



Cohesion in the Baltic Sea Area!

Fresh ideas for successful rural and urban growth

Date: 30 May 2017, 15:00 – 18:30

Venue: Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Office

Moderator: MEP Jan Olbrycht

15:00 – 15:45 an investment policy for regions implemented by regions

- Cohesion policy is the investment policy in Europe! How can it be more effective?
- Where is the European Added Value?
- What about Indicators?
- What about the EFSI?

15:45 – 16:30 Panel 1: highlighting added value to the citizens

#bestpractices#cohesionpolicyworks#focusonresults#betterspending#€oninnovation

- How does Cohesion Policy affect the citizens' perception and identification with the EU?
- How is communicating Cohesion Policy a challenge?
- How can regions better communicate Cohesion Policy and its results?
- How can regions engage citizens in EU issues and improve communication with other levels of governance?

16h30- 17h00 Coffee break

17:00 – 17:45 Panel 2: facilitating innovation

#flexibility#smartspecialisation#makelifeeasier#thematicconcentration#exante

- How to simplify cohesion policy?
- How can EU funding / financing better support cooperation between European regions that are not in the same immediate geography?
- How can regional funding / financing encourage investment in other regions?
- Can there be a Europe-wide Smart Specialization strategy in the future?

17:45 – 18:30 Panel 3: Territorial Dimension of Cohesion Policy

#territorialapproach#BalticSeaStrategy#Interreg##creatingsynergies

- What role does the territorial cooperation play in the Baltic Sea area? Should there be more or less in the future?
- What are obstacles to territorial cooperation in the Baltic Sea area? How to overcome them?
- What role does and should the EU, the nations and the regions play and with what main objectives for this cooperation on different levels between different stakeholders?

18:30 Baltic Reception