



GRENSEKOMITEEN
VÄRMLAND - ØSTFOLD



Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



Central Scandinavian Borderland

Cross-border transport-infrastructure and cooperation to foster sustainable growth

ROUND TABLE – OSLO 13th March 2017

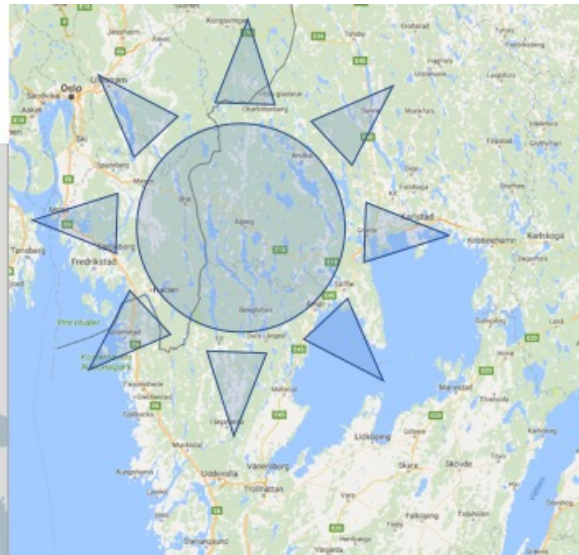
Grand Hotel

Goal for the meeting:

Explore the potential for a cross-border regional development strategy, reaping the benefits from the TEN-T core network, and identify the next steps

The event aims to bring together experts and officials from diverse backgrounds to share ideas and think creatively about innovative pathways to sustainable regional development in the Scandinavian borderland area, located at the border zone of the Oslo labor market. The report from the meeting will be used for the elaboration of the final strategy which will be the main output from the case, and which will include a list of suggestions to regional and national governments, Nordic Council and European Commission.

**TARGET AREA:
CENTRAL SCANDINAVIAN
BORDERLAND**



The case area covers south-eastern parts of the Oslo-region, the whole of Østfold and Värmland and parts of the counties Akershus, Hedmark, Västra Götaland,



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PROGRAM:

Arrivals: Sunday evening or Monday morning

Hotel and venue: Grand Hotel

Monday 13th

09.00 Registration, coffee and networking

Session 1: Challenges for the day

09.15 Introductions of the participants and the agenda of the day

09.25 Potential of the Central Scandinavian Borderland

Alf S. Johansen, project case coordinator

09.35 Tentacle project and the TEN-T core network in relation to Scandinavia.

Tentacle project manager Wiktor Szydarowski

Session 2: Transport across borders in Northern Europe– gaps and potentials

09.45 Cross-border co-operation and regional development: what works?

Professor Emeritus Cliff Hague

10.00 Nordic cross-border transport initiatives

Gustaf Norlén, Nordregio

10.10 Scandria2Act project, focus and priorities

Tom Granquist, Eastern Norway county network.

10.20 Logistics and transport infrastructure in the Bothnian Corridor, E12-Atlantica

Mathias Lindström, Kvarken Council and partner in NSBCoRe project

10.30 Questions and answer / discussion / Main message from the session

10.45 Coffee and tea break

Session 3: Cross-border co-operation on infrastructure within Central Scandinavia

11.00 Better transport connections Oslo–Stockholm, status on Action Selection study

Jan Lindgren, Trafikverket

11.15 Comments from Jernbanedirektoratet (Norwegian Railway Directorate)

11.20 Infrastructure and regional development, related to TEN-T

- Västra Götalands Region, Max Falk, infrastr. strategist in Västra Götalands Region
- Värmlands region, Marcus Smedman, infrastr. strategist in Värmland Region
- Østfold Region, Siv Jacobsen, Vice mayor Østfold County Council

12.00 Questions and answers / discussion / Main message from the session

12.15 -12.45 Lunch break



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Session 4: Connecting the Central Scandinavia with fast cross border rail links to the TEN-T

- 12.45 Freight capacity, speed and railway bottlenecks – what is needed in Central Scandinavia? Per Corshammar, Perfekt Track HB
- 13.05 Are cross border Scandinavian fast rail links between the major cities feasible? Jørg Westermann, Norsk Bane AS
- 13.25 Comments to the ideas and concepts of fast Scandinavian rail links with connections to the TEN-T core network (Jernbanedirektoratet, Trafikverket)
- 13.45 More comments and discussion, Main message from the session
- 14.10-14.20 Coffee and tea break

Session 5: What is to be done?

- 14.20 Round table discussions on:
- 1) How to create an infrastructure-led sustainable development strategy for the Central Scandinavian Borderland?
 - 2) What facts and research inputs are needed for an infrastructure-led development strategy for the Central Scandinavian Borderland?
 - 3) How and to whom should the case for an infrastructure-led development strategy for the Central Scandinavian Borderland be disseminated?
 - 4) What are the essential next steps to take today's ideas forwards?
- 15.15 Summary of the round table exercise.
- 15.25 Thanks and closing of the event
- 15.30-17.00 The case team will wrap up the day and draft summary / conclusions

Expected outputs:

All participants prepare their presentations in English, (e.g. power point). The presentations will be collected and used for the future work on the case.

Organizer:

Värmland-Østfold Border Council, Tentacle partner 10
Innovation Circle Network, Tentacle partner 6
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Moderators:

Cliff Hague, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
Øivind Holt, Halden, Norway