

On behalf of Marie-Louise Rönmark, some short comments on the Task Force Report from the city of Umeå:

In general, we welcome the proposal from the Task force and especially the proposal on intensified cooperation between the commissions ("clusters"). Umeå has earlier proposed an idea on clustering the commissions according to the EU2020 goals, Sustainable growth, Inclusive growth, Smart growth. We still think this is a good idea. Another way to cluster could be according to the goals of the EU Strategy for the BSR (EUSBSR): Save the sea; Connect the region; Increase prosperity.

We also agree of the importance that the UBC commissions (not primary the Secretariat) follow the EUSBSR and strengthen their contact with relevant EUSBSR Priority Area Coordinator. We know that the EUSBSR will be more central in the next EU funding programmes 2014-2020 than during 2007-2013. The UBC cities, representing the local level, are important actors for fulfilling the goals and actions of the EUSBSR. One proposal could be that every UBC commission is urged to report how they follow the EUSBSR, and what contacts with Priority Area Coordinators or Flagship project leaders that have been taken every year.

Best regards
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