

## **Minutes of the EUSBSR National Coordinator Group virtual meeting 29 April 2021**

### **1. EUSBSR governance funding**

NCG discussed the second draft of calculation for an allocation of the Programme funding presented by the Presidency. The discussion focused on how to split the total amount calculated for PAC funding between the 14 PAs and maintaining the current proportions was suggested. It was stressed that the BSP needs a proper amount of funding as it will implement tasks of some former HAs. The Presidency will circulate another draft of calculations based on NCG's discussion among NCG.

### **2. IBSR: EUSBSR governance – assessment of applications**

The Presidency and NCG presented their thoughts and comments on the assessment criteria and process for project applications introduced by the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Joint Secretariat. The Presidency will prepare feedback on the document which will be handed in by 7 May.

### **3. AOB**

The NCG wants PACs to know that they can always get back to the respective NCGs to support them finding the correct contact person in ministries for their needs (for instance in order to find a representative to a SG).

Another point raised by the NCG was the funding gap in 2022 and possible solutions to it.

The NCG underlined the importance of the new EUSBSR Action Plan, in force as of 15 February 2021, being duly implemented. The same applies also to the NCG's guidance on SGs Rules of Operations and on Modes of Operation which will both be published on EUSBSR webpage soon. All further instructions, agreements or inputs etc. have to be compatible with them.

The NCG also underlined the importance of the EUSBSR's views being duly represented in the present and future cooperation formats with the other three macro-regional strategies. In the discussions and cooperation arranged or facilitated by Interact (for instance in the steering work of the Capacity Building SUB-GROUP on MRS implementation formats) the EUSBSR is for now represented by the Let's Communicate Project and will in the future be represented by BSP. The NCG will also be more present in the said cooperation by one or more of its members.

### **Participants**

Germany, Simon Stermann (Chair), NC, MFA  
Germany, Valentina Frezzella, MFA  
Finland, Helena Tuuri, NC, MFA  
Denmark, Anders Henriksson, NC, MFA  
Estonia, Karin Rannu, NC, MFA  
Estonia, Raul Mälik, Senior Expert, MFA

Latvia, Ieva Birzina, NC, MFA

Lithuania, Robertas Bruzilas, NC, MFA

Poland, Joanna Wojtkowska, NC, MFA

Poland, Kamila Wojsznis, NC, MFA

Sweden, Henrik Hultberg, Desk Officer, Prime Minister's Office

European Commission, Petri Koistinen, DG Regio

Centrum Balticum, Kirsi Ahlman

Centrum Balticum, Juhani Ailio