



## Economic Development Forum

21-23 October 2013 | Glasgow

### **BUSINESS MEETING - MINUTES**

**Wednesday 23 October 2013 - 13.00-14.30**

**Venue:** The Lighthouse, Mitchell Lane, Glasgow

**Chair:** Nick Small, EDF Chair, Liverpool

#### **1) Opening**

Welcome by Councillor Nick Small, Liverpool, Chair of EDF.

- approval of the draft agenda (WD 01): the draft agenda was approved.
- approval of minutes of EDF Business meeting Tampere June 2013 (WD 02): the minutes were approved.

#### **2) Elections/Renewal of EDF Chair and vice-Chair**

EDF current Chair, Nick Small (Liverpool), and vice-Chair, Carolien Gehrels (Amsterdam) confirmed they would like to do another mandate and no other candidate applied. Thus, members approved their candidacy for a second mandate that will run until October 2014.

#### **3) EDF working group reports 2013**

Each WG chair produced a short presentation of 2 slides with objectives for 2013, main outcomes, and priorities for 2014 (see powerpoints uploaded on EUROCITIES web site).

**WG City branding and attractiveness** (Marie Ranty, EUROCITIES, replacing Cesare Torre, Genoa)

**WG Cohesion Policy** (Martin Eyres, Liverpool, replacing Heidi Hesske, Leipzig)

**WG Entrepreneurship and SMEs** (Tony O'Neill, Liverpool - Michael McNally, Glasgow)

**WG Innovation** (Jeroen Van Oort, Netwerkstad Twente)

**WG Integrated Urban Development** (Marie Ranty, EUROCITIES, replacing Sylvia Pintarits, Munich)

**WG International Economic Relations** (Désirée Van de Ven, Utrecht)

**WG Metropolitan areas** (Marie Ranty, EUROCITIES, replacing Peter Austin, Oslo)



#### 4) EU update (see powerpoint uploaded on EUROCITIES web site)

Marie Ranty (EUROCITIES policy advisor) gave an update on Horizon2020. The proposed Budget is now 70 billion euros. Smart Cities funding will come under Horizon 2020. The final negotiations in trialogue are taking place now. EUROCITIES will meet the Commission for information on content of calls for 2014 throughout summer and autumn.

She also mentioned the new Youth Employment initiative. This new funding will be for NUTS2 regions with a youth unemployment rate over 25% on the basis of 2012 data. €3bn will come from European Social Fund and €3bn from a dedicated budget line. It would be delivered via ESF programming. The Issues for cities are: the problem with eligibility (not NUTS2 regions), and the fact that there are some very deprived areas within cities that have overall less than 25% of unemployment. EUROCITIES is liaising with the EP to introduce amendments (20% rather than 25%) and taking part in the Lithuanian Presidency conference on ESF and youth employment.

Julie Hervé (EUROCITIES policy advisor) gave an update on entrepreneurship and SMEs related issues. She presented EUROCITIES future publication on 'Cities supporting inclusive entrepreneurship' which was about to be published. She also briefed members on the state of play concerning the European Entrepreneurship 2020 action plan and the progress in negotiations concerning the future COSME programme.

#### 5) EDF priorities for 2014

-Politicians meeting 9 October: cancelled

-EDF priorities 2013:

1. Funding for cities (SF, COSME, Horizon2020)
2. Supporting entrepreneurship and SMEs (including international economic relations)
3. Fostering innovation (smart specialisation, cross sectoral cooperation, triple-helix cooperation)
4. Horizontal priority: metropolitan governance and integrated planning

-Survey in July 2013 (12 cities responded):

Do you believe the 2013 priorities are still relevant for 2014? yes

What is missing? Cultural and creative industries, port cities, integrated development

Working groups in 2014:

1. City branding and attractiveness
2. Cohesion Policy
3. Entrepreneurship and SMEs
4. Innovation
5. Integrated urban development
6. International economic relations
7. Metropolitan areas

EDF Priorities for 2014:

1. Employment and entrepreneurship
2. Innovation
3. Area-based cooperation



#### 6) EDF meetings in 2014

The city of Utrecht (the Netherlands) proposed to host the Spring 2014 Forum and the city of Brno (Czech Republic) offered to host the Autumn 2014 Forum (mid-September).

Désirée Van de Ven presented a short movie about the city of Utrecht. She announced the meeting would focus on '**Resourcing the local green economy**' and would take place on **26-28 February 2014 in Utrecht**.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Q5NpRdI5Z0&feature=youtu.be>

#### 7) EUROCITIES Update (WD 04)

Including EUROCITIES annual conference- Ghent 27-30 November 2013

Vanda Knowles (EUROCITIES policy director) gave an update on EUROCITIES 2013 annual conference on 'smart citizens' taking place on 27-29 November 2013 in Ghent. Johannes Hahn, European commissioner for regional policy, will participate in the private political session, a closed meeting for discussion between EUROCITIES politicians in the morning of 29 November. Politicians round-tables will be chaired by each Forum Chair. Discussions will focus on the future European urban agenda.

#### 8) Application of St Nazaire as associated partner to the EDF (WD 03 A, B and C)

EDF Steering Committee recommended to EDF members to agree on the candidacy of St Nazaire.

St Nazaire was welcomed to the EDF.

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All working documents can be found on EUROCITIES web site (you need to login):

[www.eurocities.eu](http://www.eurocities.eu)

If you do not have yet a login and password, please contact: [members@eurocities.eu](mailto:members@eurocities.eu)