ONE-PAGE-SUMMARY

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Projektnamn: | South Baltic Public Innovators Network- SB PIN |
| Contact information | Ludvig Einarsson  EU-koordinator Europa Direkt Hässleholm  0721-996850  Ludvig.einarsson@hassleholm.se |
| Needs | The municipalities/local authorities and other local organisations in North Eastern Skåne have found it difficult to engage and / or manage projects that contain transnational cooperation. Most EU-funded projects are operated in the municipality without European partners. Since several of the EU funds and programs of interest to municipalities and others require European partners, there is a need to develop international partnerships. There may be several explanations as to why municipalities and local organisations have had these difficulties, for instance;  - International cooperation has not been integrated into the municipalities’ ordinary operations  - Uncertainty, bad experiences and / or lack of contacts and networks  - Lack of foresight, perseverance and time frame  - Difficulties in communication towards managers / politicians  - Lack of infrastructure/ internal organization  - low capacity for innovation governance and leadership |
| Aim and goal | Through this project we want to increase the municipalities’ and other local organisations’ international expertise and activity through network building and increased innovation capacity in order to create the conditions and demonstrate the benefits of transnational cooperation. |
| Activities | - Preparing the participants to allocate resources to increase its presence in the cross-border cooperation  - Prepare and implement thematic cross-border programs, courses, workshops developing the participants’ international expertise, innovation capacity and establish networks.  - Letting a number of selected municipalities/towns be pilots for a model for project execution. |
| Results | The project will increase the local capacity in transnational cooperation and lead to the municipalities participating in a long-term project/network. The project will essentially lead to the participants participating in the South Baltic Sea Region’s jointly with international partners in the area of blue and green growth (eg. Innovation, water, energy, food, tourism etc.) as well as other areas of local interest. |
| Participants | The target group of the project consists of EU coordinators, officials and politicians involved in development processes / projects. Stakeholders are officials and politicians who could use the project to improve their skills and their work by taking advantage of cross-border cooperation.  For the success of the project, the municipal officials and politicians need to be in focus.  The needs have been identified during discussions and exercises at start-up meeting with local government officials (eg the experience from previous projects, skills requirements, etc.).  Confirmed partners:  Krinova Science Park and Incubator  The municipalites of EU-office Skåne Nordost (9 municipalities)  Currently looking for partners:   * in Germany – districts (Landkreise) of Mecklen­burg-Vorpommern: Nordwestmecklenburg, Rostock, Vorpommern-Rügen, Vorpommern-Greifswald and district-free city (kreisfreie Stadt): Rostock; * in Denmark – Regional Municipality of Bornholm and Region Zealand (subregions: Østsjælland, Vest- og Sydsjælland); * in Lithuania – counties of Klaipėda, Tauragė and Telšiai; * in Poland – subregions of: Miasto Szczecin, Szczeciński, Stargardzki, Koszaliński, Słupski, Starog­ardzki, Gdański, Trójmiejski and Elbląski.   Potential associated partners:   * Europe direct Hässleholm * ASP * Skåne association of local authorites |
| Resources | Priority Axis 5: Increasing cooperation capacity of local actors  Specific Objective 5: Improve the cooperation capacity of local South Baltic area actors through participation in cross-border networks  South Baltic programme co-finance 75-85% of budget. Total budget for 24 months is 500 000 euro. |
| Time frame | DL 17 juni. Duration 24 monts. The project will start 1 of November 2016. |
| Questions | Describe your challenges / needs regarding increased international cooperation?  What are your experiences of transnational EU projects?  What are your strengths in blue and green growth (or other subjects), that you would like to develop/ work with within this project? |

About us: EU-office Skåne Nordost is functioning on behalf of a number of municipalities in southern Sweden.The overall objective of the office is to increase the use of EU funding in local and regional development. Our main task is to facilitate project development and implementation of EU-projects in the participating municipalities and stimulate international cooperation in general.

Europe Direct Hässleholm is a part of the Europe Direct network operating in north eastern Skåne. Europe Direct is an information network that is operated by the European Commission, together with local and regional actors in EU member countries. There are about 500 Europe Direct offices around Europe with the aim of disseminating information about the EU and promote local and regional debate about the EU. In Sweden there are about 16 Europe Direct offices.

Krinova AB runs development projects, organize meetings and conferences, and provide local services to tenants in connection with Kristianstad University. Krinova shall contribute to companies start and grow, and will work to increase the exchange of knowledge and experience between the university, industry and the public sector.

Facts about the region: The region has approximately 200,000 inhabitants. The largest cities are Kristianstad (80,000 inhabitants) and Hässleholm (50,000 inhabitants). The municipalities have a tradition of good cooperation in various areas such as tourism and business development. Furthermore, they also form a common labour market and housing market. The major industries are manufacturing, agriculture, tourism and food industries. Small and medium sized enterprises (SME) are dominating but there are also many larger companies.