



Northern Dimension Cross Border City



8.2.2007





BACKGROUND

- The biggest welfare gap in Europe exists on the outer border of the European Union at Lappeenranta, Joutseno and Imatra. Current means are not enough to eliminate or bridge this gap.
 - Because of a big welfare gap and structural gap, border towns on either side of the border cannot utilize their border status as well as in many other border regions.
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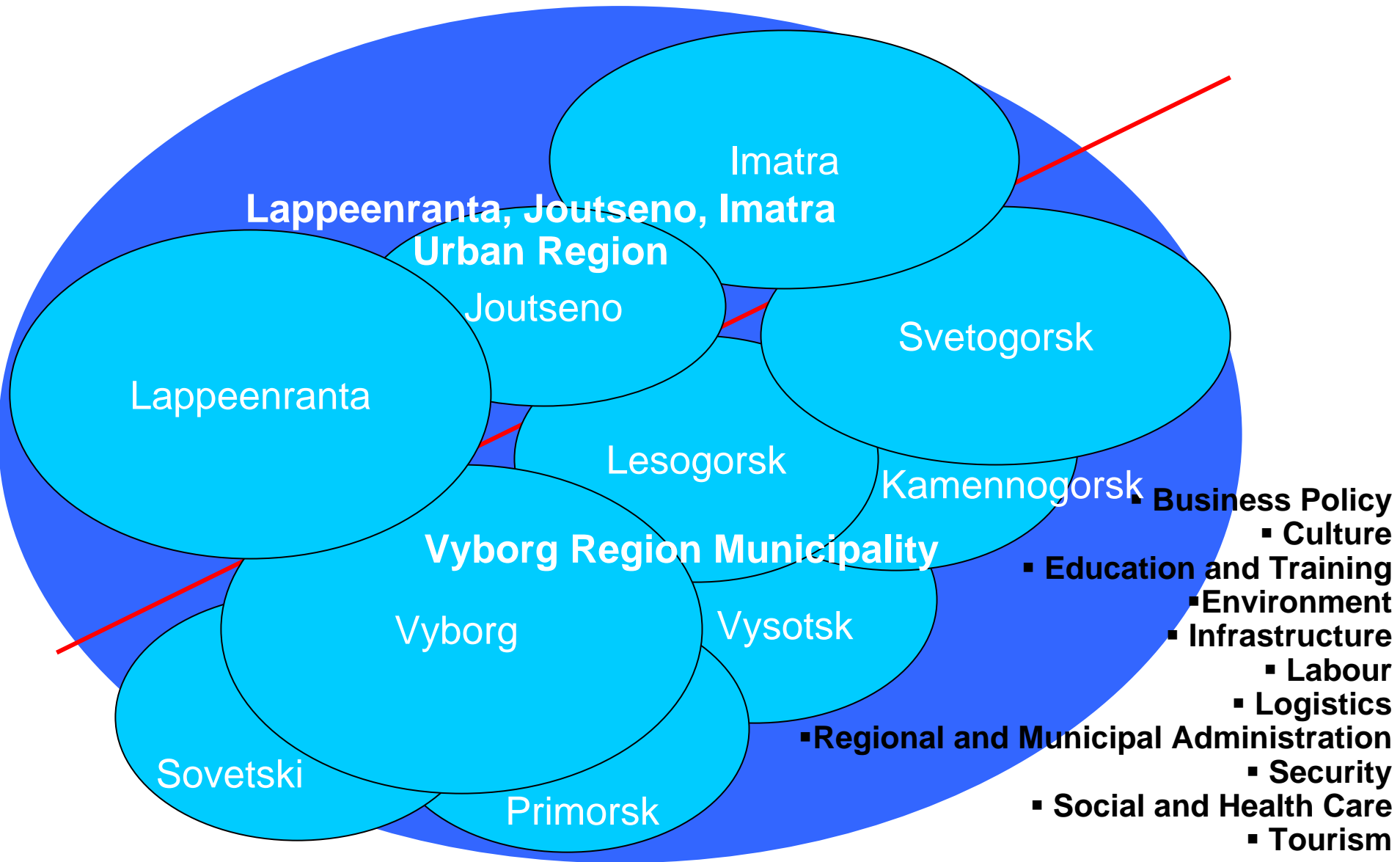


Northern Dimension
Cross Border City

NORTHERN DIMENSION

Cross Border City

Programme with 250 000 inhabitants and 250 million €





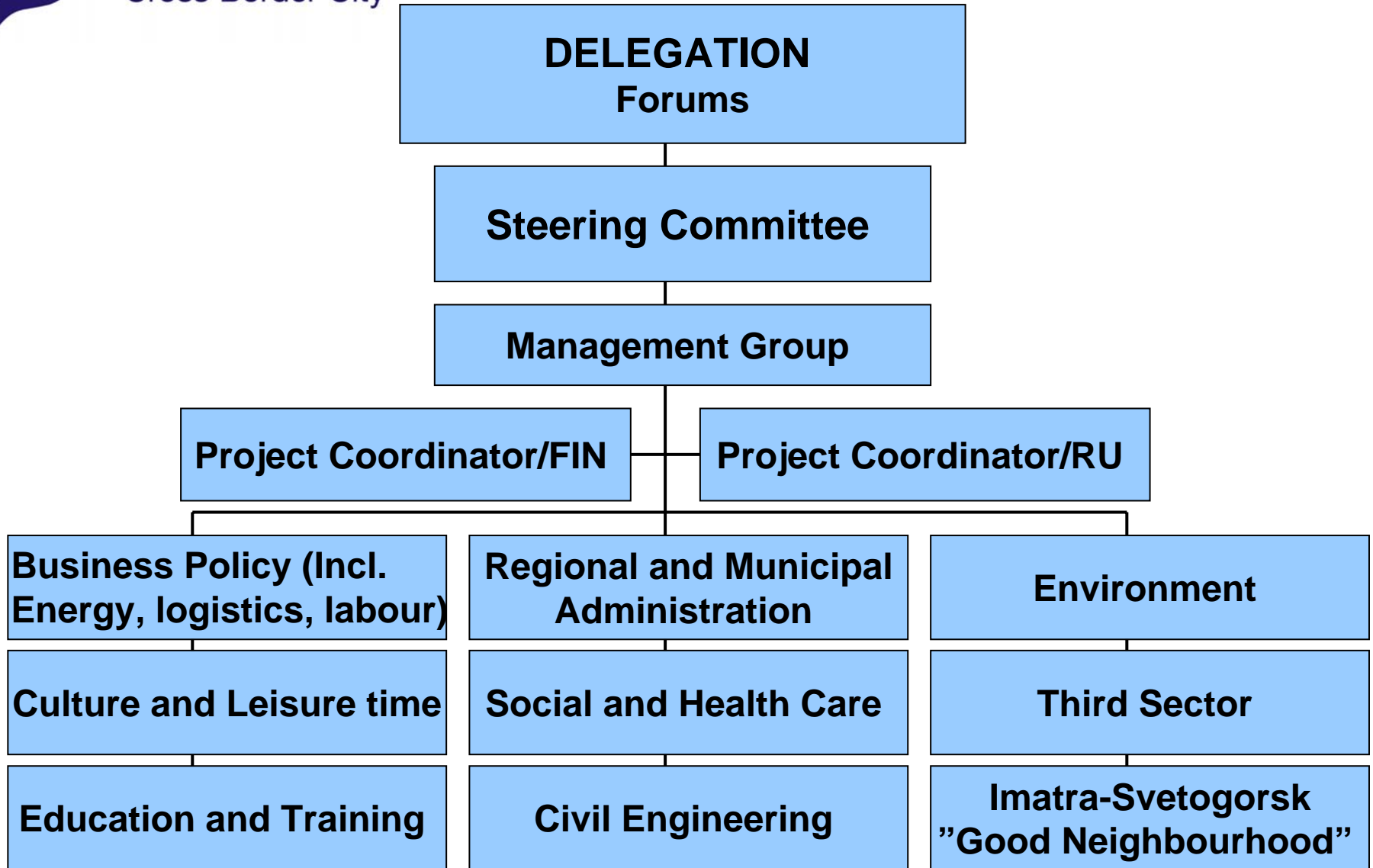
OBJECTIVE OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME

- To establish a true border city area by combining the expertise and opportunities in Lappeenranta, Joutseno and Imatra as well as in the Vyborg district into a well-functioning entity.
 - To develop an entity of 250,000 to 300,000 inhabitants between the metropolis areas of St. Petersburg and Helsinki, where the population offers good opportunities for enterprises and expertise serving both metropolis areas.
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AREA OF COOPERATION

- Regional and municipal administration
 - Business policy (incl. energy, logistics, labour)
 - Third sector
 - Education and training
 - Culture and leisure time
 - Civil engineering
 - Social and health care
 - Security
 - Environment
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PARTIES INVOLVED IN CO-OPERATION

- **Local administration on both sides of the border, Regional Council and the administration of Leningrad Region**
- **Chambers of Commerce and business service organisations**
- **Border authorities**
- **Environmental authorities**
- **Business and societies**
- **Lappeenranta University of Technology and its partners in St. Petersburg, South Karelia Polytechnic and municipal federation for education and training**
- **Finnish Society for Viipuri School of Economics**
- **Government of Finland, representative office of the North-Western district of the President of the Russian federation**
- **EU and other international financiers**



PARTNERSHIP FINANCING CONCEPT

- In order to finance the projects of the programme, an extensive financing basket is required in the same manner as for the South-Western waste water treatment plant in St. Petersburg, using a financing model for Russian partnership within the EU.
- The compilation of the financing basket will be launched in the conjunction with a feasibility study in this autumn.





The first co-operation project between Urban Regions of Lappeenranta - Joutseno – Imatra and Vyborg Region Municipality

1.3.2006 – 15.2.2008, total EUR **359 695** outgoing

- Interreg – item EUR **166 000**
- Tacis – item EUR **193 695**





FURTHER ACTION

- Presentation and marketing of the programme to decision-makers and financiers in 2006 - 2007.
 - Organization of co-operation in 2006 – delegation, co-ordination, sector-specific task forces.
 - Drawing up of concrete action programme for the various sectors in 2006.
 - Feasibility study has been launched
 - Launching of first projects in 2007
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KEY ISSUES

- **To make the sector parties understand the significance of the programme on both sides of the border.**
 - **To gain political support and the support of authorities to the programme in Finland and to make the programme one of the main goals of Finland in the implementation of the Northern Dimension.**
 - **To obtain a high-ranking head for the programme, Speaker of Finnish Parliament, Mr. Paavo Lipponen has given his initial consent.**
 - **To make regional and federal authorities in Russia committed to the programme and support it.**
 - **To make international financiers involved in the financing basket (EIB, EBRD, NIB, the WB)**
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EXAMPLES OF the FIRST PROPOSALS

- **Re-construction of the highway border station Brushnitsnoje 2–Vyborg-passby road**
- **Re-construction of the main road – Svetogorsk - Vyborg**
- **Implementation of the Industrial Park on Vyborg-passby road**
- **Implementation of the wireless wide band connections**
- **Education center for the personnel of municipalities in Russia**
- **Cooperation with the port of Vyborg**
- **Energy co-operation**
- **Sub-contracting co-operation in industry and services**
- **Common labour market organization system**
- **Net studying possibilities**