



NPA Annual Conference 2016 – Arctic Boost

Economic Development for the Peoples in the Arctic

28th September 2016 – Hotel Kea, Akureyri, Iceland



Photo: akureyri.is

Arctic Boost, the NPA Annual Event 2016, aims to contribute to the discussion on how cooperation programmes can contribute to economic development in the Arctic. The event will take into account the ongoing developments and opportunities in the Arctic and neighbouring regions, and the perspective of the people living there. Projects will illustrate concrete examples of Arctic development.

The event will gather projects and representatives from different programmes, international organisations and stakeholders working with economic development in the Arctic.

FINAL AGENDA

28th September – main conference day	
09:30-10:00	<i>Registration</i>
10:00-10:50	<p>Opening session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening by Chair – Mr Snorri Björn Sigurðsson, Director of Development Division, Icelandic Regional Development Institute • Welcome and Icelandic view on economic development in the Arctic – Mr Gunnar Bragi Sveinsson, Icelandic Minister of Regional Development • Welcome to Akureyri – Mr Eiríkur Björn Björgvinsson, Mayor of Akureyri • Joint Communication on the EU Arctic Policy - Mr Kim Kuivalainen, European External Action Service EEAS
10:50-11:10	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:10-12:05	<p>The potential of the Arctic regions and their neighbours</p> <p>Different initiatives reviewing the Arctic regions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foresight Analysis for Sustainable Regional Development in the Arctic, Nordic-Arctic working group on Sustainable Development (Nordic Council of Ministers) – Ms Anna Karlsdottir replacing Ms Lisbeth Nylund, Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation • Economic development in rural and remote areas – Mr Chris McDonald, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development OECD • New opportunities for the Arctic food sector – Mr Ólafur Reykdal, Matis Icelandic Food and Biotech R&D

12:05-13:00	<p>The people's perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people's views of the future based on a study made by Nordic Council's Arctic working group, Ms Anna Karlsdottir, Nordregio • The importance of involving indigenous peoples in rural development - Mr Chris McDonald, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development OECD • A regional perspective, how to balance contradicting interests – Ms Kristiina Jokelainen, Regional Council of Lapland, Finland
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00-15:25	<p>Panel Discussion on the role of Arctic programmes</p> <p>How should programmes prioritise the strategic opportunities and select projects to make the biggest impact? Which target groups or needs should be addressed better by the programmes? How can programmes in the Arctic regions work together in a smarter way?</p> <p>What is the common ground to continue the discussions between the programmes and the Nordic/Arctic organisations? Facilitated by Mr Ole Damsgaard (NPA Secretariat) and Ms Katerina Kring (INTERACT). Reflections by Dr Irene McMaster, European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde, Scotland.</p> <p>Organisations represented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nordic/Arctic and other organisations: Northern Dimension, Barents Euro-Arctic Council, Arctic Council, Arctic Economic Council, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Nordregio • European programmes: Interreg NPA, Interreg Nord, and the Kolarctic ENPI Programme
15:25-15:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:45-16:30	<p>Hands-on project examples</p> <p>Examples of Arctic projects from different Interreg programmes with links to the area's potentials and the people's perspective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circular Ocean (Interreg NPA transnational) - Dr Neil James, North Highland College UHI: Environmental Research Institute (ERI), Scotland • Our Shared Northern Heritage (Kolarctic ENPI cross-border) - Peter Johansson, Geological Survey of Finland • AnimalSense (Interreg Botnia-Atlantica cross-border) - Johannes Karlsson, Umeå University, Sweden • Northern Cereals (Interreg NPA transnational) – Ólafur Reykdal, Matís Icelandic Food and Biotech R&D
16:30-17:15	<p>Closing session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arctic cooperation as a means for regional development in Russia's northern regions, Mr Igor Kapryin, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation • Keynote speech: Potentials and the challenges for the future development in the Arctic – Ms Anu Fredrikson, Director of the Arctic Economic Council Secretariat • Concluding remarks by Chair
18:00 latest	<i>Bus leaves for dinner in Siglufjordur</i>

29th September – parallel sessions for invited participants		
09:00-12:30	<p>Workshop on collaboration</p> <p>The main objective of this workshop is to identify the vision and practical ways for cooperation among programmes and actors in the Arctic. The workshop is facilitated by INTERACT. It is for invited participants only.</p>	<p>Lead Partner Seminar</p> <p>This workshop is for ongoing NPA projects and Regional Contact Points. The seminar will provide instructions for project reporting, project communications, and other project implementation issues.</p>
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13:30-16:00	Project consultations with Desk Officers.	