GC WORKSHOPS DESCRIPTIONS

1.   Youth for safer youth, Safe CC

In last UBC General Conference in Vaxjo UBC Safe Cities Commission had the pleasure to discuss with Baltic Sea Region youth representatives about their safety perception and feelings. UBC Safe Cities Commission would like to continue this discussion in more detailed manner at this UBC General Conference in Kaunas. We already have been taking various actions, i.e. we prepared and got funding from the CBSS Project Support Facility for the project "Youth for safer youth". So you can come to our workshop and help us to make Baltic Sea Region youth safer together. We know, that you can help us to find solutions.

2.   Baltic Sea House – Inclusive society / Aarhus

The 10 Baltic Sea Houses will be the region's new common "Lighthouses", situated on the coastline around the Baltic Sea, emphasizing the connecting water element, which unites the region, our common space and future.

All the 10 Baltic Sea Houses will collectively symbolize the strong affiliation and dependency between the nations and in the long term, be the generator of new connections and innovative collaborations across the region - addressing future development and sustainable use of local and regional resources.

In collaboration, the 10 BSH will contribute to a collective understanding of the region - an understanding of diversity and inclusiveness, supporting the Union of the Baltic cities (UBC) and the EU´s EUSBSR agendas, for the benefit of all nations and their citizens.

1: Introduction to the Baltic Sea House(BSH) project.

2. How does the BSH – through programming and placing, become a social part of everyday life in the region.?

3. To be rooted in the local society, how is the BSH best organized? – Who are the main stakeholders of the project – on regional and local level?

4. As a Lighthouse of the region - how can BSH become a shared and integrated place for multi-level governance?

5. How can the Baltic Sea House (BSH) support the agenda of the different UBC commissions?

3.   Overcoming gender inequality in our society / Klaipėda, WG on Gender Equality

After a short introduction focusing on the need for closing the gender gap in the Baltic sea area, we will have the opportunity to be inspired of the way the European Youth Capital of 2021, Klaipeda approach the subject. Their #chooseklaipeda ambassadors will lead us through a discussion on how to overcome existing challenges and minimize the stereotypes of gender.

After that we shift perspective from the future to the past, by taking part of the city of Kaunas experiences with historical walks in the city. To combat gender inequality we need to look both back and forward, using earlier success and failure to strengthen our work for a gender equal future.

4. How to make vocational education more inclusive, accessible and attractive? /TF on Youth Employment and Well-being

The future availability of a professional work force is one of the key questions regarding the competitiveness of the BSR. This workshop will provide a platform for sharing best practices in making vocational education a more desirable educational path for young people, while still ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all. One of the questions discussed will be the creation of "a vocational college that never sleeps", a continually functioning educational institution with a flexible intake. Workshop includes case-studies about attractiveness of VET, inclusive solutions and youngsters as an active actors in developing VET.

5. The value of the citizens' participation for cities governance, EmPaci Project

In recent years there has been a significant effort to improve citizens' participation in the decision-making by developing capacity in participatory budgeting, co-production of public services, general stakeholders involvement and advocating in particular in the countries of Baltic sea region. However, these efforts are still in their early stages in many countries, and heavily reliant on cities government initiatives. There continue to be issues both on the demand side (how much governments genuinely want citizens' advice) and on the supply side (e.g., skilled citizens' able to make financial decisions, understand strategic documents etc.).

The goal of the workshop – is to focus and become a trigger for discussions and debates around capacity challenges to citizens' participation in public policy making in the countries of the Baltic Sea region and legitimation of participatory budgeting, citizens' coproduction of the public services at the cities and concrete remedies for those challenges.

We invite all who are focus on aspects and particularities of citizens' participation in the decision- making; participatory budgeting, co-production of public services, stakeholder's involvement in the countries of Baltic Sea region in order to increase the practical relevance of the workshop and to develop a common base knowledge.

6. Digitalisation empowering citizens participation /Elva&Kiel

Workshop will focus on different digital solutions that are used to empower citizen participation through practical examples. Keywords - digital tools, open data, inclusive budgeting, e-voting, smart city solutions, e-democracy will be discussed and presented by great case studies from Germany and Estonia both state and local level. All participants will

be included into discussion panel on topic how to use digital tools for empowering citizen participation based on your local experience and as an outcome we hope to develop a "toolbox" of ideas how to put these ideas into practice.

7.   Promoting youth involvement in the city life / Visby, Klaipeda, Gargzdai

8.   Local perspectives for solving climate change related security risks – joining forces to effectively work with Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation SustCC & SafeCC

This session offers an opportunity to contribute to solving one of the most urgent challenges today and in the future – the rapidly evolving security risks related to climate change. During the session the participants will discuss the results and analysis of two reports: a mapping of the level of commitment and implementation of the UN Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and a mapping of the climate risk assessment legislation and practices – both focusing specifically on the countries in the Baltic Sea Region. These two reports provide the base for the discussions and will be distributed to all participants beforehand. The objective of the session is to collect the input from the UBC stakeholders regarding challenges and needs related to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, with the focus on the local level implementation. Participants are also encouraged to come with proposals for how the Covenant of Mayors should be used to facilitate the transfer of knowledge on climate risks assessment to and between cities. The session is part of the CASCADE project "Community Safety Action for Climate Adaptation and Development", funded by EC DG ECHO.

9.   STEAM – Science and Technology Path for Every Child and Youngster / TF on Youth Employment and Well-being

STEAM comes from the words Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. These are the skills that are needed in the future and this workshop concentrates on one very basic question: how to build science and technology path for every child and youngster through the education.
The aim of this workshop is to discuss STEAM work, share best practices and experiences and plan the future activities in BSR. The outcome of the workshop will be a proposal for the UBC Board for future STEAM cooperation in BSR. Workshop includes case-studies about STEAM-cooperation and youngsters role in this work.

10.   Engaging citizens to live climate friendly / Ducky

Agenda:

Part 1

Presenting case studies from campaigns in Oslo (Europe's Green Capitol for 2019) and rest of Norway

Climate Shout (to be performed on 30th of August 2019, 100 000 people will be summoned to meet in the Oslo city center to "shout for the climate". The whole event will be supported by local companies and NGOs)

Ducky Sustainable Food Campaign (currently ongoing with collaboration of NGO called Future In Our Hands)

School Climate Championship (currently ongoing with high schools of Norway both in Oslo and outside Oslo area)

Hadeland project (7 municipalities around Oslo starting big Climate campaign, mobilising both public and private sector and citizens to calculate their climate footprint and set goals (make a pledge) to reduce climate emissions)

Part 2

How to create a citizen's engagement climate campaign?

Learning points and experiences from case studies.

11.   Health as a new paradigm of responsible urban development / INTA

While more than half of the world's population is urbanised, and urban population growing, health is a core urban issue of the 21st century. The levers of action on health and well-being depend on broader policies than health stricto sensu, and have cultural, social and economic impacts for which the urban dimension plays an integrator and regulator role.
Plenty of evidences point to the badly managed urban processes, and the lowering quality of the urban space, as the main impact on the urban health and the main complaint of the inhabitants of the EU: insecurity, spatial inequalities, inconvenient public transport, permanent air pollution, insufficient access to services, diffuse environmental nuisances, growth of chronic diseases, misuse of public spaces, etc.
Thus, improving the state of urban health requires a coordinated action on all health determinants at different territorial scales. How to create a new culture of health in the territories? How to improve thinking, designing and building urban spaces for a better health? Is there a Baltic way?

12.   Swedish Institute project funding opportunities for cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region. When, how & concrete examples / Swedish Institute

The workshop focuses on providing a practical information about SI and presenting the project funding. It would last about 30 minutes.

The different cooperation areas of the Swedish Institute in the Baltic Sea Region will be introduced at first. We mention our key tools and the eligible countries. After that participants get a crash course about SI´s financial support facilities for projects. We provide concrete project examples which might be relevant for cities and municipalities planning transnational cooperation in the BSR. At the end of the presentation participants will have a good overview how to apply for the Seed funding application, just before the upcoming call of the Swedish Institute.

13.   Ecological education and environmental protection of the Baltics / St.Petersburg

The spread of the system of ecological education is currently one of the most urgent tasks for all civilized states. Its solution is the most important condition for eliminating the problems of instability of the natural environment. In addition, environmental education of the inhabitants of the Baltic region can ensure the sustainable development of society as a whole. Only those researchers who are directly involved in the problems of environmental safety fully understand the magnitude of the impending crisis, as well as its possible consequences.

Ecological education is a way to influence people's feelings, consciousness, attitudes and ideas. It raises the level of citizens' consciousness, instills respect for nature, concern for its condition, and ensures that everyone is prepared for moral behavior in the natural environment.

That is why environmental education is so important at all levels of society.

The meeting participants will share their positive experience in environmental education from both government agencies and public organizations, and will share new practices in increasing the environmental responsibility of citizens and businesses.

## 14.	Fighting violent radicalisation with innovative policies, IT tools and education" / Out of the Box

The main aims of this workshop are to present and explore successful practices in the policy, ITC and education in addressing violent radicalisation on the city level across Europe. During the workshop, Out of the Box will present tools for early prevention, social media tracking, successful campaigns and policy solutions and finally educational approaches and tools. Delegates will be invited to share their experiences and create some ideas for the future collaborations within the EU open calls for proposals.

The agenda:

Introduction

- Policy context
- New Tools
- Sharing good practices
- Planning projects together

Additional questions to be answered:

1. How applicable is the topic for the Baltic region?
2. What trends do you see within Baltic region?
3. What good practices do you know of?
4. How adaptable are they to the Baltic region?
5. What type of cooperation within the Baltic region you would like to see in practice?

Some successful **examples** to be presented:

- *Alternaration*

Out of the Box International publication about the countering violent radicalisation online in the European context.

- *Words Matter*

Developed in 2018 by the Tim Parry and Jonathan Barr Peace Foundation, the campaign was created after the attacks of the Irish Republican Army in 1993.

- *Exit Hate Campaign*

Established 2016 this campaign encouraged to tape and submit videos of former members of hate groups around Europe, explaining why they left in a personal way.

- *NotInMyName by the Active Change Foundation*

Based on a hashtag (#), the campaign was initiated by young British Muslims in order to "show their solidarity against ISIS and their actions."

- *Abdullah X*

Initially an offline initiative that became a hybrid through multiple social media accounts (YouTube, Twitter, Facebook). Abdullah X is a cartoon character developed by an ex-supporter of Islamic extremists.