

The pattern is from: Strong, Specific and Promising – a Nordregio report of Erik Gløersen that also will be a part of the programme on Friday the 25th of October.

Northern Sparsely Populated Areas

NSPA – Forum

24–25 OCTOBER 2013 – UMEÅ – VÄSTERBOTTEN



www.nspa-network.eu

Dear colleagues, we warmly welcome you to NSPA-forum in Sweden, in the city of Umeå which during 2014 will be host of the Cultural capital of Europe. The Forum will start on the evening of 24th of October directly following the event Europaforum Northern Sweden, and continue the 25th of October with a half-day program with presentations and working groups.

The message from the EU to our Northern Sparsely Populated Areas is very clear: Show us the cooperation to overcome the common challenges that we have, making it worth for EU to also give its support. The burning issue here and now is to find smart ways to create the smart NSPA out of the increased competition between European regions to coop with the EU smart specialization concept, taking in what is already done, when the NSPA network was created, and the gains for the future. Join the discussion in Umeå to show the strong, specific and promising NSPA, also being one of the last possibilities towards the

EU-commission, being on place all the forum, and other stakeholders, to influence the outcome for our regions and the NSPA concerning the coming Interreg and other EU-programmes.

The forum aims as always to bring people together from NSPA-regions as well as European institutions to outline joint challenges and priorities in the northern areas. At this forum we aim to recapitulate the joint vision of our regions expressed in the report "Strong, specific and promising" 2009.

Erik Gløersen, the main author of the report, together with colleagues will contribute to our discussions during the forum. Our ambition, with the report functioning as a baseline for our discussions, is to take the next step in our cooperation. Of course we will also face the challenges raised by the European commission, and pin pointed in the budget allocation to the sparsely populated areas.

We kindly invite all participators at NSPA-forum to register for the joint first day afternoon programme Europaforum Northern Sweden which will be arranged 24th of October.

Joint registration form NSPA-forum and Europaforum XIX North Sweden

Register today for NSPA-forum 24-25th of October and for Europaforum XIX – but at latest the 7th of October!

Conference fee:

- Participation in NSPA-forum is free of charge
- Participators in NSPA-forum are invited to take part in the Europaforum Thursday afternoon programme, also free of charge.

Registration is binding.

Information about registration:

Lotta Weinehall, Umeå Congress, +46 90 706031

Registration to conferences and hotels

is to be done on this link:

<http://eventus.trippus.se/NSPA-forumdelegate>

Please fill in required information fields on NSPA-forum and/or Europaforum.

OBS! Hotel reservation is to be made the 30th of September at latest for room guarantee.

Further information:

www.nspa-network.eu

Fredrik Gunnarsson, Region Västerbotten
fredrik.gunnarsson@regionvasterbotten.se, +46 70 325 57 17

Niklas Gandal, Region Västerbotten
niklas.gandal@regionvasterbotten.se, +46 70 625 57 37

INVITATION TO EUROPAFORUM XIX - Thursday 24th October 2013 - SF Filmstaden, Rådhusgatan 2, Umeå

This part will also be able to follow on the web: www.regionvasterbotten.se/direkt

- 14.40 Coffee
- 15.00 **Reflections from European parliament**
the northern territories –in the interest of Europe?
Finnish MEP (TBC) **Jens Nilsson**, (S) MEP
- 15.30 **European scenarios 2020 and the role of northern territories.**
Ms Zaliwska, head of unit, DG Regio, European Commission
- 15.50 **OECD: territorial development and territorial reviews (tbc)**
Analyzing conditionalities and challenges for the nordic territories.
OECDs methods on territorial development and territorial reviews
Abel Schumann, Economist, Regional Development Policy-division, OECD
accompanied by **Sverker Lindblad**, Swedish Ministry of Enterprise
- 16.20 **Discussion between and questions to speakers from afternoon session**
- 17.00 Europaforum ends

NSPA-FORUM - THURSDAY 24th OCTOBER 2013 - Festsalen, Rådhuset, Rådhusorget, Umeå

- 19.00 **Opening of NSPA forum**
Marie-Louise Rönmark, Mayor Umeå municipality
Erik Bergkvist, Chair of regional board Region Västerbotten
- 19.30 **European capital of culture 2014 – Culture driven growth**
Jan Björinge, VD Kulturhuvudstadsåret
- 20.00 Mingle buffet

NSPA-FORUM - FREDAG 25th OCTOBER 2013 - Festsalen, Rådhuset, Rådhusorget, Umeå

- 9.00 **Welcome speech**
Erik Bergkvist, chair of regional board Region Västerbotten
- 9.15 **European Commission**
Ms Zaliwska, head of unit, DG Regio, European Commission
- OECD region of development**
Abel Schumann, Economist, Regional Development Policy-division, OECD
- 9.45 **Strong-specific and Promising – a follow-up on the 2020 vision for NSPA**
Johanna Roto, Nordregio, **Erik Glöersen**, Spatial foresight
- Working groups – tighter cooperation and tangible results**
Short presentations from regions in Finland, Norway and Sweden on topics specified in NSPA 2020-vision and existing regional development strategies, up for comparison and discussion about the way ahead for all of NSPA cooperation and mutual bench-marking for better progress in critical themes such as smart specialization, rural-urban links, raw material and energy, innovation systems etc.
- 12.00 **Closure of NSPA-forum – welcome to next forum**

