



Estonia – Latvia – Russia Cross Border Cooperation Programme within European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument 2007-2013



Dear Colleagues,

It is a great honour for us - the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia to continue fulfilling the functions of the Joint Managing Authority of the Estonia-Latvia-Russia CBC Programme within the framework of European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument 2007-2013 since the beginning of 2011.

The Programme provides an important ground for national, regional and local public authorities, NGOs, public equivalent bodies, educational organisations as well as entrepreneurs thereby promoting joint cooperation, exchange of experience and transfer of new technologies in our border regions.

I believe that issues tackled by the Programme and eventual projects combining various aspects of socio-economic development, cultural and natural heritage management and establishing of closer links among people are essential for improving living conditions and making our border region as an attractive place for inhabitants and investors.

The fact that more than 200 projects were submitted for the Programme 1st Call for Proposals gives a clear evidence of strong wish of partners from Latvia, Estonia and Russia for closer cooperation contributing integrated territorial development and place-based approach.

Sincerely yours,

Raimonds Vējonis,

Minister of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia

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Joint Technical Secretariat

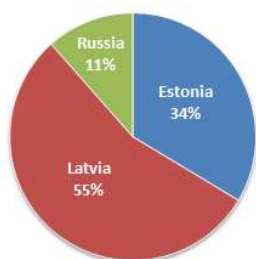
Phone: +371 6750 9520	Ausekļa Street 14 - 3	info@estlatrus.eu
Fax: +371 6750 9523	LV – 1010, Riga, Latvia	www.estlatrus.eu

More than 200 project applications received during the 1st Call for Proposals

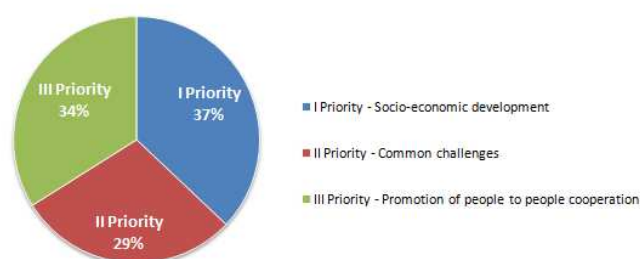
During the Programme 1st Call for Proposals all together 226 project applications were submitted by organisations from Estonia, Latvia and Russia clearly demonstrating huge interest in the cross border cooperation issues. Total requested funding from the Programme for all submitted project applications is 191,320 million Euro. However, the allocated funding for the 1st Call of the Programme is 23,648 million Euro.

In total 841 organisations from all three countries are represented in the submitted project applications. Most active applicants have been organisations from Latvia submitting 124 project applications, Estonian organisations have submitted 76 project applications and Russian organisations have submitted 26 project applications (see the chart below).

Submitted project applications per applicants



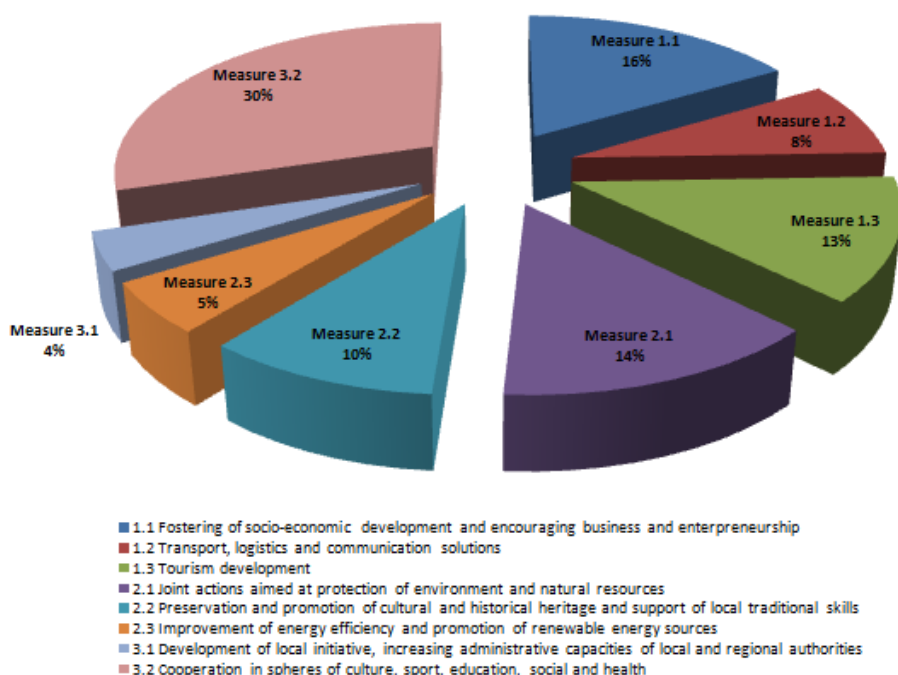
Submitted project applications per priorities



By priorities the submitted project applications have split quite equally – 34% of the project applications were submitted for the 1st priority – socio-economic development, 29% of the project applications were submitted for the 2nd priority – common challenges and 37% of the project applications applied for the 3rd priority – people to people cooperation activities (see the chart above).

Analysing submitted project applications by measures, the biggest interest has been under the measure 3.2 on cooperation in spheres of culture, sport, education, social and health. Reasonably high interest has been for socio-economic development focusing on measures 1.1 on encouraging entrepreneurship and measure 1.3 on tourism development. Another quite popular has been measure 2.1 on actions for environmental protection and management. The detailed split on how submitted project applications fall under different measures is presented in the chart below.

Submitted project applications per measures



Steps forward in the projects evaluation

By end of April all the submitted project applications have undergone the administrative check and eligibility verification. Furthermore project applications that have passed the administrative check and eligibility verification, have proceeded to the quality evaluation performed by the Selection Committee where representatives from all three countries are nominated.

Final decision on the particular grant contract awards for the selected project applications will be taken at the meeting of the Programme Joint Monitoring Committee on 20-21 June. Applicants will be notified on the results of their applications by end of July 2011.

The grant contracts will be signed between the beneficiary and the Joint Managing Authority.

In order to facilitate implementation of the supported projects, the Joint Technical Secretariat and its' Branch Offices will organize seminars for the beneficiaries and project partners to explain requirements for project implementation, contracts, reporting, payments and control as well as publicity and visibility issues.



Project applications in the JTS received during the 1st Call

Large Scale Projects

The regulation that lays down detailed rules for implementation of cross border programmes under ENPI foresees possibility of financing Large Scale projects (LSP) within the programmes. (Namely, COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 951/2007 of 9 August 2007 is laying down implementing rules for cross-border cooperation programmes financed under Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument).

The idea of the Large Scale projects (LSPs) is to finance cross border investments of a specific nature and having common interest. An LSP has to be submitted by at least two partners, one of which has to be from Latvia or Estonia and the other – from Russian Federation. It is also envisaged that LSPs are selected without competition by the participating states. The total amount of funding allocated for the LSPs from the Programme is 19 million Euro. The current state of play is that there are already four projects that have received positive opinion from the European Commission after submission of the project summary application forms.

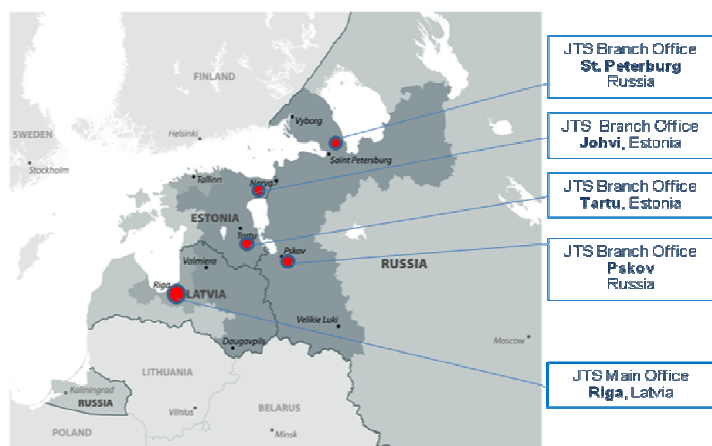
These projects are following:

- 1) Development of the unique Narva-Ivangorod trans-border fortresses ensemble as a single cultural and tourist object, total budget - 6 871 455 Euro,
- 2) Improvement of traffic and border crossing possibilities in Värskä-Pechory monastery road - SAFE ROAD, total budget - 5 775 420 Euro,
- 3) Complex reconstruction border crossing points in Ivangorod (the Russian Federation) and in Narva (Republic of Estonia), total budget - 8 221 126 Euro,
- 4) Reconstruction of border checkpoint "Vientuli" (the Republic of Latvia) and arrangement of border checkpoint "Brunishevo" (the Russian Federation), total budget - 6 643 394 Euro.

The fifth project "Economically and environmentally sustainable Lake Peipsi area" (total budget: 8 362 897 Euro) has received positive opinion from the Joint Monitoring Committee and has been submitted to the European Commission for consideration in the beginning of June. The next steps are preparation of full project application and supporting documentation and subsequent submission for approval to the programme management bodies and European Commission.

New JTS Branch Offices are open in St. Petersburg and Pskov

Two more Branch Offices of the Joint Technical Secretariat are operational in Russia since March. The newly opened Branch Offices are located in St. Petersburg and Pskov.



Three Information Managers, partly with Project Managers duties, will provide support to the project applicants, beneficiaries and project partners working in the newly established JTS Branch Offices in Russia. In the St. Petersburg Branch Office Mr. Sergey Balanov will be responsible for St. Petersburg, Mr. Vladimir Skorokhodov - for Leningrad Region and Ms. Ekaterina Moskaleva will work in the Branch Office in Pskov.

The Information Managers will provide assistance and guidance to the potential grant applicants, beneficiaries and project partners on development and implementation of the projects. They will organise and participate in various Programme and projects information activities, maintain contacts with mass media and supervise how the visibility requirements are observed by the projects beneficiaries and partners.

How to build up efficient partnership?

Have you ever thought what is partnership and how to find a good partner for efficient implementation of the project?

Partnership is important to follow up and maintain effective, productive and harmonious relationship with all the project partners. It can be informal as phone calls, e-mails and informal meetings or formal as written, signed plans and agreements that partners review periodically. The crucial factor is that all the project partners invest time and resources for building up an effective partnership within all the project implementation time.

Success or failure of a project often is not related to its complexity, or strengths and weaknesses of its participants. The success or failure is more often determined by how partners together handle project challenges and opportunities.

Either you are in the project development stage or your project has been supported and you are implementing it, there are various issues to be aware. Basing on the Regional Capacity Building Initiative experience, we have listed several things that are important in order to overcome common challenges and jointly develop new opportunities.



Most important aspects to be considered developing the project partnership

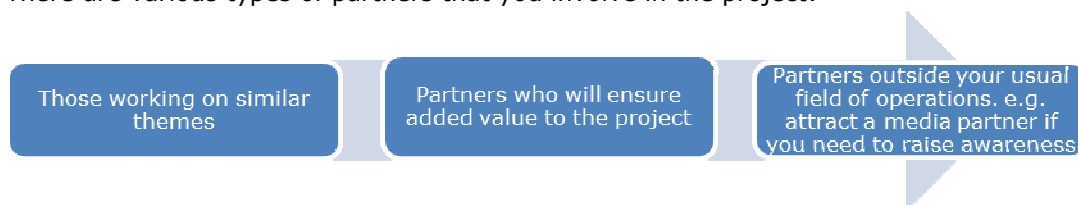
1. What kind of partnership?

An active partnership means following things:



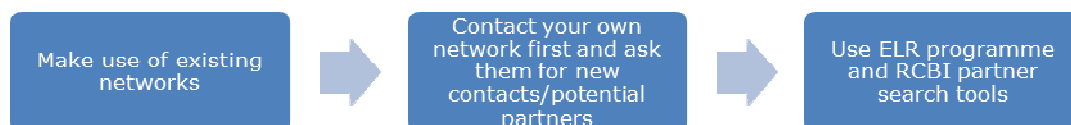
2. What kind of partners?

There are various types of partners that you involve in the project:



3. How to find project partners?

There are various options how to find project partners:



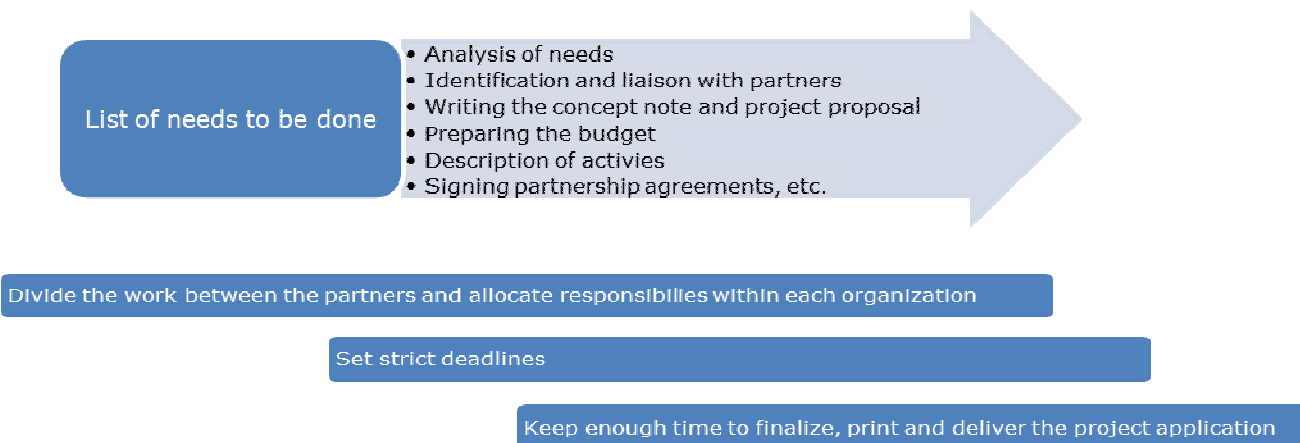
4. Do you want others to find you?

There are various options to make you more visible:



5. Do you want to develop your own action plan for submitting an application?

There are several steps suggested for involving partners in the projects:



The Programme languages dictionary



We hope this vocabulary will help you to communicate with your project partners when you meet them again! This time we have chosen easy terms to start your conversation. In next newsletter issues we will go deeper into the project slang in order to help with conversation among the project partners.

ENGLISH	ESTONIAN	LATVIAN	RUSSIAN
Hello!	Tere!	Labdien!	Здравствуйте!
What is your name?	Mis on sinu nimi?	Kā tevi sauc?	Как Вас зовут?
How are you?	Kuidas läheb?	Kā klājas?	Как дела?
Nice to meet you!	Rõõm sinuga kohtuda!	Priecājos satikt!	Рад встрече!
Thank you!	Aitäh!	Paldies!	Спасибо!
Please!	Palun!	Lūdzu!	Пожалуйста!
I do not understand	Ma ei saa aru	Es nesaprotu	Я не понимаю
Do you speak English/ Estonian/ Latvian/ Russian?	Kas sa räägid inglise/eesti/lati/vene keelt?	Vai Tu runā angliski/ igauniski/ latviski/ krieviski?	Вы говорите по-английски/ по-эстонски/ по-латышски/ по-русски?
Yes/No	Jah/Ei	Jā/Nē	Да/Нет
Coffee	Kohv	Kafija	Кофе
Beer	Ūlu	Alus	Пиво
Friend	Sõber	Draugs	Друг
All right!	Hästi!	Labi!	Хорошо!
How much?	Kui palju?	Cik daudz?	Сколько?
Where is ...?	Kus on ...?	Kur ir ...?	Где находится ...?
Goodbye	Nāgemist	Uz redzēšanos	До свидания

Meet the Joint Technical Secretariat team!

The Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) has commenced its work on 1 March 2010. The JTS is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Programme. The JTS provides support to the Joint Monitoring Committee, the Joint Managing Authority and Programme Task Forces in their duties. Important part of the JTS work is devoted to the organisation of the Programme Calls for Proposals and providing all kind of technical information about the projects development for applicants and projects implementation for beneficiaries and projects partners.

Herewith we would like to introduce you with the JTS Team!

Unda Ozolina, Head of the JTS



Unda has developed and managed several EU projects financed by Phare, Interreg, Estonia – Latvia CBC Programme 2007-2013. She has worked with cross border issues as a Project Leader and member of the Steering Committee. Unda has been a representative of the Vidzeme Planning Region and member of the Estonia – Latvia CBC Programme Monitoring Committee. Unda has graduated from the University of Latvia and holds Master's degree in the Public Administration. As the Head of the JTS, Unda is responsible for overall management and coordination of the JTS team's work.

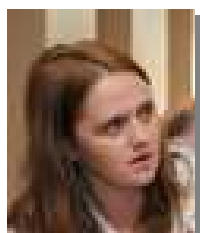
Phone: +371 6750 9519

E-mail: unda.ozolina@estlatrus.eu

Project Managers

Project managers are responsible for management and administration of the Programme. Project managers provide assistance and information to the project partners on various aspects of development and implementation of the cross border cooperation projects.

Iveta Puza, Project Manager



Iveta has eleven years of professional experience in implementing the EU funded projects and programmes. Her latest experience includes work at the JTS in Riga where she was the Project Manager with the responsibility of implementation of

INTERREG IIIA Priorities North (Estonia-Latvia-Russia) and South (Latvia-Lithuania-Belarus). Iveta also has worked in the Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government of Republic of Latvia as an expert for elaboration of the necessary documentation for implementation of the Estonia-Latvia-Russia CBC ENPI Programme 2007-2013. Iveta has a Bachelor degree in German Linguistics.

Phone: +371 6750 9522

E-mail: iveta.puza@estlatrus.eu

Elena Makarova, Project Manager



Elena has been involved in implementation of a number of projects in the welfare and cross border cooperation, including "New zones of spatial development" (TACIS/INTERREG), "Development of sustainable collaboration networks between business support structures

and enterprises of Jõhvi and Kingisepp municipalities" (INTERREG IIIA North). She also has worked in the Institute of Regional Economy Problems as Junior Researcher in the Laboratory for cross border cooperation. Elena has graduated from the Faculty of Sociology of St. Petersburg State University.

Phone: +371 6750 9525

Email: elena.makarova@estlatrus.eu

**Andris Kuznieks,
Large Scale Project Manager**



Andris has extensive experience working with different EU financial instruments as he has worked in the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Regional Development and Local Governments and Ministry of Economics. He has been Team Leader of two EU Tacis funded

projects in CIS countries - Georgia and Kazakhstan. Andris has Masters degree in European Studies from Faculty of Economics and Management in the University of Latvia. Andris is responsible for the management of Large Scale Projects.

Phone: +371 6750 9522

Email: andris.kuznieks@estlatrus.eu

**Dace Stepanova,
Financial Manager**



Dace has worked as a financial specialist in the Certifying Authority of the Latvia-Lithuania CBC Programme and the Norwegian Financial Instrument in Latvia. Dace has studied economics in the field of financial analysis in the University of Latvia.

As a Financial Manager Dace will provide assistance and information to the project partners on the reporting and budgetary issues. She also is responsible for monitoring of the projects progress reports. As well Dace is responsible for the efficient use and handling of the Technical Assistance and development of the Programme annual reports.

Phone: +371 6750 9524

E-mail: dace.stepanova@estlatrus.eu

Vineta Snore, Office manager



Vineta has worked as a Secretary General in the international team and as a project coordinator in Latvia and Belgium. Later Vineta has worked as an assistant of the high ranking politician. Vineta has a Bachelor's degree in economics and management and she has professional experience in the office management. As an Office Manager Vineta is responsible for carrying out the office work of the JTS and providing competent information to inquiries from general public addressed to the JTS.

Phone: +371 6750 9520

E-mail: vineta.snore@estlatrus.eu

Information managers

Information Managers of the JTS provide assistance and guidance to the potential grant applicants, beneficiaries and project partners on development and implementation of the projects. They are responsible for organizing and participating in the various Programme and project events, maintaining the contacts with mass media and supervision on how the visibility requirements are implemented by the projects.

**Dace Dravniece,
Information Manager in Riga JTS Office**



Dace has worked in the European Parliament Information Office in Latvia, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development and Riga City Council in the fields of environmental management and communication. As well she has worked in several environmental

communication projects at national and international level. Dace has a Higher Diploma in Arts in Public Relations graduated in Cork Institute of Technologies, Ireland and Master's in Environmental Policy and Management graduated in the University of Latvia.

Phone: +371 6750 9526

E-mail: dace.dravniece@estlatrus.eu

**Liane Rosenblatt
Information Manager in JTS Tartu Branch Office**



Most of Liane working experience comes from the Estonian public administration sector where she was responsible for the foreign cooperation in the local authority. Liane also has worked as a project manager and team member for various cross-border and

development projects. She has worked in tourism sector and also has been a teacher. Liane has studied pedagogy and graduated from Tartu Teachers Seminar.

Phone: +372 738 6011

E-mail: liane.rosenblatt@estlatrus.eu

Artur Viira

Information Manager in JTS Jõhvi Branch Office



Artur has worked in the fields of city development and labour market in public administrations in Estonia. Afterwards he also worked in the private sector. His working experience for the EU Programmes comes from

his time as a project manager for the projects financed by Structural Support and a team member for the INTERREG IIIA co-financed projects. Artur has graduate in Modern History and did postgraduate MBA at the University of Tartu, Estonia.

Phone: +372 339 5609

E-mail: artur.viira@estlatrus.eu

Sergey Balanev

Information Manager in the JTS St. Petersburg Branch Office



Sergey is an experienced consultant for public and private sector previously working as a General Director of St. Petersburg Foundation for SMEs development. He has initiated and successfully implemented number of

international projects including Tacis CBC SPF in cooperation with partners from Finland, Sweden, Germany and Denmark. As RCBI EU Project long term expert he was involved in training and consultancy to regional and federal authorities in the Programming process of ENPI 2007-2013 for Russia. Sergey has graduated from Leningrad Polytechnic Institute, Faculty of Electronics and Lovanium International School of Management, branch of Katholieke University, Leuven, Belgium.

Phone: +7 812 325 8351

E-mail: sergey.balanev@estlatrus.eu

Ekaterina Moskaleva

Information Manager in JTS Pskov Branch Office



Ekaterina has worked as a teacher and afterwards as an assistant deputy in State Council of Russian Federation. In 2003 Ekaterina became a co-founder of Rotary Club "Pskov" and since that time has been

involved in the Rotary Club activities related to collaboration with foreign Rotary Clubs. In particular, she has been responsible for the development, monitoring and implementation of Rotary joint international projects and promotion of Rotary image in Pskov region. Ekaterina Moskaleva has graduated from the Pskov Pedagogic Institute, the Faculty of Foreign Languages.

Phone: +7 8112 794 054

E-mail: ekaterina.moskaleva@estlatrus.eu

Vladimir Skorokhodov

Information Manager in JTS St. Petersburg Branch Office, responsible for Leningrad Region



Vladimir has worked as a visiting scientist in Netherlands, France and Japan. Since 1998 he has been involved in the administrative teams of the Tacis Cross Border Cooperation Programme. As a Long term expert he was involved in

information and training support activities for Tacis projects and programmes. In particular, he has experience in project identification, design and implementation as well as general and financial evaluation of projects financed by the European Commission. Vladimir has graduated from the Leningrad State University, Faculty of Physics and has PhD degree in Chemical Physics.

Phone: +7 812 325 5184

E-mail: vladimir.skorokhodov@estlatrus.eu

CONTACTS

JOINT TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Main Office in Riga, Latvia

Ausekļa Street 14 – 3rd Floor, Riga, LV-1010, Latvia

Phone: +371 6750 9520

Fax: +371 6750 9523

E-mail: info@estlatrus.eu

Branch Office in Tartu, Estonia

Sõbra 56, 51013, Tartu, Estonia

Phone: +372 738 6011

E-mail: liane.rosenblatt@estlatrus.eu

Branch Office in Jõhvi, Estonia

Pargi 27, 41537, Jõhvi, Estonia

Phone: + 372 339 5609

E-mail: artur.viira@estlatrus.eu

Branch Office in St. Petersburg, Russia

For St.Petersburg

Izmailovsky Prospect 14, Office 316,

Phone: + 7 812 325 83 51

E-mail: sergey.balanev@estlatrus.eu

For Leningrad oblast

Izmailovsky Prospect 14, Office 314A,

Phone: + 7 812 325 51 84

E-mail: vladimir.skorokhodov@estlatrus.eu

Branch Office in Pskov, Russia

Sovetskaya Street 60a, p.3, 4th floor,

Pskov, Russia

Phone: + 7 8112 79 40 54

E-mail: ekaterina.moskaleva@estlatrus.eu