverket.se)**

**[nationella.regionalfondsprogrammet@tillvaxtverket.se](mailto:nationella.regionalfondsprogrammet@tillvaxtverket.se)**

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the Managing Authority for the National ERDF Operational Programme.

# European Territorial Cooperation (Interreg)

The Interreg programmes are about developing cross-border cooperation between countries. The aim is to encourage cities and regions from different Member States to work together and learn from each other through joint programmes, projects and networks. Interreg programmes are financed by the ERDF.

Sweden participates in 14 of the Interreg programmes. In total, these 14 programmes have a budget of approximately SEK 19 billion, of which the ERDF accounts for just over SEK 12 billion.

The focus for the 2014–2020 programming period is research and innovation, sustainable transport, to create a cross-border labour market, and to promote the development of green energy sources. The aim is to learn together, find common solutions to common problems, and span barriers between countries in order to generate sustainable growth and development.

## Interregional cooperation programmes

Regions that are physically adjacent to each other cooperate in interregional cooperation programmes. In other words, these are cooperation programmes that involve Sweden's closest neighbours. The aim of these programmes is regional expansion, thereby improving conditions for growth and employment.

## Transnational cooperation programmes

Transnational programmes entail cooperation between larger neighbouring regions. These programmes sometimes include whole countries and sometimes only parts of countries.

## Interregional cooperation programmes/networks

Interregional cooperation programmes are operating throughout the EU. The regions or countries that receive support from the interregional cooperation programmes need not border each other. The emphasis of the cooperation is on the exchange of experience and networking among regional and local stakeholders. In addition, there are cooperation programmes that focus on research and analysis.



# Interreg Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak

Interreg Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak funds projects between Danes, Swedes and Norwegians aimed at solving common challenges in the green economy, transport, employment and innovation.

The area around Öresund, the Kattegat and Skagerrak has more than nine million inhabitants, fifteen regions, two capital cities and over thirty universities and higher education institutions. The common culture and history of Sweden, Denmark and Norway, and that their languages are very similar, provide a good basis for working together across their borders to find common solutions to common challenges.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing SEK 1.1 billion in the programme area. The Norwegian government has earmarked EUR 15.8 million for project partners in Norway.

The programme can finance 50 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish organisations.

## Geography

Denmark: The Capital Region of Denmark, and the Zealand, Central Jutland and North Jutland regions.

Sweden: The counties of Skåne, Halland and Västra Götaland.

Norway: The Municipality of Oslo and seven counties: Østfold, Akershus, Vestfold, Buskerud, Telemark, Aust-Agder, and Vest-Agder.

## Priority axes

### **Innovation**

Funding projects aimed at increasing research and innovation. The projects may entail everything from products and processes to marketing and organisational development in the area.

*Specific objectives:*

- Increase the number of researchers which are active interregionally/internationally, are collaborating with industry and working in the Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak region's areas of strength.
- Increase applied research and innovation-oriented activity within the Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak region.





## Green economy

Funding projects creating new and innovative solutions that reduce the region's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and build green.

### *Specific objectives:*

- Increased number of partnerships for the development of new technologies, and new instruments and methods to encourage increased production of renewable energy.
- Renewable energy use as a greater proportion of total energy use.
- Reduced energy consumption in public services.

## Transport

Funding projects aimed at developing sustainable transport systems and planning of communications for greener transport networks.

### *Specific objectives:*

- Improve access to and through the Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak region
- Reduce transport time with green forms of transport for people and goods to the nearest hub in the TEN-T.
- Increase the green transport operations in selected corridors, including in the core TEN-T and in and around urban areas.

## Employment

Funding projects working for a better balance between skilled labour and the labour market and that create greater cross-border mobility.

### *Specific objectives:*

- Stimulate increased employment in self-employed enterprises, micro-enterprises and start-ups.
- Increase the number of cross-border commuters.

## Information and applications

[www.interreg-oks.eu](http://www.interreg-oks.eu), [oks@interreg-oks.eu](mailto:oks@interreg-oks.eu)

Phone: +46(0)8-681 91 00

The joint programme secretariat has offices in Gothenburg, Copenhagen and Malmö.

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the Managing Authority for the programme.

# Interreg Sweden-Norway

Interreg Sweden-Norway is an interregional cooperation programmes. The programme's aim is an economically strong region with an attractive living environment.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 396 million for regional development in the programme area. Public and private co-financing from Sweden and Norway is additional to this.

The programme can finance 50 per cent of the costs of projects.

## Geography

### **Nordic region's Green Belt**

The counties of Jämtland and Västernorrland in Sweden, and Nord-Trøndelags and Sør-Trøndelags in Norway.

### **Inner Scandinavia**

The counties of Värmland and Dalarna in Sweden. In Norway, Hedmark County, parts of Östfold County and parts of the Akershus County are included.

### **Boundless Cooperation**

The Fyrbodal area in Västra Götaland County in Sweden. In Norway, parts of Östfold County and parts of the Akershus County are included.

## Priority axes

### **Innovative environments**

Funding projects that enhance the R&D and innovation capacities of organisations and enterprises.

### **Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)**

Funding projects that enhance the competitiveness of SMEs in the region as well as projects to increase the rate of SME establishment in the programme area.



### **Natural and cultural heritage**

Funding projects that increase access to the border region's natural and cultural heritage while maintaining conservation status.

### **Sustainable transport**

Funding projects aiming to increase travel by cross-border public transport and to increase cross-border mobility with an emphasis on low-carbon transport systems.

### **Employment**

Funding projects to increase cross-border mobility in the labour market.

### **Information and applications**

**[www.interreg-sverige-norge.com](http://www.interreg-sverige-norge.com)**

Secretariat in Sweden: Jämtland County Administrative Board

Phone: +46 10 225 30 00

The Jämtland County Administrative Board is the Managing Authority for the programme.

# Interreg Botnia-Atlantica

Botnia-Atlantica is an interregional cooperation programme between Sweden, Norway and Finland. Its objective is to strengthen the East-West dimension and in the long term to facilitate greater integration and cooperation in the region to achieve stronger growth and sustainable development.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 305 million for regional competitiveness and increased employment in the programme area. Co-financing from the three participating countries is additional to this.

The programme can finance 60 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish organisations.

## Geography

The counties of Västerbotten and Västernorrland and Nordanstig Municipality in Sweden. Central Ostrobothnia, Ostrobothnia and Southern Ostrobothnia in Finland. Nordland County in Norway.

## Priority axes

The programme can provide funding for projects that assist in building innovation capacity or a stronger local economy as well as projects that develop natural and cultural heritage, enhance preparedness for managing environmental challenges, or facilitate the improvement of the East-West communications.



### **Information and applications**

**[www.botnia-atlantica.eu](http://www.botnia-atlantica.eu)**

The Programme Secretariat is at the Västerbotten County Administrative Board.

[info@botnia-atlantica.eu](mailto:info@botnia-atlantica.eu)

The Västerbotten County Administrative Board is the Managing Authority for the programme.

# Interreg North

North is an interregional cooperation programme between the northern parts of Sweden, Norway and Finland. The overall objective of the programme is to enhance the competitiveness and attractiveness of the programme area.

The programme is divided into two geographical sub-areas: North and Sápmi. The Sami component is now integrated into the North programme.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 352 million in the programme area. Co-financing from the three participating countries is additional to this.

The programme can finance 65 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish organisations.

## Geography

North Norrbotten County, and the municipalities of Norsjö, Malå, Skellefteå and Sorsele in Västerbotten County in Sweden. Lapland, Northern Ostrobothnia and Central Ostrobothnia in Finland. The Norwegian counties of Nordland, Troms and Finnmark.

Sápmi: This sub-area of the programme includes the above geographical areas and also: The counties of Västerbotten, Jämtland and Väster-norrland as well as the Idre Sameby area in Sweden. The counties of Nord-Trøndelag and Sør-Trøndelag and the Elgå Reinbete district in Norway.

## Priority axes

The programme has four priority axes that are common to both the sub-area North and sub-area Sápmi. There are also specific objectives within each priority axis and some of these are unique to Sápmi.

- **Research and innovation**

Funding projects that stimulate new cross-border innovations as well as strengthen SMEs' opportunities to benefit from and cooperate with cross-border research and innovation environments in the region.



- **Entrepreneurship**

Funding projects for more cross-border economic partnerships in order to assure the utilisation and development of enterprises' knowledge and resources. The region's SMEs are important for the commercialisation of new knowledge and technologies and for the region's exports.

- **Culture and the environment**

Funding projects that optimise the area's resources, potentially generating added value such that more people have the opportunity to share in the region's rich culture and cultural heritage; work jointly to increase the use of the Sami language; preserve and restore the region's natural areas; and develop common solutions for green growth and resource efficiency.

- **Common labour market**

Funding projects that can increase access to knowledge and skills that stimulate employment and cross-border labour mobility.

### Information and applications

[www.interregnord.com](http://www.interregnord.com)

The Programme Secretariat is at the Norrbotten County Administrative Board.

Phone: +46(0)10-225 50 00

The Norrbotten County Administrative Board is the Managing Authority for the programme.

### Kolarctic ENPI CBC

Kolarctic is an interregional cooperation programme between the Kola Peninsula and Russia. It has the same geography as the North programme.

The programme is financed by the ERDF and the European Neighbourhood Programmes. [www.kolarcticenpi.info](http://www.kolarcticenpi.info)

# Interreg Central Baltic

This programme is an interregional cooperation programme between Sweden, Estonia, Finland including the Åland Islands, and Latvia.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 1 billion in the programme area. Co-financing from the four participating countries is additional to this.

The programme can finance 75 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish organisations.

## Geography

The programme consists of three sub-programmes: Central Baltic, Southern Finland–Estonia, and Archipelago and Islands. Central Baltic covers the whole programme area while the other two cover only parts of the programme area.

*The whole programme area consists of:*

Sweden: The counties of Gotland, Gävleborg, Stockholm, Södermanland, Västmanland, Uppsala, Örebro and Östergötland.

Estonia: Kesk-Eesti, Kirde-Eesti, Lääne-Eesti, Lõuna-Eesti and Põhja-Eesti.

Finland: Birkaland, Southwest Finland, Tavastia Proper, Kymmenedalen, Nyland, Päijänne-Tavastland, Satakunta, South Karelia and Åland.

Latvia: Kurzeme, Pieriga, Riga, Vidzeme and Zemgale.

## Priority axes

The programme has four priority axes which are common to all the sub-programmes.

### **Enhancing the competitiveness of the economy**

Funding actions to create more knowledge-intensive enterprises and to support SMEs' exports to new markets. Projects encouraging young people to become more entrepreneurial may also receive funding.





### **Sustainable use of common resources**

Funding actions aiming to improve the health of the Baltic Sea or developing the region's natural and cultural heritage through sustainable tourist attractions. Projects focusing on planning of marine, integrated coastal zone and urban areas may also receive funding.

### **Well-connected region**

Funding actions aiming to plan integrated, green, multi-modal transport systems, as well as projects that develop existing small ports in order to improve regional accessibility and facilitate the development of tourism.

### **Enhanced skills and social inclusion**

Funding actions to improve social inclusion and prevent social exclusion. Projects to develop the region's vocational training and create connections with the needs of the labour market may also receive funding.

### **Information and applications**

**[www.centralbaltic.eu](http://www.centralbaltic.eu)**

Sweden's contacts are located at the Stockholm County Administrative Board and Region Östergötland

The Programme Secretariat is in Turku, Finland.

Phone: +358 40 550 8408

The Regional Council of Southwest Finland in Turku is the Managing Authority for the programme.

# Interreg South Baltic

This programme is an interregional cooperation programme between Sweden, Poland, Germany, Denmark and Lithuania. Its overall vision is to enhance joint sustainable development in the South Baltic Sea region by developing the region's potential for blue and green growth. This will be achieved through increased cross-border cooperation between local and regional stakeholders, pilot projects and small-scale investments.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 696 million for increased growth and employment in the programme area. Co-financing from the five participating countries is additional to this.

The programme can finance 75 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish organisations.

## Geography

Sweden: The counties of Kalmar, Blekinge, Skåne and Kronoberg.

Poland: Sub-regions in Miasto Szczecin, Szczeciński, Stargardzki, Koszaliński, Słupski, Starogardzki, Gdański, Trójmiejski and Elbląski.

Germany: Districts (Landkreise) in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania: North West Mecklenburg, Rostock, Vorpommern Rügen and Vorpommern Greifswald. (Kreisfreie Stadt) Rostock.

Denmark: Region Bornholm. Region Zealand (sub-regions: East Zealand, West Zealand and South Zealand).

Lithuania: The counties of Klaipėdos, Telsiai and Tauragės.

## Priority axes

- Strengthen the competitiveness of SMEs through increased international activity and enhanced innovation capacity.
- Sustainable use of common resources such as water and natural and cultural environments, and increased use of green technologies that reduces emissions and increase resource efficiency in waste management.



- Sustainable mobility increased by investing in green transport services of high quality.
- Increase professional skills and proportion of people employed in blue and green industries.
- Increase capacity for joint action through greater local participation in transnational networks.

### Information and applications

**[www.southbaltic.eu](http://www.southbaltic.eu)**

Contact nodes in Sweden:

Regional federation in Kalmar County, [www.rfkl.se](http://www.rfkl.se)

Region Blekinge, [www.regionblekinge.se](http://www.regionblekinge.se)

Region Skåne, [www.skane.se](http://www.skane.se)

Region Kronoberg, [www.regionkronoberg.se](http://www.regionkronoberg.se)

Poland's Ministry for Infrastructure and Development in Warsaw is the Managing Authority for the programme.

# Interreg Baltic Sea Region

The Baltic Sea programme is a trans-national programme involving cooperation between eleven countries. Its overall objective is to enhance territorial development and cooperation in order to create a more innovative, accessible and sustainable Baltic Sea Region.

The programme has assets of in total SEK 2.2 billion from the ERDF and the EU Neighbourhood Programme. Norway has also contributed funding, and each project also requires co-financing from its country.

The programme can finance 75 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish organisations.

## Geography

Within the EU: Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and parts of Northern Germany.

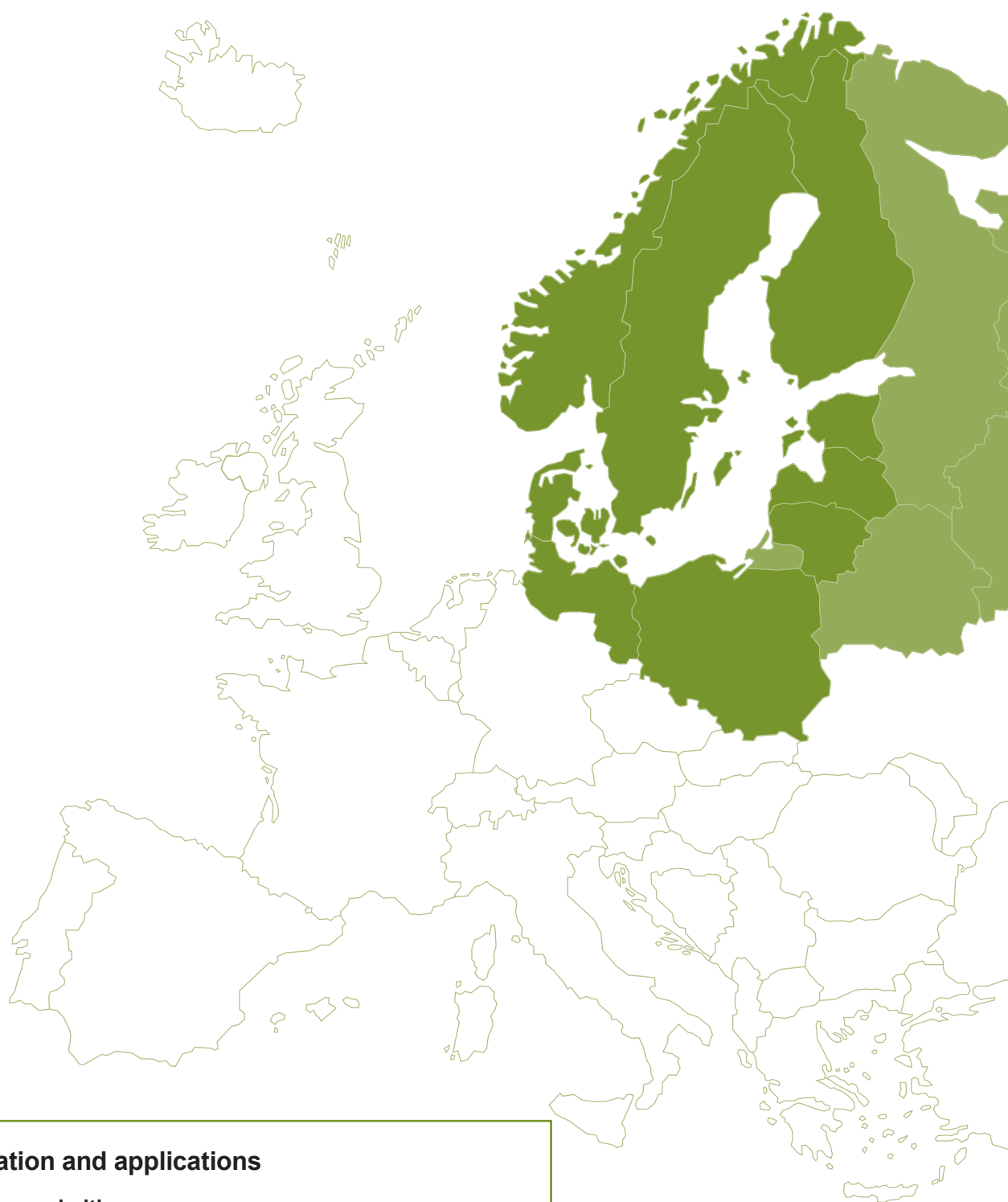
Outside the EU: Norway

In autumn 2015, it remains unclear whether North-West Russia and Belarus will participate.

## Priority axes

The programme focuses on four thematic objectives:

- Research, innovation, and technological development
- Protect the environment, promote the sustainable utilisation of resources
- Promote sustainable transport
- Improve institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration



### **Information and applications**

**[www.interreg-baltic.eu](http://www.interreg-baltic.eu)**

The Programme Secretariat is located in Rostock, Germany.

Phone: +49 381 4548 43281

[info@interreg-baltic.eu](mailto:info@interreg-baltic.eu)

Sweden's contact is located in the Swedish Agency for  
Economic and Regional Growth.

# Northern Periphery and Arctic

The Northern Periphery and Arctic programme is a cooperation between Sweden, Finland, Ireland, the UK, the Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland and Norway. It aims to enhance the region's chances of becoming a first-class region in which to live, study and work, as well as to visit and invest in. Actions are to generate competitive and sustainable communities through innovation, entrepreneurship and capturing unique opportunities for growth in the region.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 421 million in the programme area. Co-financing from the eight partner countries is additional to this.

The programme can finance between 50 and 65 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish organisations.

## Geography

Sweden: The counties of Västernorrland, Jämtland, Västerbotten and Norrbotten.

Finland: Eastern Finland, Northern Finland and Central Finland.

Ireland: Donegal, Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Sligo, Clare, Cork, Kerry and Limerick.

Northern Ireland except the Belfast area.

Scotland: Highlands & Islands, Dumfries & Galloway and North-East Moray.

Norway: Finnmark, Troms, Nordland, Nord-Trøndelag and Sør-Trøndelag, Møre and Romsdal, Sogn and Fjordane, Hordaland, Rogaland, and Svalbard.

The Faroe Islands, Iceland and Greenland.



## Priority axes

The programme focuses on four thematic objectives:

- Innovation to preserve and develop robust and competitive communities
- Promote entrepreneurship in order to best utilise the area's competitive advantages
- Create communities self-sufficient in energy through the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- Protect, promote and develop natural and cultural heritage.

Sparsely populated areas are a horizontal priority in all priority axes.



### Information and applications

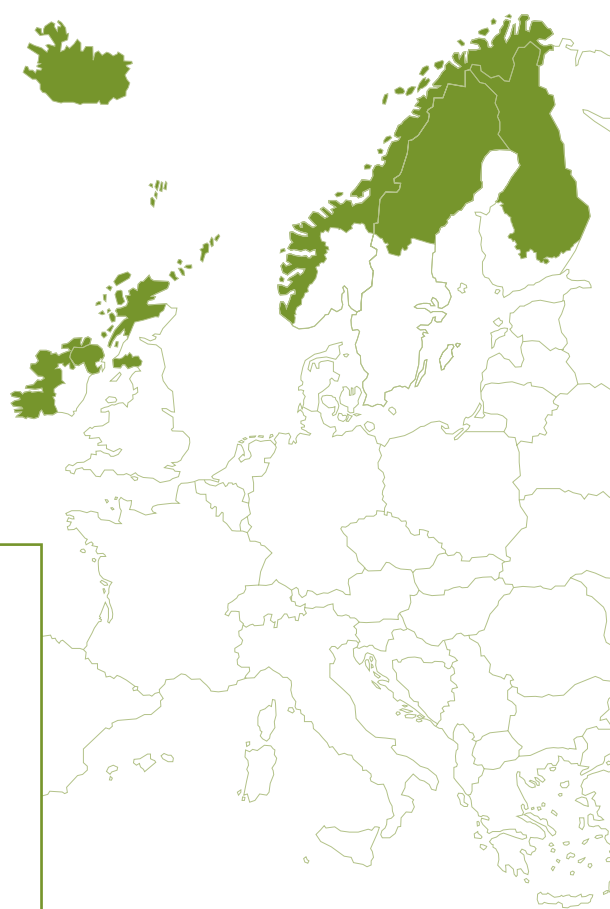
**[www.interreg-npa.eu](http://www.interreg-npa.eu)**

Sweden's contact is located at Region Västerbotten  
The Programme Secretariat is located in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Phone: +45 3283 3784

[secretariat@northernperiphery.eu](mailto:secretariat@northernperiphery.eu)

The Managing Authority is the Västerbotten County Administrative Board.



# Interreg North Sea Region

This programme is one of the trans-national programmes involving a total of seven countries and five regions. It aims to make the North Sea Region a better place to live, work and invest in.

Ever since the North Sea programme began, it has had a focus on improving accessibility, sustainable transport and environmental progress.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 1.4 billion in the programme area. Co-financing from the seven partner countries is additional to this.

The programme can finance 50 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish organisations.

## Geography

Regions in the following seven countries are included in the programme: United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium

In Sweden, the counties of Värmland, Västra Götaland, Halland, Skåne and Kronoberg.

## Priority axes

The programme focuses on four thematic objectives:

- Research, innovation, and technological development
- Support the transition to a low-carbon, green economy
- Promote climate change adaptation
- Promote sustainable transport





### **Information and applications**

**[www.northsearegion.eu](http://www.northsearegion.eu)**

Sweden's contact is located in Västra Götaland County  
The Programme Secretariat is located in Vyborg, Denmark.

Phone: +45 872 880 70

[info@northsearegion.eu](mailto:info@northsearegion.eu)

# Interreg Europe

This programme is one of the interregional programmes covering the whole of the EU plus Norway and Switzerland. The regions or countries that receive support from the programme need not border each other.

The emphasis is on supporting an exchange of experience between public operators in particular in order to improve efforts aimed at promoting regional development in Europe.

The programme also includes the transfer of best practice to the operational programmes within the goal Investment for Growth and Jobs 2014–2020, but also, where relevant, to programmes under the goal European Territorial Cooperation.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 3 billion in the programme.

The programme can finance 85 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish public sector organisations. Private participation will be funded 75 per cent.

## Geography

All Member States /Regions within the European Union are covered.

This means that 28 Member States are participating in the programme. In addition, Norway and Switzerland.

## Priority axes

The programme funds two types of action:

### *Interregional cooperation projects*

Partnership comprised of public sector parties/regions from different countries in Europe working together for three to five years to exchange experience on a specific issue. Each region participating in a cooperation project is required to produce an action plan specifying what needs to be done so that experience gained from the cooperation is translated into action.



### *Policy Learning Platforms*

The programme will support all regions in Europe through the establishment of Policy Learning Platforms that cover the four thematic objectives in the programme:

- Strengthened research, technological development and innovation
- Enhanced competitiveness of SMEs.
- Support the transition to a low-carbon economy in all sectors
- Protect the environment and support resource efficiency



### **Information and applications**

**[www.interreg4c.eu/interreg-europe](http://www.interreg4c.eu/interreg-europe)**

The Programme Secretariat is located in Lille, France.

Phone: +33 328 144 107

[info@interregeurope.eu](mailto:info@interregeurope.eu)

# URBACT III

This programme is one of the interregional programmes covering the whole of the EU plus Norway and Switzerland. URBACT III is a programme for exchange and learning to promote sustainable urban development.

The emphasis of the cooperation is on the exchange of experience and networking among regional and local stakeholders.

In the period 2014–2020, the ERDF will be investing around SEK 623 million in the programme. Co-financing from the participating countries is additional.

The programme can finance 70 per cent of the costs of projects for Swedish organisations.

## Geography

All Member States /Regions within the European Union are covered. This means that 28 Member States are participating in the programme. In addition, Norway and Switzerland.

## Priority axes

The resources will be invested in improving institutional capacity and facilitating effective public administration in cities by disseminating best practice and expertise, as well as supporting an exchange of experience concerning sustainable urban development, including connections between urban and rural areas.

### Information and applications

**[www.urbact.eu](http://www.urbact.eu)**

The Programme Secretariat is located in Paris, France.

Phone: +33 1 85 58 61 87

E-mail: see website for contact form.



# ESPON 2020

ESPON is a research and networking programmes on regional development and spatial planning and is mainly about joint regional analyses for the whole of the Union.

The programme can also fund research collaborations through networks. It has assets totalling SEK 347 million in EU funding and covers all regions/countries within the Union. Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein are also participating.

## Database

The programme utilises a database containing projects and actions with territorial indicators as well as tools for territorial analyses, typography is, modelling and updating of statistics.

### Information and applications

**[www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu)**

Sweden's contact is located in the Swedish National Board of Building, Planning and Housing. Phone: +46(0)455-35 30 00

The Programme Secretariat is located in Luxembourg. [info@espon.eu](mailto:info@espon.eu)

# INTERACT III

This programme aims to support the exchange of experience between the competent authorities and organisations involved in the implementation of the territorial cooperation programme.

No project funding can be applied for in this programme. Only organisations involved in the implementation of territorial cooperation programs can receive funding from INTERACT.

**[www.interact-eu.net](http://www.interact-eu.net)**

# European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and Rural Development Programme

The Rural Development Programme consists of support and benefits aimed at developing rural areas. The environment, sustainable development and innovation are also priorities.

The Rural Development Programme aims to generate:

- Profitable and viable enterprises
- Active farmers who gives us open landscapes with grazing animals
- An attractive rural environment.

The Rural Development Programme includes support for enterprises, project support, environmental investments, agri-environmental payments, compensation for organic production, compensatory support, animal welfare benefits, and Community-led local development (see page 56). The support and payments are jointly financed by the EU and Sweden. The Rural Development Programme will be investing SEK 36 billion in the period 2014–2020. This sum includes Swedish co-financing.

## Working towards clear objectives

The Rural Development Programme 2014–2020 aims to have an even clearer focus than previously on working towards the objectives of the programme, which in turn are to contribute to achieving one of the overarching goals of the 2020 strategy: Smart and sustainable growth for all. In addition to goals at EU level, the programme is also to contribute to national and regional objectives.

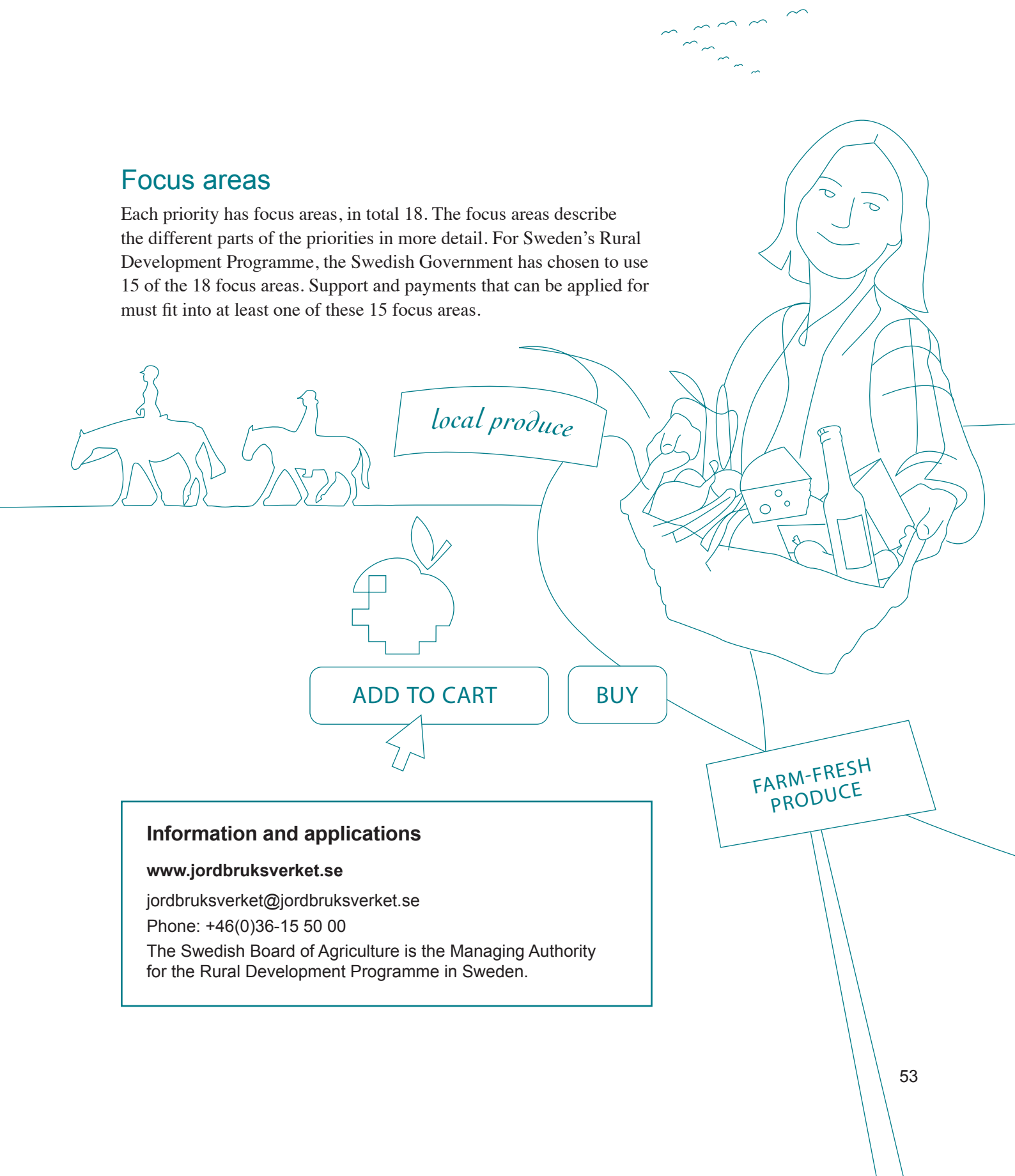
## Six priorities

The Rural Development Programme 2014–2020 is comprised of six priorities specifying the objectives that the support and payments are to contribute to. These concern the environment and climate, competitiveness in the agricultural, horticultural and reindeer husbandry industries as well as forestry, and the creation and development of new jobs in rural areas.



## Focus areas

Each priority has focus areas, in total 18. The focus areas describe the different parts of the priorities in more detail. For Sweden's Rural Development Programme, the Swedish Government has chosen to use 15 of the 18 focus areas. Support and payments that can be applied for must fit into at least one of these 15 focus areas.



### Information and applications

[www.jordbruksverket.se](http://www.jordbruksverket.se)

[jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se](mailto:jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se)

Phone: +46(0)36-15 50 00

The Swedish Board of Agriculture is the Managing Authority  
for the Rural Development Programme in Sweden.

# European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and Maritime and Fisheries Programme

The Maritime and Fisheries Programme funds the development of environmentally sustainable fishing and aquaculture in Sweden. In this programme, Sweden describes how we will implement the Union's priorities co-financed through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

The overall objectives of the programme are:

- Enhance competitiveness among SMEs.
- Protecting the environment and promote the sustainable use of resources,
- Promote employment.

The Maritime and Fisheries Programme has assets totalling SEK 1.5 billion for the period 2014–2020, including Swedish co-financing.

## Working towards clear objectives

The Maritime and Fisheries Programme 2014–2020 is guided by objectives to a greater extent than the previous fisheries programme. This includes objectives at EU level as well as at the national level. The overarching goal, Smart and sustainable growth for all, is part of the Europe 2020 strategy.

## Six priority axes:

The Maritime and Fisheries Programme 2014–2020 consists of six priority axes. Support that can be applied for must fit into at least one of these six priority axes.

- PRIORITY AXIS 1: Promotion of environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based fisheries.
- PRIORITY AXIS 2: Promotion of environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based aquaculture.
- PRIORITY AXIS 3: Promotion of the enforcement of the Common Fisheries Policy.
- PRIORITY AXIS 4: Increase in employment and local cohesion through Community-led local development.
- PRIORITY AXIS 5: Promotion of marketing and processing.
- PRIORITY AXIS 6: Promotion of the enforcement of the Integrated Maritime Policy.





## Information and applications

**[www.jordbruksverket.se](http://www.jordbruksverket.se)**

[jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se](mailto:jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se)

Phone: +46(0)36-15 50 00

The Swedish Board of Agriculture is the Managing Authority  
for the Maritime and Fisheries Programme in Sweden.

# Community-led local development using the LEADER method

Community-led local development is a working method for developing a local area. It is based on the LEADER method<sup>1</sup>. Sweden is unique within the EU in that support to Community-led local development is allocated through all four ESIFs and administered by one single managing authority.

The LEADER method entails cooperation between the private, public and third sectors to jointly produce a development strategy and prioritise actions based on the area's local conditions. Central to the LEADER method is that the initiative for development should come from those who live in the area.

## Local Action Group makes decisions on support

Each LEADER area has a Local Action Group (LAG) that gathers together people from the public, private and third sectors in a partnership. It is the LAG that decides which projects should receive support in their area. There is also a LEADER office in each area.

## Four funds – three programmes

Support to Community-led local development in Sweden comes from all four ESIF. It is controlled by three programmes: In the Rural Development Programme and the Maritime and Fisheries Programme, Community-led local development is part of the programme. There is a separate programme, the ERDF and ESF Programme for Community-led local development, for funding derived from the ERDF and ESF.

An example of working with funding from four funds might be having energy conversion as a primary objective and also work with economic development, innovation, skills supply, labour market projects and agricultural and fisheries issues. Another example might be working with rural-urban linkages.

In total, for the years 2014-2020, there is about SEK 2 billion in funding for Community-led local development in Sweden, including Swedish co-financing.

<sup>1</sup> LEADER is a French acronym for Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l'Economie Rurale. This translates as "coordinated activities for economic development in rural areas".



### **Information and applications**

**[www.jordbruksverket.se](http://www.jordbruksverket.se)**

You can view a map of the 48 LEADER areas in Sweden at [www.jordbruksverket.se](http://www.jordbruksverket.se). In each of the LEADER area there is a LEADER office that receives project applications.

The Swedish Board of Agriculture is the Managing Authority for Community-led local development in Sweden.

# The Swedish Rural Network

The Swedish Rural Network is linked to the Rural Development Programme, the Maritime and Fisheries Programme and the ERDF and ESF Programme for Community-led local development.

The Swedish Rural Network brings together stakeholders working with rural and maritime and fisheries development in Sweden. The aim of the network is to get more people involved in rural development and to implement the programmes in a better and more efficient way.

The Swedish Rural Network creates arenas for stakeholders to share experience, make contacts and interact in thematic working groups.

The Swedish network is part of the:

- European Network for Rural Development (ENRD)
- European Fisheries Arena Network (FARNET)
- European Innovation Partnership (EIP-AGRI).

This also allows for the exchange of experience with stakeholders in other countries in the EU.

The Swedish Rural Network is financed with funds from the Rural Development Programme and the Maritime and Fisheries Programme, and its office is located in the Swedish Board of Agriculture.

## Information

[www.landsbygdsnatverket.se](http://www.landsbygdsnatverket.se)

# How decisions on projects under the ESIF are made in Sweden

## Programme documents guide the implementation

For each programme, there is a programme document. These programme documents have been prepared in broad partnership with representatives of government agencies, enterprises, organisations, universities and higher education institutions and others. The programme documents, which are approved by EC, describe the objectives of the programme, the actions to be implemented, rules governing the implementation and the groups or geographical areas to which the support relates.

## Managing Authorities

Each programme has a Managing Authority responsible for the implementation of the programme. The Managing Authority communicates about the programme, manages project applications and ensures that the regulations are followed. Project proposals are then submitted to the relevant body for prioritisation of projects (see below). The formal decision is then made by the Managing Authority, which is also responsible for monitoring the projects.

### **Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth**

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the Managing Authority for the eight regional Structural Fund programmes and the National ERDF Operational Programme.

The Agency is also the Managing Authority for Interreg Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak.

### **Swedish ESF Council**

The Swedish ESF Council is the Managing Authority for the ESF and for FEAD – the Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived. The Council is also responsible for completing and concluding the European Integration Fund.

### **Swedish Board of Agriculture**

The Swedish Board of Agriculture is the Managing Authority for the Rural Development Programme, the Maritime and Fisheries Programme and the ERDF and ESF Programme for Community-led local development.

### **Interreg programmes**

The Managing Authorities of the Interreg programmes are located in Sweden in some instances, and in some cases in another country. The Jämtland County Administrative Board is the Managing Authority for Interreg Sweden-Norway, the Norrbotten County Administrative Board for Interreg North, and the Västerbotten County Administrative Board for Interreg Botnia-Atlantica and Interreg Northern Periphery.

## **Who prioritises projects**

After that the Managing Authorities have carried out the procedural examination of the projects, they are submitted to the body responsible for prioritising projects. These bodies are:

### **Structural Fund Partnerships**

There is a common Structural Fund Partnership for the regional Structural Fund programmes and the ESF programme in each of the eight regions. These partnerships consists of elected representatives from municipalities and county councils, representatives of the social partners, the county administrative boards, The Swedish Public Employment Service, stakeholder organisations and associations. In the two northernmost regions, they also include representatives of the Sami Parliament.

### **Heads of government agencies**

For the national ERDF programme, decisions on support are made by the Director-General of the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth after consultation with managers at Vinnova, the Swedish Energy Agency, and the Swedish Research Council.

### **Steering committees**

For Interreg programmes, there are steering committees that recommend which projects should receive support.

### **County administrative boards and national authorities**

In the Rural Development Programme, the county administrative boards, the Swedish Board of Agriculture, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, the Sami Parliament and the Swedish Forest Agency prioritise and decide on various measures.

In the Maritime and Fisheries Programme, the county administrative boards, the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management and the Swedish Board of Agriculture prioritise and decide on various measures.

### **Local Action Group**

For Community-led local development activities, there is a Local Action Group (LAG) within each LEADER area that decides on and prioritises which projects are to receive support in their area.

## **Monitoring Committees**

All programmes have a Monitoring Committee which monitors and assures the quality and efficiency of the implementation. The Committees are composed of representatives of government agencies, NGOs, the social partners and universities and higher education institutions.



# Develop Sweden!

## The EU Structural and Investment Funds in Sweden 2014–2020

The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) provide opportunities for major interventions for developing regions, individuals and enterprises throughout Sweden.

The four ESIF in Sweden are:

- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- European Social Fund (ESF)
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

In the years 2014–2020, Sweden will be participating in 27 EU programmes financed by one of these four funds.

This brochure provides an overview of the programmes under the ESIF that concern Sweden, and the programmes in which Swedish organisations, government agencies and enterprises can participate.

For more information about these four funds and 27 programmes, visit **[www.eufonder.se](http://www.eufonder.se)**



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