

4th Working Meeting on the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)

10 April 2013 | Espoo, Finland

Preliminary Agenda

Date 10 April 2013

Venue Aalto University Dipoli Congress Centre, Otakaari 24, 02150 Espoo, Finland (www.aalto.fi)

Day One **Wednesday, 10 April 2013**

Meeting moderated by Directorate General for Regional Policy, European Commission

08:30-09:00 *Registration*

09:00-09:30 **Opening of the meeting**
Welcome addresses

Timo Rajakangas, National Contact Point for the EUSBSR, Finland

José Palma Andrés, Director, EC Directorate General for Regional Policy

09:30-11:00 **State of play: what after the review of the EUSBSR?**

Issues for discussion:

- *Use and optimisation of opportunities provided by the macro-regional concept for better serving convergent interests and objectives of the Member States. Mechanisms and cooperation processes to be set-up at macro-regional, national and regional levels*
- *Embedding the macro-regional cooperation into national and/or regional institutional systems for policy making and delivering; how to support the process*
- *Key elements for efficient steering process within the Priority Area/Horizontal Action (establishing of steering/coordination groups for Priority Areas/Horizontal Actions)*
- *Reinforcement of Priority Area/Horizontal Action coordination function*

Questions and answers

11:00-11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30-13:00 **Communicating the EUSBSR**

Issues for discussion:

- *Communication activities within the EUSBSR*
- *Roles and responsibilities of the key actors in communicating the EUSBSR*
- *Priorities for 2013 (target groups and subjects/themes)*
- *Technical Assistance for implementation of communication activities*

Discussion based on the document elaborated by the Task Force for Communication of the EUSBSR

13:00-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-17:30

Parallel Sessions

Coffee break will take place during the parallel sessions

Session for National Contact Points

Issues for discussion:

- *How to intensify the cooperation on the Baltic Sea Region issues at expert level between the four Northern Dimension partners (proposal from NCP for the EUSBSR of Finland)*
 - *Role of the national level to make use of the various opportunities to link the EUSBSR to transnational projects within funds (proposal from NCP for the EUSBSR of Sweden)*
 - *Other issues*
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Session for Priority Area Coordinators and Horizontal Action Leaders

Issues for discussion:

14:00-16:00

Targets and indicators of the EUSBSR on the Priority Area/Horizontal Action level

State of play

Discussion

16:30-17:30

Seed money facilities in the Baltic Sea Region

Axel Rød, National Expert, Unit D1 Competence Centre for Macro-Regions and European Territorial Cooperation, EC Directorate General for Regional Policy

Discussion

19:30-22:00

Networking dinner

Dinner will be served at Cone Lobby, Aalto University Dipoli Congress Centre

End of Day One