

# EU Growth and Jobs Strategy



# What are the goals?

EU as the most competitive and dynamic, knowledge-based economy in 2010

- Annual average economic growth of 3%
- 20 million jobs created by 2010

Economic, social and environment dimensions, including concrete objectives

# The process

- **The Community Lisbon Programme 2005-2008**
  - Launched 20 July 2005, including around 100 measures
  - January 2006: Two-thirds of the measures adopted by the Commission
  
- ▣ **National Reform programmes 2005-2008**
  - Based on the integrated guidelines, agreed in July 2005
  - National Reform programmes delivered before 15 October 2005
  - Status report including analysis of each national reform programme by the Commission, 25 January 2006
  - Status report to be delivered every year, to the Spring EU Summit

# Euroregion Baltic vision

The ERB in the year 2015 is a region

- characterised by prosperity and good living conditions of its citizens
- internationally recognised as a forefront region of excellence with regard to sustainable growth and integration of old and new market economies in the Baltic Sea Region, representing real social and economic cohesion.

# A competitive business environment

## ERB strategy:

In a European perspective, measures will be taken which help to strengthen competitiveness of the ERB business world and promote innovation and an attractive investment climate. The emphasis will be put on sustainable growth through a prosperous SME sector, increased knowledge contents for products and services and on environmental and energy issues, as well as social and regulatory transparency and stability

## EU Growth and Jobs strategy

- support knowledge and innovation in Europe
- Improve and simplify the European Regulatory framework in which business operates
- Complete the internal market for services
- Encourage sustainable use of resources and strengthen the synergies between environmental protection and growth
- Create a more competitive business environment and encourage private initiative through better regulation

# Transport infrastructure

## **ERB strategy:**

The ERB cooperation will highlight the importance of transport infrastructure as a means of facilitating the growth of trade and improving competitiveness of industry and service business – as well as of helping to develop tourism in the region.

The ambition is that ERB becomes an advocate and a driving force of the enhancement of the member regions' development aims, a political lobbyist at national and European levels.

## **EU Growth and Jobs strategy:**

To expand, improve and link up European infrastructure and complete priority cross-border projects

# Social dimension

## **ERB strategy:**

Cohesion activities within the social field are very important for the sustainable development within ERB. It is necessary to reduce unemployment in order to facilitate economical growth in the region. Labour market cooperation should be pursued as a means of equalising sub-regional imbalances in the supply of and demand for manpower in the member regions.

## **EU Growth and Jobs strategy:**

- Removal of obstacles to the cross-border mobility of workers
- Support efforts to deal with the social consequences of globalisation and economic restructuring
- Strengthening social and territorial cohesion
- Promote a lifecycle approach to work
- Ensure inclusive labour markets
- Improve matching of labour market needs

# Environment and energy policies

## **ERB strategy:**

Joint initiatives should be taken in order to increase knowledge and common understanding of EU initiatives within the environment and energy sectors.

The ERB goal should be to become one of the leading regions in implementing EU initiatives and regulations in a direct dialogue with the responsible EU bodies.

## **EU Growth and Jobs Strategy:**

EU's Sustainable Development Strategy complementary to the Growth and Jobs Strategy

Encourage the sustainable use of resources and strengthen the synergies between environmental protection and growth

Promote environmental-friendly transport infrastructures

2010: 22% of electricity generated from renewable sources

Etc.

# Danish Reform Programme

## Four broad challenges

- Prepare for the ageing of the population
- Reap the benefits of globalisation
- Strengthen the framework for improved productivity
- Increase value for the users of public service

The Commission encourages DK to adopt more detailed measures to enhance competition and more concrete measures to increase labour supply.

# Latvian Reform Programme

## Five main economic policy directions:

- Secure macro-economic stability
- Stimulate knowledge and innovation
- Develop favourable and attractive environment for investment and work
- Foster employment
- Improve education and skills

Commission: LV to develop a clearer and stronger commitment to achieve macro-economic stability including by stepping up fiscal consolidation; further policies to stimulate partnerships between research and education institutions and businesses; stronger measures to adapt education and training to labour market needs + coherent lifelong learning strategy

# Lithuanian Reform Programme

## Three key national priorities:

- Macro-economic policies to sustain fast growth of the economy and a stable macro-economic environment
- Promote competitiveness of Lithuanian companies
- Increase employment and investment in human capital

Commission: LT to step up efforts to strengthen the science and technology base, including by increasing public sector spending on R&D; Additional efforts to strengthen innovation systems and for further reinforcement of active labour market policy and of promotion of labour mobility

# Polish Reform Programme

## Six main priorities:

- Consolidate public finances and correcting their management
- Develop entrepreneurship
- Make enterprises more innovative
- Develop and modernise infrastructure and ensure a competitive environment in network industries
- Create and sustain new jobs and reducing unemployment
- Improve adaptability of workers and enterprises by investing in human capital

Commission: PL to place more emphasis on competition and on reinforcing public sector R&D and innovation; a comprehensive strategy on infrastructure investment and on environmental protection; more robust approach to raising employment rates and address regional disparities

# Swedish Reform Programme

No specific priority areas, but strong emphasises high labour market participation and hours worked and promotes a knowledge-based economy with environmentally efficient production processes.

Commission: S to further enhance competition in services and to reinforce their approach to increase labour supply, including by addressing incentives in tax and benefit systems

# Further Network process

1. Ensure awareness about
  - a. The relevant ERB action
  - b. The relevant Community policy, actions and programmes, including EU-Russia relations
  - c. The relevant National Reform policy and actions to be taken
2. Identify further need for information and more specific training
3. Work and time plan for implementing the relevant ERB action

# Useful links

## Main link – EU Growth and Jobs Strategy

[http://europa.eu.int/growthandjobs/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/growthandjobs/index_en.htm)

## Community Lisbon Programme:

[http://europa.eu.int/growthandjobs/pdf/COM2005\\_330\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/growthandjobs/pdf/COM2005_330_en.pdf)

## National Reform programmes:

[http://europa.eu.int/growthandjobs/pdf/nrp\\_2005\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/growthandjobs/pdf/nrp_2005_en.pdf)

## EU – Russia, road maps for Four Common Spaces

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/russia/summit\\_05\\_05/finalroadmaps.pdf#ces](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/russia/summit_05_05/finalroadmaps.pdf#ces)