

Cooperation between Eastern Norway County Network (ENCN) and Schleswig-Holstein

Cooperation perspectives 2011/2012 – final

Adopted in the Common Commission meeting 5 May 2011 at Sylt, Schleswig-Holstein

1. BALTIC SEA AND NORTH SEA COOPERATION

The partners have used each other's network and representations in the Baltic Sea Region and in the North Sea Region and have co-operated within the frame of BSSSC and NSC over the past years.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- Take part in the work with a Strategy for the North Sea Region – North Sea 2020. Connect the work to the cooperation within North Sea Commission.
- Take part in the follow up of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. Connect the work to the cooperation within BSSSC. Investigate possibilities within EU/EEA financial programmes to facilitate concrete cooperation projects.
- Follow the reform of the structural funds and especially of INTERREG funding for the new period 2014-2020.
- Follow and support the work of the “Baltic Sea History Project”

2. MARITIME POLICY

Maritime policy is one of the focus topics for cooperation between Schleswig-Holstein and Eastern Norway County Network (ENCN). The two regions have supported the development of two Interreg IV B projects on Clean Shipping – “Clean North Sea Shipping” and “Clean Baltic Shipping - among others through facilitating a workshop in Oslo in January last year. Both projects got funding in June 2010 and are up and running. Schleswig-Holstein and ENCN will follow the work

The partner regions work together within the BSSSC Working Group on Maritime Policy (chaired by Schleswig-Holstein) aiming at contributing to the development of the Baltic Sea Region into a European maritime best practise region by 2015.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- Follow and support the work in the Interreg IV B projects Clean Baltic Shipping and Clean North Sea Shipping.

- Cooperate within the BSSSC WG Maritime Policy
- Inform each other about large arrangements and activities of interest for the other partner region – open up for and stimulate participation from each other's organisations and business environments. Maintain and develop the existing networks.

3. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Sustainable Energy and Climate Change are high on everyone's agenda and should continue to be an area of common concern. During the CC meeting 2010 there was a special focus on sustainable energy and this discussion will be continued during the CC meeting 2011.

The Renewable Energy Regions Network (RENREN) launched by six regions including Schleswig-Holstein was presented at the CC meeting in 2008. An INTERREG IV C project application elaborated by an enlarged RENREN consortium (led by Schleswig-Holstein) received approval in early 2010. ENCN actors were invited to attend this project's launch conference in Schleswig-Holstein last year – as observers.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012 (to be amended after the CC meeting according to topics up for dialog):

- To exchange information and inform each other about large arrangements and activities of interest for the other partner region.

4. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Transport Corridors are an important topic for Schleswig-Holstein as well as ENCN – and binds our regions together. The Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link will open new perspectives for the whole Western Baltic Sea Region and will serve as a catalyst to create mental bridges and intensified cooperation in various sectors between the regions.

Transport corridors were one of the topics discussed during the CC meeting in 2010, and as a follow up Mr. Granquist - chairman of the WG on transport in ENCN - took part in the STRING conference in Malmö, Sweden in June 2010. Oslo, Akershus and Östfold counties are active within the Interreg IV A project ColnCo North – covering the corridor from Oslo-region to Copenhagen. They are working to develop a follow up project also taking into account the TEN-T revision and the Nordic Triangle - including the Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link as an important element for the connection to Europe.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- Taking into account the existing transport corridors and cooperation structures/ projects involving our two regions (i.e. ColnCo North, STRING, Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link, Skandinaviske Arena and TransBaltic) look for synergies from the projects and cooperating structures to be fed into our bilateral cooperation.

5. CULTURAL COOPERATION

Art

The cooperation in the area of contemporary art continues, and our aim is to have regular exchange of exhibitions on modern art in our two regions. The "Östlandsutstillingen 2008" was presented in Lübeck in the autumn of 2008 and the participants of the Common Commission meeting took part in the official opening. "Landesschau Schleswig-Holstein 2009" was shown in the Town Hall Gallery in Oslo in February and March 2010. A common Norwegian – German catalogue was produced, with a written presentation of each artist (i.e. Lübeck in 2008).

On 27.02.10 a joint seminar for artists from Eastern Norway and visiting artists from Schleswig-Holstein was arranged on the topic "Art projects, Nature, Ecology and Climatic changes". The co-operation has over the past years provided an arena as well as networks for artists from Eastern Norway and Schleswig-Holstein, which are of mutual benefit.

The plan to show Östlandsutstillingen in Schleswig-Holstein 2011, as proposed in the cooperation perspective for 2010/2011, was changed by a process which resulted in an invitation from the German artists' association BBK to Östlandsutstillingen to take part in an exhibition of 3 artists + 3 artists, in Kiel May / June 2011.

The preparation of the common exhibition on crafts "Connecting 2011" has been successfully carried out during 2010. The exhibition consists of works by 40 artists from 5 regions and countries and is defined as an Ars Baltica project. A catalogue is made and an internet page is established. The project got a broad presentation in the magazine Kunsthandwerk & Design, which is a magazine for German speaking Europe. The exhibition opened in Flensburg 13 February 2011 and will continue to Eastern Norway in June 2011. Later Connecting will be brought to Sweden, Finland and Denmark. This tour will end in autumn 2012. See also <http://www.connecting-artsandcrafts.com/>

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- To carry out the regional Kunst Hand Werk exhibition "Connecting 2011" with artists from Schleswig-Holstein and its partner regions in the Nordic countries. The exhibition opened at the Museumsberg in Flensburg, Schleswig-Holstein on 13 February 2011 and will be shown in Eastern Norway (Akershus Art Gallery) from 18 June – 31 July 2011. Then it will continue to Finland, Sweden and Denmark during 2011/2012.
- Present a small part of "Östlandsutstillingen 2011" in Schleswig-Holstein in May - June 2011 (3 + 3 exhibition). Include the exhibition in the promotion of the "Norwegenfestival 2011" programme connected to 822. HAFENGEBURTSTAG HAMBURG 2011.
- Prepare and carry out a joint exhibition of "Landesschau" and "Östlandsutstillingen" to be presented in Moss, Eastern Norway in 2012 and in Schleswig-Holstein early 2013.

Taking care of the Viking heritage

In the context of the international nomination project of Viking monuments and sites for the UNESCO World Heritage list, the national level on Norwegian side (Riksantikvaren) works together with the federal level in Schleswig-Holstein (Archäologisches Landesamt). The Riksantikvaren has informed that it will promote Viking sites in Vestfold as well as Hyllestad in Sogn og Fjordane to be included in the UNESCO list. The Vestfold County Administration supports the nomination of Viking Age burial mounds in their domain.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- Cooperation on developing the transnational serial nomination on Viking heritage in Northern Europe for the UNESCO World Heritage list- including Thingvellir in Iceland, Jelling and the Trelleborgene in Denmark, Birka and Hovgarden in Sweden, Grobina in Latvia, Hedeby and the Danevirke in Schleswig-Holstein and Viking areas in Vestfold (Eastern Norway) and in Sogn og Fjordane county (West Norway). The State Directorate for Cultural Heritage (Riksantikvaren) has announced the theme “memorial landscape” with Borrehaugene, Oseberghaugen and Gokstadhaugen in Vestfold together with the theme “large scale production” represented by the millstone quarry Hyllestad in Sogn og Fjordane as component parts from Norway.

“Change of Positions”

In March 2010 a common project between artists from Schleswig-Holstein (Künstlerbund Rendsburg-Eckernförde) and Norway (Norske Billedkunstnere and Nordnorske Billedkunstnere) was realised on the Lofoten. The pictures were presented in the Chamber of Commerce in Kiel and a catalogue was created.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012

- The exhibition will be shown in Oslo in 2012.

Cultural programmes for young people - exchange of best practise

Eastern-Norway put great emphasis on “The cultural rucksack” - which has a broad content including art, music, theatre and local history. Schleswig-Holstein is active too in the field of culture for children and youth. The idea is to discuss and learn from each other.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- Referring to the 20th anniversary of the Ars Baltica Festival a meeting of young people from the Baltic Sea region will be held in the “Nordkolleg” in Rendsburg from 12 -14 September 2011. Partners of the event are Academia Baltica and the Baltic Sea Secretariat for Youth Affairs. Representatives from ENCN will be

invited to present the concept of “the cultural rucksack”. A study visit for the WG on Culture in ENCN to Schleswig-Holstein will be planned connected to this event.

Literature

Also in 2011 the “Festival of the debut novel” will be celebrated (5 -8 May). Regularly a Norwegian author takes part in the event, this year Benedicte Meyer Kroneberg. In March 2011 Karl Ove Knausgard visited the Literaturhaus Schleswig-Holstein.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- Contribute to further development of contacts between the Literaturhaus Schleswig-Holstein and Litteraturhuset Oslo that were established in 2007 and refreshed 2010.

Film

The “Landesverband Jugend & Film” (LJF) is interested in a cooperation in the field of youth and film. Former contacts have not been successful yet.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- The LJF proposes a common filmcamp in Schleswig-Holstein in 2012 to produce bilingual or subtitled films together. Participants should be 20 young people from Schleswig-Holstein and Eastern Norway from 14 to 16 years.
- Young people from Schleswig-Holstein and Eastern Norway could participate at the “Youth Film Price 2012” in Schleswig-Holstein.
- Ten youth from Schleswig-Holstein could participate at the “Amandus Filmfestival 2013” in Lillehammer.
- The last two events are regular and could be visited vice versa.
- The ENCN secretariat and the Ministry for Culture will support the actors to realise the projects.
- Norway participates in the “Nordische Filmtage Lübeck 2011” (2 - 6 November). The Norwegian Embassy in Berlin supports the project.

Music

Musicians from Norway will participate in the folkBaltica Festival 2011 that takes place in Schleswig-Holstein and the German-Danish Border Region.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- Investigate the interest and options of cooperation between folkBaltica and institutions related to folk’s music in Eastern Norway.

6. YOUTH COOPERATION

Youth involvement is high on the priority list in the international work of ENCN and a focused area in the Norwegian Government's Strategy for Germany. Both ENCN and Schleswig-Holstein are active within the BSSSC WG Youth Policy.

A study visit for the ENCN youth network was planned for spring 2010, but could not be carried out due to negative answer from Color Line. Age restrictions on Color Line ferries made it impossible to travel with 25 young people without enough grownups to accompany them.

This years' youth event in connection to the BSSSC annual conference will be financed through a common application in the "EU youth in action programme" from ENCN, Landesjugendring Schleswig-Holstein and other partners from the Baltic Sea.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- Continue to support the BSSSC youth work through the WG youth policy and the youth network under the West Pomeranian Chairmanship (2011-2012). Partners from Schleswig-Holstein will be invited to participate in the meeting of the Working Group Youth Policy in the frame of the BSSSC Annual Conference 2012 in Eastern Norway - 16 – 17 September 2012 in Oslo.
- Investigate further possibilities to create a joint project using the Youth in Action programme.
- The Landesjugendring Schleswig-Holstein will invite young people and actors of Youth Work to the Baltic Sea conference for Youth Affairs in October 2011 in Schleswig-Holstein.

7. TOURISM COOPERATION

Tourism is a major economic sector for Schleswig-Holstein as well as for the counties in Eastern Norway. German tourists are the largest group of foreign visitor to Norway. Our two cooperating areas are well connected by the direct ferry between Oslo and Kiel and via Fredrikshavn, Denmark to Larvik (Color Line). Flight connections are good between Hamburg airport (on the boarder to Schleswig-Holstein) and Oslo airport. In connection with the ENCN participation at Hafengeburtstag 2011 in Hamburg work is done to market the region in Northern Germany for 2011. There is intention to follow up this work also for 2011/2012 to get long term effects of the activities done in connection with HAFENGEBURTSTAG HAMBURG 2011 and the Norwegenfestival.

Proposal for actions in 2011/2012:

- To explore the cooperation possibilities within the tourism sector between the two partner areas. Involve relevant actors like Color Line in the discussion. Build on the work done in connection with HAFENGEBURTSTAG HAMBURG 2011 and the joint marketing campaign.

Responsible units for coordination of the cooperation:

From Schleswig-Holstein: Division for European Affairs in the State Chancellery of the Minister President of Land Schleswig-Holstein (*change made in August 2010*)

From ENCN: Eastern Norway County Network Secretariat