



# North Sea Supply Connect

*Transnational SME Supply Clusters  
along the North East Corridor*





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### *Transnational SME Supply Clusters along the North East Corridor*

North Sea Supply Connect (NSSC) is a European project, part of the Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme. It pursues an integrated and proactive approach to shaping the future of supply logistics and linked innovation policies and competitive promotion strategies in the North Sea Region. The objectives are to:

- extend knowledge for better SME\* performance in Northeast European SME supply markets.
- enhance competitiveness of North Sea Region SMEs in those supply markets.
- increase impact of regional economic innovation policy on SME involvement in Northeast European supply markets.
- promote Northeast European integration and to build economic bridges between the Baltic Sea and the North Sea Region.

**The project focuses on the following key industrial clusters:**

- **Maritime industries**
- **Energy industries**
- **Food industries**

North Sea Supply Connect is about increasing accessibility of open markets for Small and Medium sized Enterprises in the North Sea Region.

Duration: 01/10/2009 - 30/09/2012

Total budget: € 2,766,714.00

*\*Small and Medium sized Enterprise*





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## *The Partnership*

The challenges in making procurement processes more transparent and accessible for SMEs are reflected within the partnership, which involves public bodies, semi-public institutions like transfer centers and has support from business actors like Chambers of Commerce. For example, the two SME development bodies NOM and POM have a special focus on SME development and the input of their expertise will ensure that supply chains contribute to strengthening the regional economy. Overall, the partners will bridge the gap between European projects and the private sector.

**The Province of Groningen in the Netherlands is the lead partner in North Sea Supply Connect. The other partners are:**

- Arvika Economic Centre - Sweden - [www.aanc.se](http://www.aanc.se)
- Basildon District Council -UK - [www.basildon.gov.uk](http://www.basildon.gov.uk)
- BAW Institute for Regional Economic Research - Germany - [www.baw-bremen.de](http://www.baw-bremen.de)
- Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce - Scotland - [www.edinburghchamber.co.uk](http://www.edinburghchamber.co.uk)
- Edinburgh Napier University - Scotland - [www.napier.ac.uk](http://www.napier.ac.uk)
- Fachhochschule Emden-Leer - Germany - [www.fh-oow.de](http://www.fh-oow.de)
- Chamber of Commerce Northern Netherlands - The Netherlands - [www.kvk.nl](http://www.kvk.nl)
- Mariko Maritime Competence Center - Germany - [www.mariko-leer.de](http://www.mariko-leer.de)
- NOM Development Agency Northern Netherlands - The Netherlands - [www.nom.nl](http://www.nom.nl)
- Province of Groningen - The Netherlands - [www.provinciegroningen.nl](http://www.provinciegroningen.nl)
- POM Provincial Development Agency West-Flanders - Belgium - [www.pomwvl.be](http://www.pomwvl.be)
- Syntra West - Belgium - [www.syntrawest.be](http://www.syntrawest.be)
- SNN The Northern Netherlands Provinces /Nordconnect - The Netherlands - [www.nordconnect.eu](http://www.nordconnect.eu)





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## Objectives, approach and outputs

Five Work Packages will make up the NSSC programme, covering:

- Project management and administration
- Dissemination and communication
- Clustering of industries and supply markets
- Small and Medium Sized Enterprise cluster Management and services
- Training, innovation and pilot operation

North Sea Supply Connect cooperates closely with the Baltic Supply Project, covering the same topics in the Baltic Sea Region.



The consortium will concretely:

- extend knowledge for better SME performance on Northeast European supply markets;
- enhance the integration of North Sea Regions' small businesses into North European Supply Chain logistics.

### partners



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The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme



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