



Interreg North Sea Region

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Lead Partner seminar in Malmö

The next Lead Partner (LP) seminar will be held in Malmö, 25-26 April. Financial and reporting issues are targeted, but there will be sessions on the increasingly important publicity and communications issues. The venue is the Scandic Segeväg Hotel.

Financial subjects such as understanding the legal basis of the grant, budget changes, material investments, six-monthly reports and claims to the European Commission are on the agenda for the meeting. Individual consultations will be held in connection with the seminar.

More information: Jesper Jønsson, Project Development Officer, crbjej@vibamt.dk

Annual Conference 2006

The Annual Conference for 2006 is scheduled for 14-15 June 2006 and will be held in Aviemore, Scotland. Following the great success of the 2005 conference the secretariat is hard at work to make the Aviemore event a worthy follow-up. Some 400 people are expected to meet up for the two-day conference.

Among the many items on the agenda are workshops on the draft priorities of the new programme. The conference will also mark the kick-off for the project development phase. Public consultation will follow from mid June until the end of August.

Invitations are scheduled to be sent out shortly. Please check the web for updates.

More information: Malou Munkholm, Programme Support Manager, crbmlm@vibamt.dk

About the New Programme

The new Objective 3 North Sea Programme is in the making. A programme preparation group (PPG) is currently working to establish priorities and draft the Operational Programme (OP) document. The new programme is scheduled to run 2007-2013. An open call for project applications is scheduled for some time in the early months of 2007.

Groningen Seminar & Programme Preparation Group meeting 3

At the most recent seminar and PPG-meeting in Groningen, The Netherlands, on 16-17 of March of 2006, experts from the participating countries in the North Sea Programme came together to further discuss and develop the themes for the new programme.

The meeting in Groningen was preceded by a seminar in which about 100 invitees from around the North Sea region came together to talk about and participate in workshops on the content of the new programme.

The Four Emerging Themes

Four emerging themes have been identified as focus areas for the coming programme. These are preliminary and likely to change somewhat during the process, but still point in the direction the new programme is likely to take.





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Calendar

25-26 April 2006

Lead Partner Seminar 9
Malmö, Sweden

2-3 May 2006

Programme Preparation
Group meeting 4
Silkeborg, Denmark

13 June 2006

Programme Preparation
Group meeting 5
Aviemore, Scotland

14-15 June 2006

Annual Conference &
Exhibition
Aviemore, Scotland



The four emerging themes:

- Managing our environment wisely
- Capitalising on our capacity for innovation – including energy networks and knowledge exchange
- Challenging accessibility – including sustainable transport and maritime transport
- Sustainable communities

MSUO – Extended Period

Building on the success of the previous year, the North Sea Programme has decided to extend the funding of the Maritime Safety Umbrella Organisation (MSUO) for another two years. This means that the organisation will continue its work until the end of 2008. The MSUO is working out of Viborg, Denmark, and share office space with the Interreg North Sea Programme. Read more about the extended period and the MSUO at: www.maritime-safety.org

Spending Targets Reached

After the first round of periodic reports for 2006, there is a clear indication that the spending targets for 2005 has excellent possibilities of being reached. As the programme will then have met spending targets, there is little risk of de-commitment.

Not resting on their laurels and still looking for further improvement, the Finance Unit is very pleased with the results. The outlook for 2006 is good.

10 new projects

10 new projects were approved after the last scheduled tender for projects, which recently closed. There are now a total of 69 approved projects under the North Sea Programme, 11 of which are already completed and 14 of which will be finished during 2006.

The approved projects are:

1. Facilitating Sustainable Innovation (FSI).
2. Waterlines Economies (WE).
3. Broadband Access for Innovation and Regional Development (BIRD).
4. The Role of North Sea Ports and Future Challenges in Maritime Logistics (NSP).
5. Development of STORM resistant landscapes through regional co-operation, adapted management and RISK communication (STORMRISK).
6. Energise Regional Economies (ERE)
7. Creation of Sustainable Tourism Destinations (CREST).
8. Supply chain platform for technological solutions and sustainable lifestyle choices (LifeSTYLE).
9. Sustainable and cost-effective groundwater quality management (WaterCost).
10. Chain of Safety.

A short description of each project can be found on the Interreg website.





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New Members of Staff

Matthias Woiwode von Gilardi



Matthias Woiwode von Gilardi joined the Secretariat in late February 2006 as Senior Spatial Development Officer. He has a background as spatial planner and previously worked in the Baltic Sea Interreg Programme. As team leader of the Project Development Unit Matthias will among other tasks deal with the preparation of the new Objective 3 programme, monitoring and promotion of the current and future programmes, and the development of new projects.

Contact: crbmj@vibamt.dk



Jesper Jönsson



Jesper Jönsson joined the Secretariat as of March 1st 2006 as Project Development Officer. With a background in EU projects, both as a project co-ordinator and desk officer, Jesper has good knowledge of procedures and regulations in national and transnational programmes. As Project Development Officer Jesper will be in charge of monitoring projects, including short, long and final reports. In addition, he will also deal with process and implementation of the future Objective 3 programme and the development of new project ideas.

Contact: crbjej@vibamt.dk

Henrik Josephson

Henrik Josephson joined the Secretariat as of March 1st 2006 as Publicity and Communications Officer. With a background in marketing and journalism, Henrik has worked as marketing consultant on local, regional and international level in Sweden. As Publicity Officer Henrik will be in charge of the daily



work referring to information and publicity, but also deal with strategic and long-term oriented communication matters, on current and future programmes.

Contact: crbhj@vibamt.dk

Elena Aspe

Elena Aspe joined the Secretariat as of 4th April 2006. She is currently in her 3rd year at university in Aberdeen, Scotland, studying Law & Management. Elena will complete an 18-week student placement working in the Programme Support Unit. She will mainly be involved in the preparations for the Annual Conference in June.

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Contact

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