

Participation Day

involving local actors, public and civil society in Baltic Sea cooperation

Programme

Monday, 4 June 2017

Venue: Creative Hub, Põhja pst 27a, Tallinn

08:30 Registration

09:00 Opening statements

Welcome

Mr. Toivo Riimaa, Deputy Director, The Association of Estonian Cities and Municipalities.

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region in brief / Participation Day (PD) - introducing the concept

Mr. Anders Bergström, Horizontal Action Coordinator, HA Capacity

09:30 Introducing the three themes

Overview of existing development processes in EUSBSR in each theme focusing on possibilities for the target groups to join thematic working groups or other processes.

1. Sustainable consumption and production

Mr. Torfi Jóhannesson, Policy Area Coordinator, PA Bioeconomy

2. Integration of migrants

Mr. Anders Bergström, Policy Area Coordinator, PA Education

3. Energy Efficiency

Ms. Madara Zvirgzdiņa, Policy Area Coordinator, PA Energy

The horizontal priority this year is digitalization.

10:00 Workshops (incl. coffee break)

1. Sustainable consumption and production

Moderator; *Mr. Torfi Jóhannesson*

Rapporteur; *tbc*

We are facing a new era of the bio economy, in which new industries will be built, new jobs created, and new standards for resource efficiency achieved. A new era in which, if we do it right, primary production also has the potential to benefit from the added value generated from upgrading biomass to more valuable products and bio-based and food industries will have

opportunities to be more competitive. If managed with strict adherence to sustainable development, the bio economy will be key to pursuing many of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is important to discuss how we can ensure sustainable growth in the bio economy, so it will not lead to depletion of resources, degradation of the environment or loss of biodiversity.

2. Integration of migrants

Moderator: *Ms. Sabine Hahn*

Rapporteur: *Mr. Nino Simic*

The increased number of refugees constitutes a challenge to those countries where refugees choose to seek asylum. At the same time our societies struggle with demographic changes with an ageing population but also with "brain drain". This underlines the need for an effective integration of refugees and other migrants in order for them to contribute to the building of inclusive, cohesive and prosperous societies which is of common interest to all our countries. We welcome proposals how local actors, public, private and civil society together improve the integration of migrants.

3. Energy efficiency

Moderator: tbc

Rapporteur: *Ms. Madara Zvirgzdiņa*

By using energy more efficiently, Europeans can lower their energy bills, reduce their reliance on external suppliers of oil and gas, and help protect the environment. Energy efficiency has to be increased at all stages of the energy chain, from generation to final consumption. The rate of building renovation needs to be increased, as the existing building stock represents the single biggest potential sector for energy savings. It has been stressed that buildings represent 40 % of the EU's final energy consumption therefore identification of cost-effective approaches to renovations relevant to the building type and climatic zone is essential. Municipalities as well as civil society organisations play important roles helping citizens to make conscious choices.

- 11:30** **Closing Session**
Reports from the three workshops
Evaluation of the Participation Day - inputs for next year's PD
Closing remarks
- 12:30** **Closure**