**What?**
The international project Baltic TRAM (Transnational Research Access in the Macroregion) seeks to strengthen the relationship between analytical research institutions and business, by establishing structures for cooperation between companies and researchers and linking expertise to concrete industrial needs. The project will develop a “Smart Cooperation” strategy, to be formulated on the basis of national research strategies and fed into the regional research and innovation agenda. Baltic TRAM builds on the findings of the previous project Science Link.

**Why?**
The overall objective of the project is to boost innovation, secure the implementation of smart specialisation strategies, and encourage entrepreneurship by supporting small and medium size enterprises – thus contributing to the regional effort of making the Baltic Sea Region innovative, sustainable and competitive.

The specific objective is to secure sustainable demand for research infrastructures, to address the concept of open data access, and ensure the existence of cooperation structures between analytical research institutes and companies at national, regional and international level.

**How?**
The project will establish national Industrial Research Centers to serve as interfaces between analytical research institutes and companies. Invited companies will be provided with consultations and access to research facilities to test their ideas and products. Furthermore, the project will provide a benchmarking analysis on the national roadmaps for research infrastructures and smart specialisation strategies, and provide recommendations to policymakers.

**When?**
The project runs from March 2016 until the beginning of 2019.

**Where?**
The project has a transnational character and is being implemented by partners from all EU member states in the Baltic Sea Region. The establishment of industrial research centers will be realised in all eight participating countries.

**Who?**
The project is led by DESY, Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, in close dialogue with fifteen project partners and five associated organisations from the entire Baltic Sea Region.

[www.baltic-tram.eu](http://www.baltic-tram.eu)