



# Report

**EDGE CITIES NETWORK**

**Biannual meeting 10 – 12 November 2011**

**In Brussels**



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## Preface

The Ballerup presidency wants to thank all participants and speakers for contributing to a fruitful and successful meeting in Brussels. Also big thanks to the Committee of the Regions for yet another time to let us benefit from the very useful facilities of the

Jacques Delors Building and in that way improving the quality of the meeting. Especially thanks to Mr Steen Illeborg, Director of Registry and Services to Members, and his team for invaluable support in preparing the meeting.



*The CoR building in Brussels have excellent meeting facilities including facilities for interpretation. These facilities are beneficial to all members. .*



*The delegation from Nacka; From left: Eva Öbom Ekdahl, Monica Brohede Tällström, Lena Dahlstedt, Sevgi Bardakci, Jan Eric Jansson.*



*The delegation from Fingal. From left: John Daly, AnnMarie Farrelly, Marie Lawlor, Alan Farrell, Fingal.*



# Introduction

The Edge Cities Network's first biannual meeting and seminar under the Ballerup Presidency were held in Brussels 10th – 12th of November 2010.

The aim of the meeting was to focus on the great influence the EU has on the local authorities, and what great influence the local authorities will get – or already have- or should have on the EU. Furthermore, it was the aim to focus on energy savings in the member cities and to hear about the different strategies and experiences for developing sustainable green Edge Cities.

The event took place in the EU Committee of the Regions (CoR), and the Network once again had the great privilege to benefit from the CoR's facilities. Being in Brussels also gave the opportunity to invite speakers and representatives from the EU institutions. In this way a variation of relevant experts from the Committee of the Regions, the Swedish Association of regions and Municipalities, the European Commission and the European Parliament were invited to illuminate the different topics on stake from a European viewpoint.

33 participants from the 7 member cities were gathered in Brussels to hear about topics as

- the new Europe 2020 strategy
- the influence from EU policies and regulations on local government decisions
- the role of local governments in the EU decision making process
- the EU Parliament support to local government influence in the EU system
- the possibilities for EU support to develop sustainable cities
- the Green Edge Cities –initiatives and experiences of the member cities

Besides the professional presentations and discussions, the Network also held the biannual Steering Group Meeting, the handing over of the presidency from Nacka to Ballerup and the presentation and signing ceremony of the new member, Pernik.

... and conclusions

During the two days the participants learned that...

the 2020 EU Lisbon Strategy

- has been outlined in order to make Europe a stronger and more competitive player in the future global economy
- is ambitious, but believed to be realistic
- is about smart growth, sustainable growth & inclusive growth
- is involving the local and regional authorities for implementing the policies and reaching the goals

the EU

- has a great influence on the local policy-making and services producing according to new Swedish survey and report
- policies and activities are something that local and regional authorities need to be more aware of to become an equal and proactive partner in the EU decision making process
- is facing a number of challenges
- is working with its new Europe 2020 strategy

the European local authorities

- are the key players in achieving the EU's climate and energy targets
- need to work together and make network for developing a sustainable urban development
- could join the Covenant of Mayors – a framework supporting cities reducing CO2 emissions

the Edge Cities

- have all sustainable urban development high on their agenda
  - have all different strategies to ensure a sustainable urban development
  - have all made key experiences in reducing CO2 emissions and save energy
  - have all a joint interests in getting better and learn from each other experiences
- Pernik has become a new member
  - The strategy & action plan 2011-2014 has been approved
  - The ECN new website has been launched
  - A president assistant has been employed
  - The Innohubs project and the Youth Participation Projects have started well
  - Fingal is taking over the presidency in 2011

Concerning the daily running of the Network the participants learned that...

- Ballerup has taken over the presidency from Nacka
- Ballerup has two main focus areas for the presidency – new members and extension of the ECN interest in the member organizations

See the programme of the meeting in Annex to the Minutes and at [www.edgecitiesnetwork.com](http://www.edgecitiesnetwork.com)

## Passing over presidency ceremony from Nacka to Ballerup 11th of November

The presidency was handed over from Nacka, Sweden to Ballerup, Denmark. Ballerup is president from July 2010 – July 2011, where Fingal, Ireland is taking over.

At the 'handing over' ceremony, Deputy Mayor, Ms. Eva Öbom Ekdahl quoted the ECN Statement of Collaboration, and stressed that the work and activities of the Network are to the benefit of the citizens. By identifying common issues the members will share knowledge and work together and in this way being able to respond to the challenges and different needs facing the European local authorities today.

Deputy Mayor, Ms. Eva Öbom Ekdahl thanked for the great support to the Nacka presidency and to the Innohubs project. She has great expectations to the coming year and the Ballerup presidency.

Mayor, Mr. Ove E. Dalsgaard, Ballerup thanked Nacka for a successful presidency, and promised that Ballerup would do its best to live up to those expect-



*Deputy-mayor Eva Öbom Ekdahl handed over the glass trophy full of candy to the next president, the mayor of Ballerup, Ove E. Dalsgaard*

tations. In difficult economic times it is even more important to work together and learn from each other across the borders. The Network offers a unique framework for doing so, and Ballerup is aiming to develop and strengthen the Network within the next years.

## Welcome – Joint Forum



*The incoming president, Ove E. Dalsgaard and the past president, Eva Öholm Ekdahl together with the Ballerup CEO, Anders Agger, who chaired the meeting. International co-ordinator, Susse Bøtefyhr, and ECN coordinator, Susanna Rafn, take notes.*

Mayor, Mr. Ove E. Dalsgaard opened the ECN meeting and welcomed the participants.

Chief Executive, Mr. Anders Agger, Ballerup hereafter gave an update on the Network's activities and work.

In the light of the general economic situation among the member cities the Ballerup presidency have decided to focus on two main areas; getting new members in the Network and to extend the interests of the ECN in the member organizations. Succeeding in these two areas will make the Network stronger and more supportive to the member organizations.

Ballerup will take contact to possible new member cities during the next year, and will introduce a method to the members as a way to extend the

interest of exchanging knowledge and experience within the ECN.

A new ECN Strategy and Action plan 2011-2014 will be headed by the new Lisbon Strategy: Europe 2020 as the overarching framework in the network collaboration. The projects and activities of the Network will follow the aims of the strategy plan.

The employment of an assistant to the presidency is another initiative to strengthen the progress and work of the Network, as well is the launching of a new ECN website.

See Anders Agger's presentation at [www.edgecitiesnetwork.com](http://www.edgecitiesnetwork.com)



## Pernik in the ECN



*Mila Krasteva, Expert European Affairs, made a presentation about Pernik Municipality, new member of the Edge Cities Network.*

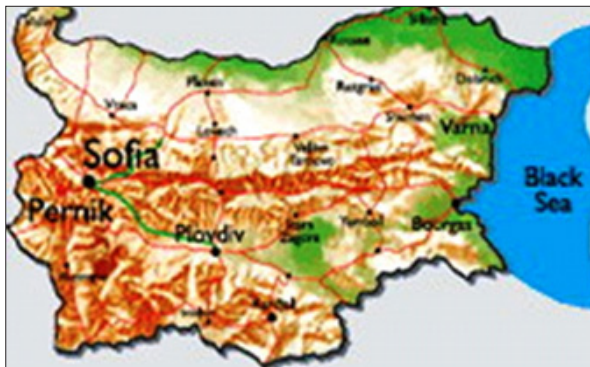


*The Pernik delegation. From left: Dobri Mitrev, Anelia Slavova, Rositsa Yanakieva, Ivan Iskrenov, Mila Krasteva.*

Pernik Municipality started as a partner in the Interreg 4C Innohubs Project. Thursday the 11th of November Pernik also became a member of the Edge Cities Network.

Main expert in Eurointegration, Ms. Mila Krasteva, made a presentation about Pernik for the ECN participants.

Pernik is located in the south-western part of Bulgaria, about 30 km south-east of Sofia. It is situated close to international transport corridors and main roads are running through Pernik Municipality.



Pernik has about 100.000 inhabitants. It was one of the largest industrial zones in Bulgaria with heavy industries, and today many of the industries are going through a modernization process.

In Pernik there is a great political ambition to modernize the municipality and to create the right conditions for becoming a modern European city. The authorities cooperate with the local companies and industries about this.

A European Polytechnic University is located in Pernik, and the Municipality has good cultural opportunities as well as tourism sights.

Since Bulgaria's membership in the EU 2007, Pernik has prepared 60 different bids for participating in EU projects, some of them with success some without. The city has also made partnerships with European Cities.

By becoming a member of the ECN, Pernik is expecting to gain best practices and knowledge sharing with peers, to take part in more EU projects and to continuing the development of the Pernik Municipality.

See the presentation of Pernik [www.edgecitiesnetwork.com](http://www.edgecitiesnetwork.com)

### **“The Europe 2020 Strategy and the municipal economy”**

## “The Europe 2020 Strategy and the municipal economy”



*Mr. Krzysztof Nowaczek was representing the Monitoring Platform of the CoR – a collaboration between cities and regions of Europe about the implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy*

Responsible for the Europe 2020 monitoring Platform, Mr. Krzysztof Nowaczek, from the Committee of the Regions, spoke about the role of regions and cities in the implementation process of the new Europe 2020 strategy.

A new Europe 2020 strategy was decided by the Commission in order to get Europe out of the recession and get Europe prepared for a new decade.

Lessons learned from the predecessor, the Lisbon Strategy, were taken into consideration when designing the new strategy. The priorities have been set to deal with the insufficiencies of the Lisbon Strategy

and to create more growth – growth in a smart way, in a sustainable way and in an inclusive way.

A number of actions and initiatives have been set to be fulfilled by the member states. The targets set to the national states differ from one state to another. It is necessary to have a differentiated target policy as the member states in Europe are very different.

The European Commission will in the future focus highly on innovation and education. However, education is not an area within EU's competencies, so in this field it is entirely up to the member states to push the process forward.

In the future the European Commission will also be focusing on all the different actors and institutions capable of helping to implement the Europe 2020 Strategy.

There is no doubt that the local and regional authorities will begin to play a great role in designing the national programs and will be a valuable partner to the European Commission. A new initiative of the committee of the regions is to propose the elaboration of Territorial Pacts between local and regional authorities to implement the Europe 2020 Strategy.

In this way the Committee of the Regions has been taking into the hearing phase of the 2020 Strategy and the EU budget. The CoR is now an important player for monitoring, reporting and contributing to the EU debate and development.

Questions were raised at the meeting about whether the targets perhaps were too ambitious from the EU commission. The participants were also inter-

ested in knowing whether the member states had already started the work and how far they were in implementing the Strategy. Finally, it was also asked whether EU has something special preferences with the number 20. A lot in the EU seems to be about 20 = Europe 2020, 20% target etc.

The targets will need to be ambitious, but are believed to be realistic. The monitoring process has started and the results are mixed, but the initial signals are positive, so there are expectations to all countries for getting starting the process. As far as Mr. Nowaczek knows, the use of the number 20 by the EU has not been taken out of the blue. There are surveys and specific goals behind the use of the different numbers and years.

The CoR annual report will be available in December 2010 at [www.cor.europa.eu/europe2020](http://www.cor.europa.eu/europe2020)

Please see Mr. Nowaczek's presentation at [www.edgecitiesnetwork.com](http://www.edgecitiesnetwork.com)

## EU in Local politics



*Marcus Holmberg from SALAR informed about a Swedish study concluding that 60% of the Swedish local authorities' decisions have been influenced directly or indirectly from the EU. SALAR's main objective is to safeguard the interests of Swedish local and regional authorities. SALAR is a politically controlled organization.*

The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) has made a study regarding the influence from EU on the Swedish municipalities. It appeared that about 60% of the Swedish local authorities' decisions have been influenced directly or indirectly from the EU.

The CoR has made similar studies across the European member states and have come to the same conclusions.

Mr. Marcus Holmberg from SALAR informed about the Swedish study that was started in 2001. The aim of the study was to show the Swedish national and local politicians, how great influence the EU has on local policy making. Furthermore, it was also a way to show the EU Commission that the local institutions and representatives need to be involved in the policy process, as the EU has such a great influence and importance at local level.

The Swedish study is based on the analysis of the agendas of municipal, county and regional councils. Each

item on the agendas was analyzed to see in which way the EU directly or indirectly had influence on the item.

The study is showing that issues need to be raised on the EU level for being effective and useful on the local level. Mr. Marcus Holmberg stressed how important it is that the local politicians know that they can lobby on the issues they want to change.

One of SALAR's most important tasks just now is to watch the policy making of the EU budget, as the budget will have great influence on the future activities and work of EU.

The Swedish study was handed out to the participants but can also be downloaded at <http://english.skl.se/web/english.aspx>

Marcus Holmberg's presentation can be found at [www.edgocitiesnetwork.com](http://www.edgocitiesnetwork.com)



## The ECN Steering Group Meeting



*Participants in the ECN Steering Group meeting. From left: Ivan Iskrenov, Pernik, Jan Pazio, Grodzisk Mazowiecki, Clare McGill, North Down, Mila Krasteva, Pernik, Susanna Rafn, ECN, Susse Bøtefyhr, Ballerup, Annika Londono, Nacka, Marie Lawlor, Fingal, Maria Jesus Pedraza, Getafe, AnnMarie Farrelly, Fingal.*



*The ECN Steering Group meeting took place Wednesday afternoon. At the meeting the Steering group e.g. worked on the new ECN website.*

Please find the Minutes from the Steering Group in the Annex.

## Steen Illeborg

Meeting with Steen Illeborg, Director of Registry and Services to Members, Committee of the Regions

Mr. Steen Illeborg made a presentation about the improved role of the municipalities in the EU system. The Committee of the Region is an institution in the EU system and part of the EU decision making process.

Steen Illeborg described the main Current Challenges for the EU as:

- Objectives, values and tasks
- Widening (Europe's borders and neighbours)
- Deepening (level of integration)
- Globalisation – the Economic Crisis, External relations
- Climate change
- Ageing

And the main priorities for the EU as:

- Strategy EUROPE 2020
  - Greener Economy
  - Research and innovation
  - Sustainable Growth and jobs
- Focusing on territorial cohesion – territorial pacts
- Subsidiarity monitoring
- Better lawmaking – multilevel governance
- Climate change – Energy and Environment
- Green transport, maritime policy

After the presentation there was a discussion about how the different countries in the EU elect their members to the Committee of the Regions. In Spain

all the regions have a seat in the Committee of the Regions and that leaves no seats for the municipalities of Spain. The situation is the same in Germany, where the “bundesländer” have all the seats in the Committee. It is up to each country in the EU to decide which local governments will be members of the Committee of the Regions.

## Visiting the URBAN Intergroup in the European Parliament

Visit to the European Parliament and meeting with Mr. Oldrich Vlasák

The original set-up with Mr Jan Olbrycht, president of the URBAN Intergroup, was replaced by a meeting with Mr. Oldrich Vlasák, member of the European Parliament elected from the Czech republic and the 2nd Vice-President of the URBAN Intergroup, which focus on the role of local government in the EU.

Mr. Oldrich Vlasák told the group about his Report on the European Urban Agenda and its Future in Cohesion Policy for the EP Committee for Regional Development, REGI and how the Urban Intergroup at the moment is trying to increase the local dimension in the next European Cohesion Policy.

After the meeting the group walked through the Parliament and visited the plenary room.



*The original set-up with Mr Jan Olbrycht, president of the Urban Intergroup got cancelled in the last minute. Instead the politicians met with Mr. Oldrich Vlasák, who told about the report on the European Urban Agenda and its Future in Cohesion Policy for the EP Committee for Regional Development.*



*Members of the ECN visiting the plenary room of the European Parliament*



## Signing Ceremony



*Pernik is signing the collaboration agreement with the president of the Edge Cities Network, Mr. Ove E. Dalsgaard, the mayor of Ballerup. Mayor of Pernik, Ms Rositsa Yanakieva, has been awarded as 'Mayor of the year 2009' in Bulgaria. In her speech, Ms Yanakieva mentioned that it is relevant for Pernik to become member of the ECN, as the Network's activities and projects could help developing Pernik further. Only by going together and by learning from each other will the European towns and cities be able to stand the future challenges. She concluded the speech by inviting all the participants to visit Pernik during the Masq Festival.*



*Great thanks were given to the Nacka presidency for inviting Pernik in to the Network. Pernik also expressed its thanks to the other Innohubs partners and to International Coordinator in Ballerup, Ms Susse Bøtefyhr.*

## Seminar - 'Green Edge Cities'

### 12. November

The Edge Cities Network had organised a whole-day-seminar in the Committee of the Regions Friday the 12th.

The purpose of the seminar was to exchange knowledge about the members' strategies to promote green, sustainable cities, and to identify whether the Edge City partners were interested in developing a joint project in the Urbact-programme in the period 2011-2013 ([www.urbact.eu](http://www.urbact.eu)).

The focus of the seminar was on the development of integrated local dialogue models, pooling existing resources among City Councils, energy providers,

social and private housing societies, small businesses and universities, with the objective of adding value and positive identity to the communities while combating climate changes.

Each ECN member was invited to present their city approach to the issue.

Senior Research Fellow, Mr Lars A. Engberg, Danish Building Research Institute, Aalborg University was chairing the seminar, and was invited to discuss possible project visions and next steps with the participating city representatives.



*Senior Research Fellow, Mr Lars A. Engberg, Danish Building Research Institute, Aalborg University and CEO, Anders Agger, Ballerup.*

See the seminar programme at [www.edgecitiesnetwork.com](http://www.edgecitiesnetwork.com)





*Keynote speaker of the seminar, Principal Administrator, Mr. Pedro Ballesteros Torres, DG Energy and Transport of the European Commission, gave a presentation about the possibilities within the EU system for supporting local government networks in sustainable urban development.*

Mr. Pedro Ballesteros Torres stressed how important the local and regional authorities are in the process of achieving the EU's climate and energy targets. The targets can only be reached if the local and regional authorities are involved, are getting heard and work together. Joining together in networks is a strategic way to implementing targets and developing a sustainable urban development.

Mr. Pedro Ballesteros Torres is in charge of the launch and management of the Covenant of Mayors, the EU initiative to support local authorities leading the fight against climate change.

Today more than 2000 cities across Europe have agreed to reduce Co2 emissions on their territories by at least 20% by 2020. Furthermore, the Covenant signatories commit to do a number of others initiatives and changes in the cities.

The signatories will get administrative and financial support from the Covenant of Mayors' organisation. They will get guidance, there will be held work shops and conferences to take part in and they will also be monitored.

In this way the Covenant of Mayors is an useful framework to support cities reducing CO2 emissions and develop a sustainable city.

See Mr. Pedro Ballesteros Torres' presentation [www.edgecitiesnetwork.com](http://www.edgecitiesnetwork.com)

In order to identify whether the Edge City partners were interested in developing a joint project in the Urbact-programme, the ECN members were asked to give presentations about their strategies and work to promote green and sustainable cities.

The following presentations were made at the seminar: Please see all the presentations at [www.edgecitiesnetwork.com](http://www.edgecitiesnetwork.com)

## **Ballerup, Anders Agger**

Ballerup has made a vision called Ballerup 2020. Urban sustainable development is a main focus area of the vision. The Municipality is working on an integrated approach for becoming a Green and Healthy City. Different strategies are set:

- Urban governance & City Centre Strategy
- Climate strategy and climate partnerships
- Innovative sustainable energy systems
- Comprehensive citizen participation
- Green Business Network approach
- New public-private funding mechanisms and finance models

## **North Down, Clare McGill**

North Down Borough Council has a clear objective: to become cleaner, greener and more sustainable. The council has taken multiple steps to implement this objective in its day to day corporate activities, internal operations and external functions. The Council has recently invested in recycling, waste

management and green energy, and it works to implement a clear set of policy objectives:

- Reduce the amount of waste going to landfill
- Increase recycling and composting levels in accordance with the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy
- Use energy from renewable sources wherever economically viable, either by generation or procurement
- Develop and implement a strategy that will embed the principles of sustainable development within Council's activities

## **Pernik, Mila Krasteva**

Pernik is facing different challenges from the inherited industrial structure. The municipality of Pernik has taken different actions in order to overcome these challenges. Pernik experiences a clear need to switch to smart and sustainable growth. The city will exhibit better the beautiful landscapes of the city at the foot of the mountain, and connect these landscapes better with the urban landscapes. A key priority is to reduce the harmful effects of the economy on the environment and people, and strengthen public measures to make Pernik in "green" city

For this end, actions have been taken in relation to

- Energy efficiency and energy savings
- Urban environment improvement
- Consultations with main city polluters
- Initiated municipal master programmes with sustainable development objectives
- Initiated plan for urban development and reconstruction

Pernik is interested in knowledge sharing and best practice with partners for the continuing work with these challenges.

## Getafe, Angel Bustos

Getafe Town Council has a comprehensive approach to the reduction of energy consumption and emission of greenhouse gases. The council's multiple plans and programs focus on

- Mobility (e.g. busses to become 'green', people to cycle more, traffic regulation)
- Energy saving (e.g. use of thermal power, solar panels)
- Raising Public Awareness and Citizen participation
- Waste Management (awareness campaigns)
- Building and urban planning (using regulation as a method)

In Getafe, the city administration finds it important to focus on measures to promote action at different levels

- Individual actions
- Actions taken together with other administrative & governmental bodies
- Network and group actions

## Grodzisk, Jan Pazio

Grodzisk Mazowiecki has taken its first steps towards becoming a green city. The city has a City Master Plan (Spatial Development Plan) with provisions that protect the natural environment, and it strictly enforces environmental protection laws. Grodzisk Mazowiecki's City Development Strategy calls for better solid waste management, an increase in green area and forest coverage and a general increase in resident's pro-environmental consciousness.

To promote the transition towards sustainable development the city has initiated a number of initiatives:

- Spatial development plan with nature & environmental protection
- EU funding of solar panel installation on private houses, geothermal water possibilities and rapeseed for fuel
- from coal to gas heating, city bypass constructed
- Garden Annual Award
- Large scale farm development
- Regulations recently enacted on Private & public partnerships



*Cllr Sustainable Development and Sports, Angel Bustos, told about Getafe's comprehensive approach to the reduction of energy consumption and emission of greenhouse gases*

## Fingal, John Daly

Fingal County Council has Economic Development as a primary focus, and is supportive of the provision of the Metro North Light Rail Project for the following reasons:

- § Potential to create 6,000 jobs during construction with potentially 30,000 jobs along the new route
- § Maximise economic benefits
- § Sustainable population growth
- § Development Land availability in the context of the Dublin Region
- § Potential for Airport City
- § Public Private Partnership
- § Project is now under review due to the economic downturn

During the building boom in Ireland many housing developments emerged. Due to the demand at the time the houses were built first without the proper infrastructure and facilities being in place. Developers wanted to build as many properties as they could to maximise their return, the infrastructure was to follow. When the downturn arrived and it became difficult to get mortgages it left many housing estates with no proper facilities and many empty properties. Fingal County Council is looking at solutions to making best use of these vacant properties for its citizens.



*Participants listening to the different presentations about 'Green Cities' at the ECN seminar*

## **Nacka, Henrik Feldhusen**

Nacka maintains and develops Nacka as a sustainable and green city. To do this, the city defines an ambitious environmental policy with high sustainable values and collaborates with stakeholders implementing this policy. The general aim is to cut down local greenhouse emissions and save energy, and for this end Nacka has initiated a comprehensive range of initiatives and programmes in relation to

- Energy savings in public housing
- Promotion of green and clean energy (district heating, hydro and wind power)
- Travel policy and green travelling
- Promotion of biking and walking
- Improvement of public transportation
- Traffic regulations and development of central transportation hub
- Better public transportation, and development of traffic systems and parking

## Seminar sum up

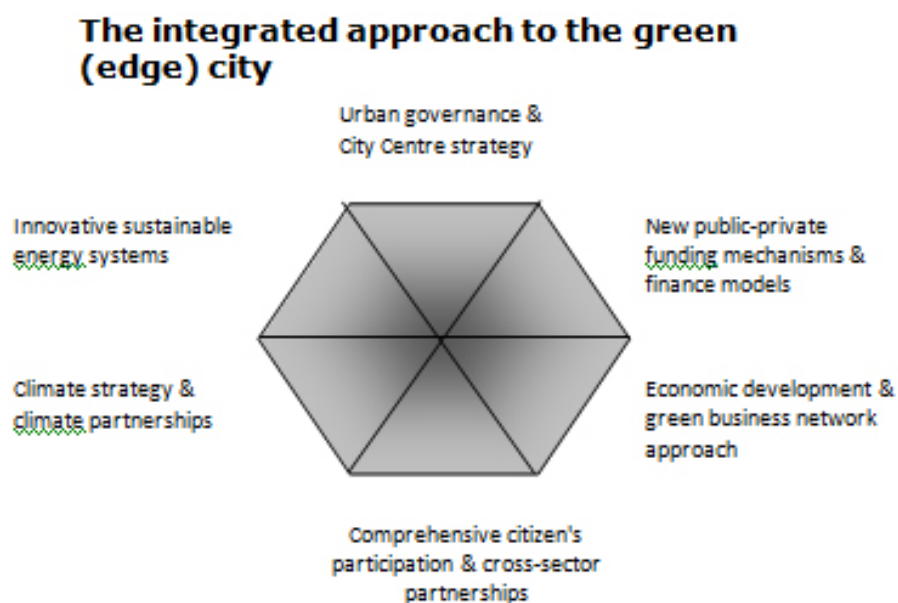
The edge cities have a number of joint interests and experiences, and they are facing some of the same challenges.

These challenges have to do with structural change in the cities, growing demands for public service in combination with budget deficits and financial problems – all changes that challenge the cities transition towards energy efficient green cities.

Examples from the ECN members' presentations show that the development of a green and sustainable city is high on the agenda in all cities. The Edge Cities share a common interest in developing the

green qualities of the cities. The Cities work hard to revitalise the city centres and develop positive city brands, and they push for the general modernisation of the energy systems and the different 'flows' in the cities (energy, waste, traffic etc.). The issue of green business development is a cornerstone in this development. So despite the historic and cultural differences, it appears that the Edge Cities share a joint focus on developing the cities into green edge cities.

Mr. Lars A. Engberg recapitulated the integrated approach that focuses on synergies between different relevant aspects of sustainable urban development:



The integrated approach to sustainable urban development is developed in many European contexts at different levels. These include the EU Urbact programme, the Covenant of Mayors initiative, the European Sustainable Cities Reference Framework and other initiatives that support and implement the Leipzig Charter (2007) that promotes sustainable European cities.

See Mr. Lars Engberg's presentation at [www.edgecitiesnetwork.com](http://www.edgecitiesnetwork.com)

At the end of the seminar the ECN members discussed the possibility of participating in a joint Urbact-project allowing the members of the network to develop and exchange knowledge about the operational and innovative implementation of the integrated approach to sustainable urban development.

From the discussions Ballerup concluded that at the present there is no basis for continuing to develop a common project about the issue.



## Evaluation of the two days meetings

The members agreed that it was a well organised meeting and seminar. The programme was well structured and all the presentations seem to match each other very well. It was good that all members were well prepared for the meeting.

The members also agreed that it was good to have professionals to meet and discuss common issues. This should be done again at future meetings. Also this 'working type' of meeting is something to be repeated in future - it gets everyone involved and creates possible projects.

A last minute change in the programme of the Political Forum gave the participants an unexpected experience at a meeting in the Parliament. But despite the ECN participants' surprise by the content of the meeting and that it was difficult for the ECN participants to find out what was taking place at the meeting, the participants concluded that it was an interesting experience to have witnessed a meeting like that.

The Steering Group members also agreed that the Steering group meeting was a great success with relevant decisions and activities and projects taken forward.

## Breaks & informal discussions



*Also time for a coffee. During the coffee breaks the participants discussed the topics further and exchanged news*



*The ECN meetings give the opportunity to discuss relevant issues and challenges with the other members.*



















Participants at the ECN Biannual Meeting in Brussels 10th-12th November 2010:

Front, from left: Susse Bøtefyhr, Ballerup, Sevgi Bardakci, Nacka, Anelia Slavova, Pernik, Dobri Mitrev, Pernik, Eva Öbom Ekdahl, Nacka, Ove. E. Dalsgaard, Ballerup, Rositsa Yanakieva, Pernik, Ivan Iskrenov, Pernik, Mila Krasteva, Pernik, Blanca Tomas, Getafe. Back, from left: Monica Brohede Tällström, Nacka, Lena Dahlstedt, Nacka, Jan Eric Jansson, Nacka, Karin Langendorf, Ballerup, Leslie Cree, North Down, Pia Mcaleenan, Nacka, Kåre Olsen, Ballerup, Tom Nielsen, Ballerup, Annika Londono, Nacka, Jan Pazio, Grodzisk Mazowiecki, Susanna Rafn, ECN, Anders Agger, Ballerup, Alan Farrell, Fingal, Marie Larlow, Fingal, AnnMarie Farrelly, Fingal, John Daly, Fingal, Clare McGill, North Down, Angel Bustos, Getafe, Maria Jesus Pedraza, Getafe.

Annex:

Programme

Participants list

Minutes of the Steering Group Meeting





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## **PROGRAM**

### **ECN Biannual meeting in Brussels**

### **10 – 12 November 2010**



#### **Wednesday 10 November**

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	WHERE
From 8 pm	All participants	Welcome Buffet	Hotel Sandton Léopold  Rue du Luxembourg 35 B-1050 Bruxelles  +32 2 511 18 28



## Thursday 11 November

Interpretation Spanish/English+  
English/Spanish

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	WHERE
08.45 – 09.00	All participants	Security check	Committee of the Regions, Rue Belliard 99-101 B-1040 Brussels +32 (0)2 282 23 01 Room JD70- same room Thursday and Friday
09.00 – 09.10	All participants	Passing over presidency ceremony from Nacka to Ballerup	Committee of the Regions
09.10 – 10.00	All participants	<p>1. Welcome address</p> <p><i>President of the ECN, mayor of Ballerup, Ove E. Dalsgaard</i></p> <p>2. ECN - State of the art</p> <p><i>Anders Agger, CEO Ballerup and the steering group</i></p> <p>3. Presentation of Pernik in ECN</p> <p><i>Mila Krasteva, Main expert Eurointegration, Pernik Municipality</i></p>	Committee of the Regions

10.00 – 10.15	All participants	Photo session Coffee brake	Committee of the Regions
10.15 – 11.15	All participants	<p>"The Europe 2020 strategy and the municipal economy"</p> <p><i>Krzysztof Nowaczek, Committee of the Regions Resp. Europe 2020 Monitoring Platform</i></p>	Committee of the Regions
11.15 – 12.00	All participants	<p>"EU in local policy" – a survey from SALAR</p> <p><i>Marcus Holmberg, Senior EU Adviser Brussels Office International Unit Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR)</i></p>	Committee of the Regions
12.00 – 13.00	All participants	Lunch: eat, walk and talk	Committee of the Regions – Atrium 5 <sup>th</sup> floor
13.00 – 14.30	Political Forum + selected public servants	<p>"Enhanced role of the municipalities in the EU decision making-system"</p> <p><i>Steen Illeborg, Committee of the regions – Director of Registry and Services to Members</i></p>	Committee of the Regions – meeting room – VIP 5
14.30 – 15.00	Political Forum +	Walk from the	

	selected public servants	CoR to the Parliament	
15.00 – 17.00	Political Forum + selected public servants	<p>"The Parliament position to an enhanced influence from local governments"</p> <p><i>Jan Olbrycht, MEP - member of the REGI committee and Chair of the URBAN intergroup and other members of the intergroup</i></p>	European Parliament, room ASP 3F383
13.00 – 18.00	Steering group	Ordinary meeting Separate agenda To be forwarded	Committee of the Regions. Room JDE 3253 (3rd floor)
20.00 – 20.30	All participants	Aperitif and signing ceremony of new member: Pernik, Bulgaria	Hotel Sandton Léopold
20.30 – 23.00	All participants + director Steen Illeborg and project manager Luis Ballaster	Dinner	Hotel Sandton Léopold



## Friday 12 November

All participants at the Committee of the Regions - room JD70  
Interpretation Spanish/English + English/Spanish

WHEN	WHAT
<b>09.00 – 15.30</b>	<b>SEMINAR: "GREEN EDGE CITIES"</b>
09.00 – 09.05	Welcome address and invitation to joint project <i>Anders Agger, CEO Ballerup</i>
09.05 – 09.10	Introduction to keynote speaker <i>Lars A. Engberg, senior researcher at the SBI - Danish Building Research Institute</i>
09.10 – 09.35	<b>Keynote:</b> <b>How can the EU system support local government networks in sustainable urban development?</b> <i>Pedro Ballesteros Torres, European Commission, DG Energy and Transport</i>
09.35 – 09.45	Questions and debate
09.45 – 10.00	<b>Ballerup:</b> <b>Visions for a Green and Healthy City</b> <i>Anders Agger, CEO Ballerup</i>
10.00 – 10.15	<b>North Down:</b> <b>Looking towards sustainability</b> <i>Clare McGill, Business Development Executive, North Down Council</i>
10.15 – 10.30	Coffee brake



10.30 – 10.45	<b>Pernik:</b> <b>Integrated approach to sustainable urban development</b> <i>Mila Krasteva, Expert European Affairs, Pernik Council</i>
10.45 – 11.00	<b>Getafe:</b> <b>Municipal Plan for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Implementation 2008 – 2012</b> <i>Angel Bustos, Cllr Sustainable Dev., Getafe Council</i>
11.00 – 11.15	<b>Grodzisk:</b> <b>To be a green city or not to be?</b> <i>Jan Pazio, CEO, Grodzisk Mazowiecki Council</i>
11.15 – 11.30	Questions and debate
11.30 – 11.45	<b>Fingal:</b> <b>The role of Local Authorities in Ireland in meeting national objectives for energy, greenhouse gases and sustainability</b> <i>John Daly, Senior Engineer, Fingal County Council</i>
11.45 – 12.00	<b>Nacka:</b> <b>Developing Nacka sustainably</b> <i>Henrik Feldhusen, Executive Director Sustainability, Nacka Council</i>
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch: eat, walk and talk Committee of the Regions – Atrium 5 <sup>th</sup> floor
13.00 – 13.15	<b>Summary of city experiences – key points and joint interests</b> <i>Lars A. Engberg</i>

13.15 – 14.00	<b>Discussion of joint interests</b>
14.00 – 14.15	<b>Introduction to the URBACT program</b> <i>Lars A. Engberg</i>
14.15 – 14.45	Next step
14.45 – 15.00	Evaluation and closing of the meeting/Anders Agger
15.00 – 15.30	Coffee and Departure





**CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
International Relations**

Dato: 5. November 2010

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E-mail: sbb@balk.dk

Kontakt: Susse Bøtefyhr

Sagsnr: 2010-23243

Dok.nr: 2010-174247

## PARTICIPANTS



### ECN Meeting Brussels 10 – 12 November 2010

Place	Person	Function	Schedule
GETAFE 4	Angel Bustos	Cllr Sustainable Development and Sports	Arr. 10 Nov 14.25 Dep. 12 Nov 17.50
	Blanca Tomas	Manager of Getafe Iniciativas	
	Maximo Loarces	Political Coordinator of Finances, Economic Development and Trade	

		Department	
	Maria Jesus Pedraza (steering group)	Director of Industrial Promotion and Trade Cell: +34648181380	
FINGAL 4	Alan Farrell	Cllr	Arr. 10 Nov 20.15 Dept. 12 Nov 16.30
	John Daly	Senior Engineer	
	AnnMarie Farrelly (steering group)	Senior Executive Officer Cell: +353879372937	
	Marie Lawlor (steering group)	Staff Officer	
NACKA 8	Eva Öbom Ekdahl	Deputy Mayor	Arr. 10/11: 19:10 Dept. 12/11: 19:20
	Jan Eric Jansson	Deputy Mayor	
	Monica Brohede Tällström	Deputy Mayor	
	Lena Dahlstedt	Deputy CEO	
	Henrik Feldhusen	Executive director sustainability	
	Pia McAleenan	Safety and Security Unit	
	Annika Londono (steering group)	International Relations Cell: +4687189132	
	Sevgi Bardakci (steering group)	Web master	
PERNIK 5	Rositsa Yanakieva	Mayor of Pernik	Rositsta Yanakieva, Dobri Mitrev and Ane-lia Slavova



	Dobri Mitrev	Chair of Municipal Council	Arr. 10/11: 17.00 Dept. 12/11: 17.00
	Anelia Slavova	Interpreter	Ivan Iskrenov, Mila Krasteva Arr. 10/11: 9.00 Dept. 12/11: 17.00
	Mila Krasteva Petkova (steering group)	European Expert Cell: +359 886 009 165	
	Ivan Iskrenov (steering group)	Project manager Innohubs	
NORTH DOWN 2	Leslie Cree	Alderman, MLA	Arr. 10/11: 19.50 Dept. 12/11: 16.10
	Clare McGill (steering group)	Business Development Executive Cell: +447711690160	Arr. 10/11: 19.50 Dept. 12/11: 12.45
GRODZISK MAZOWIECKI 1	Jan Pazio (steering group)	CEO  Cell: +48 608614676	Arr. 10/11: 9:10 Dept. 12/11: 7:20
BALLERUP 7	Ove E. Dalsgaard	Mayor	Arr. 10/11: 18.25 Dept. 12/11: 6.50
	Tom Nielsen	Deputy Mayor	Arr. 10/11: 12.50 Dept. 12/11: 6.50
	Helle Tiedemann AFBUD 9/11	Cllr - Chair Committee Environment and Technique	(Taxa nr. 31 670 kl. 15.00/AGG) (4x35)  Arr. 10/11: 18.25 Dept. 12/11: 17:30
	Kåre Harder Ole- sen	Cllr - Repr. Pol. Minority	
	Anders Agger	CEO	

	Karin Langendorf	Head of Urban and Business Development	Arr. 10/11: 19.40 Dpt. 12/11: 17:30
	Susse Bøtefyhr (steering group)	International Relations Cell: +45 25169900	Arr. 10/11: 12.50 Dpt. 13/11: 17.50
ECN	Susanna Kirstine Rafn (steering group)	ECN Coordinator Cell: +45 25352839	Arr. 10/11: 12.50 Dept. 12/11: 18.45
SBI - Danish Building Research Institute	Lars Engberg	Senior researcher Cell: +4526847777	Arr. 10/11: 12.50, Dpt. 12/11: 17:30
Total	33		

## External Speakers

- Krzysztof Nowaczek, Committee of the Regions, Resp. Europe 2020 Monitoring Platform
- Marcus Holmberg, Senior EU Adviser, Brussels Office, International Unit, Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR)
- Jan Olbrycht, MEP - member of the REGI committee and Chair of the URBAN intergroup
- Pedro Ballesteros Torres, European Commission, DG Energy and Transport

## External Guests at Dinner 11<sup>th</sup> of November

- Steen Illeborg, Director of the Registry, Legal Service and Assistance to Members, Committee of the Regions,
- Luis Ballester, Project Manager ECN Innohubs, Interreg 4C

## Interpreters Cii

- Mr Pablo Narbona Gonzales, tel +32 485 16 17 31
- Mr Gabriel Sanchez



COLLABORATION BETWEEN TOWNS AND CITIES  
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# **MINUTES**

## **ECN Steering Group Meeting Brussels**

### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2010**

Meeting chairing: Ballerup

#### **Attendance:**

Nacka	Annika Londono Sevgi Bardakci
Getafe	Maria Jesus Pedraza
Fingal	AnnMarie Farrelly Marie Lawlor
North Down	Clare McGill
Grodzisk Mazowiecki	Jan Pazio
Pernik	Mila Krasteva Ivan Iskrenov
Ballerup	Susse Bøtefyhr, chair
ECN	Susanna Rafn

## **Decisions needing actions**

- *Finances: Membership fee subscription will be issued in December. Please send invoices as soon as possible and inform Marie Lawlor about other commitments. 31<sup>st</sup> of December is the deadline for handing in invoices to Marie Lawlor.*
- *Costs relating to travels for getting new members into the Network will be paid by the Network*
- *Translation costs relating to the Bulgarian politicians' participation in Political Forum Meetings will be paid by the Network*
- *From January 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 the limit that can be disposed of by the triumvirate without a pre approval of the Steering Group will be raised to 4000 €.*
- *All members should use relevant contacts and promote the Edge Cities Network for possible new members.*
- *Ballerup is now asking other ECN members to find common areas of interests and increase the peer to peer cooperation.*
- *Maria Pedraza will get in contact with relevant colleague in Getafe about the possibilities for collaboration on drug abuse.*
- *Nacka is suggesting holding a conference (Europe for Citizens) in 2011 about 'Save and Secure Municipalities'. Pia McAleenan from Nacka has disseminated a 'Call for interest' paper to the participants at the Brussels meeting. Please let Pia McAleenan know if anyone is interested in taking part in such an event.*
- *Steering Group members are asked to fill in the missing information by 20<sup>th</sup> of December in the 'History of the Edge Cities Network' paper enclosed.*

## **1. Welcome and presentation**

- Presentation of President's assistance
- 5 minutes update from each member

*Short presentation of president's assistance, Susanna Rafn, who has been employed as co-ordinator/assistant to the presidency of ECN starting 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2010.*

*Short update was given by each of the ECN members. The round of the table showed that at the moment the members are facing very similar challenges:*

- *Tight societal and municipal - economy*
- *Cutbacks and focus on core services - 4% reduction of 2011 budget in Ballerup*
- *Growing unemployment*
- *Lack of investments*

*The current situation makes the members to focus on*

- *Becoming more innovative – Getafe is planning a new innovation centre funded by the Urban program*
- *How to attract more investments*
- *Efficiency*
- *Being energy efficient*
- *Core activities & core services*



- *Local Government Restructuring – NorthDown is going through the Review of Public Administration which will result in merging of municipalities like in Denmark*
- *How to create economic development – Fingal, Nacka, NorthDown and Getafe are focusing on developing tourism.*
- *How to create more jobs locally*
- *How to attract more tourists*
- *Maximising European funding – apart from Grodzisk – they cannot absorb all the money they receive from the EU. They have 12 people equivalent to 10% of the whole municipal workforce to work with EU funded projects.*
- *Attracting and keeping qualified labour*
- *Improving infrastructure – Pernik and Grodzisk both get funding from the Structural Funds*

## **2. Approval Minutes**

- Meeting Nacka January 2010 (updated amended version/Annika Londono)
- Triumvirate Ballerup June 2010

Enclosure: Meeting Nacka January 2010 & Triumvirate Ballerup June 2010

*Minutes from meeting in Nacka January 2010 and Triumvirate meeting in Ballerup were approved.*

## **3. Finances/ Fingal**

- Report/balance Sheet 2010 and budget 2011/ Marie Lawlor

Enclosure: Report/ Balance Sheet 2010 & Budget 2011

*See Report/balance Sheet 2010 & budget 2011 enclosed. Membership fee subscription will be issued in December. If any invoices to be covered by the ECN budget, please send as soon as possible and inform Marie Lawlor about other possible commitments. 31<sup>st</sup> of December is the deadline for handing in invoices to Marie Lawlor.*

*Translation costs relating to the Bulgarian politicians' participation in Political Forum Meetings will be paid by the Network.*

*Costs relating to travels for getting new members into the Network will be paid by the Network.*

*From January 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 the limit that can be disposed of by the triumvirate without a pre approval of the Steering Group will be raised to 4000 Euros.*

*Invoice regarding translation costs at the Nacka Meeting can't be tracked. It is uncertain whether the invoice exists; therefore no more efforts will be made in order to track it.*

## **Nacka Presidency Report: Goals & Evaluation**

- Nacka Presidency Report/Annika Londono

*Annika Londono presented the Presidency Report, and highlighted the Innohubs project. It has had a successful start and got a strong support from the involved organisations. The next meeting will be 1<sup>st</sup> of December in Getafe.*

#### **4. Ballerup Presidency Priorities**

- New Members
- Extension of ECN interest in the member organisations

*See Item 5 & 8*

#### **5. Update Members/New Members**

Getting new members in the ECN is important for the future work and running of the Network. The presidency would like to discuss a possible strategy for getting new members. All ECN members are asked to think of relevant partners and use their different networks and contacts for promoting the process.

- Pernik is a new member
- Possible new members from
  - Portugal (Loures)
  - The Netherlands (Zaanstadt)
  - Germany (Potsdam)
  - England (Barnet?)
  - France (St.Denis? - Pantin)
- Other Networks to be contacted: CEMR/FALP

*Loures:*

*Invitation from Mayor Dalsgaard has been sent to Loures for the November Meeting in Brussels, but Ballerup had so far no reply. The presidency is willing to visit Loures for further discussions. Maria Pedraza has been in contact with Loures. They are considering membership, but may have some problems. Maria Pedraza will raise the issue again during the Innohubs meeting in Getafe 1<sup>st</sup> of December.*

*Zaanstadt:*

*Zaanstadt is an edge to Amsterdam. It is a very ambitious and dynamic city. Annika Londono has been in contact with a representative from Zaanstadt. The presidency will now take contact to Zaanstadt.*

*Potsdam:*

*Contact has been taken by Ballerup to Potsdam's Youth Department for inviting them to take part in the Ballerup Summer Camp 2011. Potsdam is positive for taking part in the event, and Ballerup will now continue the dialogue with Potsdam about becoming a member of the Edge Cities Network.*

*Barnet:*



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*Fingal's contact in Barnet has moved. Annika Londono will look into other possibilities for getting in contact with an edge to London (Lena Dahlstadt).*

*St. Denis:*

*Maria Pedraza will try to get in contact with St.Denis.*

*All members should use relevant contacts and promote the Edge Cities Network for possible new members. The CEMR can also be contacted for suggestions if needed. Pernik has a good contact to a Consulting Group. Via this group a contact/relation to Budapest is possible. Pernik will look into this possibility.*

## **6. Update projects/Project Ideas**

- Update InnoHubs. Meeting in Loures in September and in Getafe in November/Annika Londono

*The project has started well. An International Innohubs conference will be hold in Getafe 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2010. The title of the conference is "Challenges of local innovation in the European Context. The aim of the conference is to focus on current innovation challenges within the local context. Relevant speakers have been invited and the organisers hope a lot of people will attend the conference. See more at [www.innohubs.eu](http://www.innohubs.eu)*

- Comenius/New school project

The Comenius project has ended. A DVD about the project is ready, and has been disseminated to members. There is a great interest among the schools in Ballerup for starting up new projects with ECN schools. Other interested partners?

*Members discussed possible themes for a new school project. Possible themes could be about entrepreneurship in schools, innovation in schools and similar. However, it will need a member to write a project proposal in detail and none of the members are able to take that on just now.*

- Youth Participation Project

The theme of the Summer camp 2011 is 'Democracy and Youth Influence'. The programme and content of the Summer Camp is in process. Project manager, Michael Hansen, Ballerup, is in dialogue with both Nacka and Fingal about this. The project has received 50.000 Euro, which cover the expenses of ECN partners for taking part.

*The first steering group meeting is taking place in the end of January with the participation of Nacka, Fingal and Turkey.*

*On November 10<sup>th</sup> a workshop was held with the participation from Nacka.*

- Staff Sport Clubs/Europe For Citizens



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The sports club of Ballerup Municipality is planning an international sports event/competition in 2011 with attendance of colleagues from other ECN municipalities. Any interest from the colleagues in the ECN?

*Staff from Nacka, Getafe and Fingal is interested in taking part. However, funding the staff's participation in the middle of economic cut downs might be difficult, as it is a sports & leisure event. We put it on hold.*

- Urbact

The "Urbact" project proposal will be discussed further and agreed at the seminar Friday.

*Please see minutes from the seminar.*

- New project proposals?

*Nacka is suggesting holding a conference (Europe for Citizens) in 2011 about 'Save and Secure Municipalities'. Pia McAleenan from Nacka has disseminated a 'Call for interest' paper to the participants at the Brussels meeting. Please let Pia McAleenan know if anyone is interested in taking part in such an event.*

## **7. Discussions about Revision of Protocol/Strategy- and Action plan 2011 – 2014**

The protocol governing the cooperation, agreed in September 2007 in Nacka, is to be updated. The ECN has a 3-year Strategy- & Action plan which is expiring in 2010. It was decided at the time when the network adopted the strategy plan to let it be headed by the Lisbon Strategy as the overarching common European economic guidelines.

The Triumvirate agreed 13th June 2010 that the continuation of the Lisbon Strategy, the new "Europe 2020" strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth (agreed in EU June 2010) should be the overarching framework in the network collaboration.

The Protocol and Strategy –& Action plan should be updated at the meeting. A draft is sent out along with the agenda and the members are asked to prepare suggestions and amendments in advance.

Enclosure:

Suggestions for the protocol and new Strategy-and Action plan as amended by the Triumvirate

*The Steering Group discussed and approved an updated Protocol and Strategy and Action plan 2011-2014. Please see attached updated Protocol and Strategy & Action plan.*



## 8. Update Professional Networks/Study visits/Internships

The cooperation and knowledge sharing within ECN should be beneficial and fruitful to all type of staff in the ECN organisations. The Presidency asks the members to discuss and make a list of which areas/issues staff members could be interested in. The list should also include contact details of the relevant/responsible persons of each area

- Update
  - Ballerup to present a method which has been used successfully in the organisation to extend the interest of exchanging knowledge and experience within the ECN
  - Drug addiction: Getafe has previously presented an invitation to collaborate on drug abuse, which has been positively responded to by Ballerup.
  - Legal Adviser: Legal Advisers in Nacka and Ballerup have made contact and will subsequently get in contact with other partner Legal Advisers.
  - Economy: Executive Directors of Finance and their staff in Ballerup and Nacka are in contact regarding developing new methods of bench marking.
  - Security Issues/ Nacka (see Item 6)
  - Ballerup: List of interested staff to be presented
  - Update other Partners?

*Susse Bøtefyhr informed about a method Ballerup has been using within the organisation to extend the interest of exchanging knowledge and experience. All departments have been asked to write down areas of specific interest and knowledge sharing. This has been a success in Ballerup, and Ballerup is now asking other ECN members to do the same in order to find common areas of interests and increase the peer to peer cooperation.*

*Maria Pedraza will get in contact with relevant colleague in Getafe about the possibilities for collaboration on drug abuse.*

*Please find enclosed list of possible peer- to- peer collaborations in Ballerup*

## 9. Update website – Nacka

An updated and relevant website is very important – both to the existing members, and as a way to present the Network to possible new members. At the meeting Annika Londono and the Nacka webmaster, Sevgi Bardakci, will present the website and a process and time schedule for updating the website will be discussed by the steering group.

*The present ECN website was thoroughly discussed by the Steering Group. The members gave specific suggestions for improving the site. Some of the issues discussed by the Steering group were*

- *The front page = better to call it 'Home' than 'News'. The front page should contain general and relevant information in order to avoid outdated information*

- *Sub sites introducing each member – template of Handbook can be used as guideline*
- *'Media' to be called 'Archive'*
- *Space for announcing future events/meetings*

*The website is an important tool in the process of getting new members and to 'brand' the Network. The content at the website should be aimed both at the members and users/readers in general. Nacka will make the suggested amendments for the website and sent out a template for members to fill in. Sevgi Bardakci will present the website to the presidency when updated. A meeting has been organised 14<sup>th</sup> of December. As written in the Protocol the presidency has the responsibility of updating the website.*

#### **10. Update handbook - Ballerup**

The Handbook should be available at the website. The Handbook needed to be updated and the steering group will discuss the process for updating the Handbook.

*Each member will be presented/introduced at the website, and it is suggested that the template will be the same as the Handbook-template. The information given in the Handbook will in future be available as a part of the members' presentations at the website.*

*Nacka is making an updated template to be sent to members to fill in. The information will be uploaded to the website.*

#### **11. History of the Network**

Ballerup has started to write a paper regarding the history of the Network as documentation. This should support the understanding of the Network and be a 'working tool' for new members and for new participants from existing member municipalities.

*Susse Bøtefyhr has made a first draft for an overview of the History of the Edge Cities Network. Steering Group members are asked to fill in the missing information by 20<sup>th</sup> of December.*

*Please see 'History of the Edge Cities Network' paper enclosed.*

#### **12. Next presidencies:**

- 2010 – 2011 Ballerup
- 2011-2012 Fingal
- 2012 -2013 Northdown
- 2013-2014 ?

*Jan Pazio will examine the possibilities for Grodzisk Mazowiecki to be president of the ECN in 2013-2014. However, there are a lot of things to be discussed and considered for Grodzisk Mazowiecki. Feedback will be given at the May meeting in Ballerup.*



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### **13. Next meeting in Ballerup, 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2011**

*Politicians from North Down and Fingal might not be able to take part in the May meeting as there will be held elections in Northern Ireland and Ireland in beginning of May 2011.*

### **14. A.o.b.**

- Meeting with ENTP 10.11.2010

*Susse Bøtefyhr and Susanna Rafn visited ENTP's secretariat in Brussels the 10th November. The European New Towns Platform - ENTP - is the European organisation representing the New Towns. Founded in 2001, the organization is now a strong network of 32 members and 10 partners from 11 European countries. The members are local governments from European New Towns, whereas the partners are research centers.*

*It was agreed to keep each other updated with relevant information and also have each others' organisations in mind for relevant areas of cooperation and knowledge sharing. Please read more at [www.newtowns.net](http://www.newtowns.net)*