

NDPHS Steering Group (SG) for EUSBSR Policy Area Health

First Meeting
24 November 2022
Online via Zoom

Title	Minutes from the first Meeting of the Steering Group for EUSBSR Policy Area Health (SG)
Submitted by	NDPHS Secretariat/PA Health Coordinator
Summary/Note	This document outlines the main discussion points and decisions made during the first meeting of the SG. The list of participants is attached as annex to this document.

1. Opening of the meeting and welcome.

Mr. Jörgen Gyllenblad, the NDPHS CSR Chair Country representative and Dr. Ülla-Karin Nurm, the Director of the NDPHS Secretariat, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The participants introduced themselves.

2. Adoption of the Agenda.

The Meeting **adopted** the Agenda as submitted in document SG 1/2.

3. Information by the NDPHS Secretariat / PA Health Coordinator.

The NDPHS Secretariat presented general updates regarding the NDPHS work as the PA Health Coordinator, including participation at the EUSBSR Annual Forum in Lappeenranta, Finland; participation at the Swedish EUSBSR Presidency kick-off conference in Stockholm in October and the efforts made to engage with the BSR Youth Forum and promoting the BSR Youth Platform Policy Recommendations 2022.

The meeting **took note** of the information presented.

4. Election of the SG Presidency.

Mr. Jörgen Gyllenblad introduced the principles of the Rules of procedure (RoP) for electing the Presidency of the Policy Area SGs, as submitted in document SG 1/4, which is according to the annual rotation of the Presidency of the EUSBSR Presidency, and, following from that, the proposal for electing Sweden to have the Presidency of the SG the period 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023, and the following order of the rotating Presidency to be: 2023/2024 Latvia, 2024/2025 Poland and 2025/2026 Estonia. This

leaves an opportunity open for inviting Denmark to participate in the EUSBSR PA Health coordination work, and to become a member of the SG.

Finland raised the question if it could be considered to have the rotation of the SG Presidency to follow the rotation of the Presidency of the NDPHS instead for reasons of synergies between the two Presidencies. The question was noted by the meeting.

The Meeting **adopted** the proposal as presented and submitted in document SG 1/4.

Mr. Jörgen Gyllenblad continued chairing the meeting as the country representative of the elected Presidency of the EUSBSR PA Health.

5. Healthy break

6. The role, responsibilities, and tasks of the SG and the PA Health Coordinator.

The NDPHS Secretariat showed a slide presentation for an update of the structure, actors and aims of the EU macro regional policy for the Baltic Sea region - EUSBSR, which was followed by a brief introduction to the basic principles and articles of the new RoP for the SG.

The Meeting **took note** of the presentation and **expressed support** for the duties and the division of work as laid down in the SG RoP.

7. Presentation of NDPHS OSH EG project preparation for applying financing from EUSBSR Interreg.

Mr. Owe Österbacka, Chair of the NDPHS Occupational Health and Safety Expert Group (OSH EG) made a presentation of the project proposal for a small-scale project “Mental Health Matters”, prepared by the OSH EG for submission to the 2nd call for applications of the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2021-2027.

The meeting **took note** of the information presented and **endorsed** the project application.

8. Information on progress with Arts on Prescription project.

The NDPHS Secretariat presented the outcome of the call and planned further activities within the Arts on Prescription project, as well as planned outreach to other health-related projects selected for funding in the 1st call for applications in the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2021-2027.

The meeting congratulated the Secretariat for the successful project application and **took note** of the presented information.

9. PA Health Work Plan 2022-2024 Endorsement.

The NDPHS Secretariat presented the PA Health draft Work Plan for 2022-2024 describing its format and the three groups of activities it is divided into, and how it is integrated with the Strategy and Action Plan of the NDPHS. Furthermore, the Secretariat informed on the collaboration PA Health is engaged in with PA Education in formulating and developing joint applications in 2023 to several instances, such as the Swedish ESF+ program, Interreg BSR, Swedish Institute and others for financing the activities in the Work Plan in a long term, cross-sectoral policy-action process for gathering stakeholders in effective implementation of the EUSBSR Action Plan. The long-term objective for NDPHA/PA Health is to become the leading voice in the BSR for promoting health and wellbeing of people by advocating for the establishing of the concept of Economy of Wellbeing approach to the societal challenges the BSR is facing.

The Meeting **endorsed** the draft Work Plan as presented and submitted in document SG 1/9.

10. Closing of the meeting.

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting at 11:30 on 24 November.

ANNEX
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Country representatives

Estonia

Triin Uusberg
Ministry of Social Affairs

Finland

Päivi Karvinen
Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

Latvia

Artūrs Oto Kiviņš
Ministry of Health

Lithuania

Giedrė Medžiaušaitė
Ministry of Health

Norway

Vibeke Gundersen
Ministry of Health and Care Services

Poland

Ewa Nowacka
Adam Wojda
Ministry of Health

Sweden

Jörgen Gyllenblad
Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

Invited guests

Owe Österbacka, Chair, NDPHS Expert Group on Occupational Safety and Health

NDPHS Secretariat

Ülla-Karin Nurm
Silvija Geistarte
Imants Gross
Wiebke Seeman
Saara Rissanen