

NSPA Forum 24-25 March 2022 at Wood Hotel Skellefteå, Västerbotten
Wood Hotel by Elite, Torggatan 3, Skellefteå

Thursday 24 March

Optional pre-conference session on regional transformation and skills supply

Quality Hotel Skellefteå Stadshotell, Stationsgatan 8-10, Skellefteå

- 9:00 Showroom presentation by Skellefteå City and Region Västerbotten
10:00 Roundtable discussion on common NSPA challenges
11:00 Site visit Northvolt battery plant (*Bus tour*)

12:00 *Lunch at the Wood Hotel by Elite*

13:00 Welcome to the NSPA Forum

Rickard Carstedt, *Councilor for Regional Development, Region Västerbotten*
Tomas Norvoll, *President of Nordland County, Chair NSPA network*

13:15 Key-Note Speech by the EU Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms

Elisa Ferreira, *EU Commissioner, European Commission (- online)*

Presentations from the four Working Groups on NSPA potentials for the EU

13:45 WG1: Arctic Resources – Bioeconomy

*Work shop session leaders: Tiia Talvisara, East & North Finland EU Office,
Tina Helen Melfjord, North Norway European Office*

14:15 WG2: Arctic Resources – Minerals

Anna Kostet, *Georange*
Kristiina Jokelainen, *Lapland*
Linda Helén Haukland, *Nordlands Fylkeskommune*
Anders Forsgren, *Program Director, Boliden*
Moderator: Janni Ekrem, North Norway European Office

14:45 WG3: Arctic Advantages

Work shop session leader: Janni Ekrem, North Norway European Office

15:15 *Fika*

15:40 WG4: Arctic Attractiveness

Work shop session leader: Julia Hanson, North Sweden European Office

16:10 *Summing up the presentations and NSPA common work ahead*

16:30 **Arctic Investment Platform (AIP) to deliver investments in the NSPA**
– Presenting the AIP and the work by the European Investment Fund (EIF)
Mika Riipi, County Governor, Lapland, Chair AIP Steering Committee
Minna Leisvuori, Senior Manager, European Investment Fund
Jörgen Larsson, CEO Inlandsinnovation, Östersund, Sweden

17:30 End of the Day

17:45 NSPA Steering Committee meeting (*for SC members*)
Quality Hotel Skellefteå Stadshotell, Stationsgatan 8-10, Skellefteå

AIP Steering Committee meeting (*for SC members*)
Quality Hotel Skellefteå Stadshotell, Stationsgatan 8-10, Skellefteå

19:00 *Dinner at The Wood Hotel, Sara Culture House, one of the tallest timber buildings in the world, with an introduction about the building.*

Friday 25 March

8:00 Take-Aways from Day 1

8:15 **The new EU Arctic policy for the European Arctic and NSPA regions**
Michael Mann, EU Arctic Ambassador, European External Action Service

9:00 **EU support for an OECD NSPA follow-up study**
Thomas Giacoletto, Policy Officer, DG Reform, EU Commission
José-Enrique Garcilazo, Head of the Regional and Rural Unit, OECD (- online)

9:30 *Fika*

10:00 **Dialogue on the forming of the, by EU, granted NSPA common OECD project, to support regional growth capacity building**

10:45 **Concluding key-note remarks on the DG Reform TSI-support**
Daniele Dotto, Head of Unit, DG Reform, EU Commission (- online)

11:00 Summing-Up and End of the Forum (with adoption of positions)

11:30 *Walking Lunch*

Forum Moderator: Mikael Janson, North Sweden European Office