

## Hanse Parlament

ASEM Expert Seminar – Dual study programmes – a strategy to expand opportunities for ASEM youth

Dual vocational training for SMEs in the Baltic Sea Region



# Background

- non-profit network, working actively in the interests of small and medium enterprises since 1994
- ➤ association of more than 50 chambers of commerce, industry and crafts as well as similar associations around the Baltic Sea, representing more than 470.000 SMEs
- Objectives of the Hanseatic Parliament are:
  - to develop a strong, innovative economic region
  - to promote small and medium-sized businesses
  - to initiate outstanding qualifications, study courses and VET
  - deepen networking and co-operation



#### Significance of SMEs

- 1. Strengthening of SMEs best way to strengthen European regions
- 2. SMEs are the economic, cultural and social backbone
- + 99% of all european companies
- + up to 70% of all jobs
- + 80% of all training positions
- + Family owned
- + responsible management

3. What do SMEs need to stay Competitive and boost their innovation level?

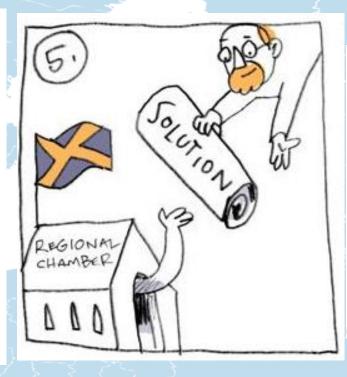
















#### Support measures for SMEs

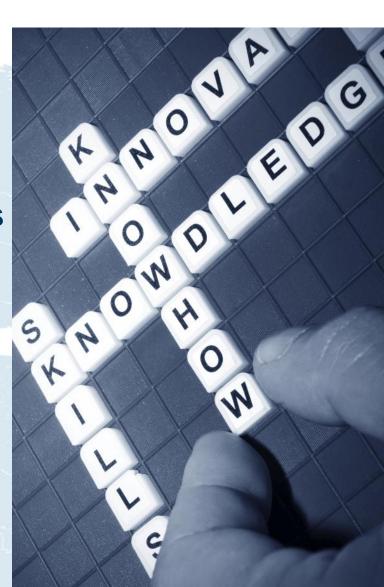
- » language courses (English Polish / German / Russian for SMEs)
- » Design Workshop (Baltic Amber)
- » Matchmaking Events, Publications
- » virtual company register / EEN (<u>www.eubizz.net</u>).



#### Support measures for SMEs

- Seminars on "International Business"
- ✓ Seminars for start ups
- ✓ Business Forums, Country Reports...
- ✓ Policy papers
- ✓ Dual Study courses, trainings







# Survey 2013

What does your company need most urgently to boost innovation?

Financial support

Political support

Qualified staff / management

Work climate in company

> Better access to information



#### **Future needs of SMEs: Qualification**

- Biggest challenge for European SMEs: lack of skilled workforce
- Growing competition for young talents, increased by demographic development
- In many regions clear mismatch between needs of labor market and graduates: too many academics, not enough apprentices
- Increasing number of job vacancies and growing youth unemployment at the same time



#### **Future needs of SMEs: Innovation**

- SMEs need to stay innovative. Most important investment in human resources: demand for innovative minds, qualified personnel
- SMEs need to attract best talents to stay competitive in global economy

Innovation & Qualification for SMEs=

Close cooperation with eduational facilities and R&D





#### **Dual Vocational Training**





#### **Dual Vocational Training for SMEs in the BSR**

Accept a trainee or student from abroad for a practical training in your company !

If you are interested in providing training opportunity for a student from abroad, please fill in this <u>questionnaire</u> and return to your regional project partner (see list in the left menu) or via Email to training(at)hanse-parlament.eu





4. INNOVATION SEA ALADEM



## **Baltic Sea Academy**



# BALTIC SEA CADEMY

#### **Innovation**

- Product Innovations
- Process Innovations
- Concrete solutions

#### Qualification

- Dual study courses (work based learning)
  - further training courses
    - vocational training



#### Hanse Parlament & Baltic Sea Academy



#### Bringing people and opportunities together by

- developing a strong, innovative economic region of world standing
- promoting small and medium-sized businesses
- initiating outstanding qualifications
- strengthening sub-regions and their diversity
- establishing a Hanseatic identity beyond national borders

Network of more than 45 Business Chambers from 12 countries



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#### **Hanse Parlament**:

Network of 51 SME insitutions, mainly Chambers of Crafts, Commerce, Industry etc. in the BSR

#### **Baltic Sea Academy**:

Network of 15 Universities doing R&D and Qualification for SMEs



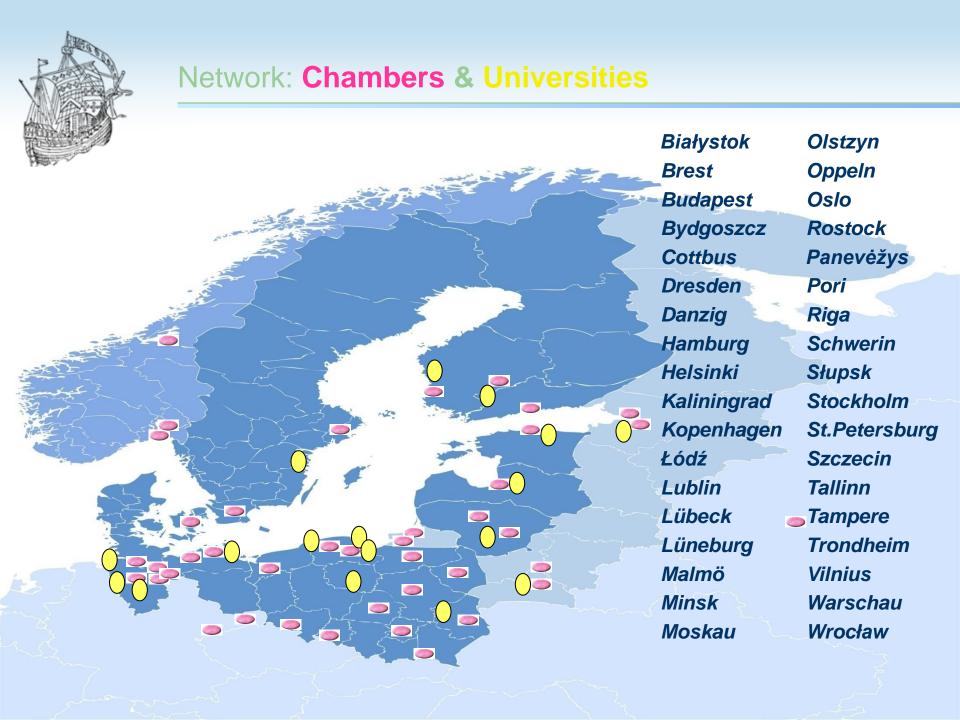
Network of universities and polytechnics boosting

- → Education & Qualification
- → Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- → Technology Transfer
- → Realisation of tangible R&D solutions

for SME's in the Baltic Sea Region



www.baltic-sea-academy.eu















Bachelor degree

Skilled worker degree





#### **Experiences from VET projects**

- Vocational trainings must fit real needs, thus it is important to involve employers and stakeholders, e.g. SMEs, at early stage
- Work based learning / dual system depends on the creation of company – based training positions; much more difficult to address and involve SMEs than major industries: BUT SMEs provide most training positions
- Interest of SME economy must be gathered in umbrella organizations like chambers, schools etc.



### **Experiences from VET projects**

- ➤ Still image Problem in many countries. Dual study courses are perceived as something less than traditional study courses.
- Opposite is true: Dual study courses are more demanding and often have higher entrance conditions. Education for elite.
  Dual

Studies

**Studies** 

Transnational cooperation very useful, but measures need to be adapted to national systems, no size fits all Cooperation with SMEs, more work-based learning best way to address skills mismatch in Europe



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### Thank you very much for your attention

