



Recommendations approved by BEN-East project network

as results of the international conference «Legislative base and practice of cross-border cooperation in the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus and the European Union»

- the opening of the BEN-EAST project held on the 24-25th May, 2007 in Moscow, the Russian Federation,
Ministry of Regional Development of the Russian Federation

To CBC structures, Euroregions of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus:

1. To take an active part in the coordination of CBC structures work, development of cross-border regions, e.g. through the activities of coordination councils and working groups that were specially established on the level of federal and regional authorities.
2. To get national and regional authorities of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus more involved into the dialogue with Euroregions and other CBC structures in the field of spatial development and cross-border cooperation together with international partners.
3. To promote the positive image of cross-border regions both on national and international levels in order to develop cross-border territories in the fields of tourism, trade, sustainable socio-economic development, implementation of innovation technologies, development of exchange in educational and cultural spheres.

To the governments of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus, regional and local authorities of North-west Russia:

1. To promote spreading of information about the development of cross-border regions as well as structures involved in cross-border cooperation in Russia and Belarus and their neighbours.
2. To contribute to the establishment of the fund, which could finance entirely or partly the programmes/projects aimed at CBC development in Russia and Belarus.
3. To promote further formation of the legislative base in the sphere of cross-border cooperation in Russia and Belarus.
4. To support maintenance of human resources in CBC structures, including Euroregions that function on the territory of Russia and Belarus and their neighbours.
5. To support cross-border infrastructure development in CBC regions of Russia and Belarus.
6. To perform monitoring of development of CBC regions of Russia and Belarus on a regular basis.
7. To formulate and adopt federal targeted programmes aimed at the development of cross-border regions of Russia and Belarus.
8. To support in every possible way strengthening of CBC structures of Russia and Belarus, including Euroregions, in order to create fully legitimate partners for national and international organizations to work together on sustainable development of the Baltic Sea region.

To the Russian Government:

1. To work out a project of the Federal Law on federal support of social and economic development of cross-border territories of the Russian Federation and a corresponding federal targeted programme.

To the European Commission and to the Government of the Russian Federation:

1. To support regional, national and joint cross-border programmes/projects being implemented by CBC structures on cross-border territories and territories of Euroregions.
2. To promote the dialogue on the issues of cross-border cooperation between national governments and different international partners as well as with pan-European and Northern-European organizations such as European Commission, Council of Europe, Nordic Council of Ministers, CBSS, BEAR, AEBR.
3. To support CBC development by enhancing so called "Triple Helix" partnership - cooperation between public authorities (national, regional and local), private and research sectors and by stimulating the dialogue within each of these sectors.
4. To support infrastructural and investment projects which provide the most important results both for the citizens and businesses, including environmental projects in the catch basin of the Baltic Sea.
5. To support the idea of starting a new Partnership of Northern Dimension in the field of transportation and logistics and guarantee sustainable financing for it.
6. To develop cooperation aimed at improving the facilities of border crossing between Russia and EU-countries by building and arranging of border-crossing points and international communication routes.