

## **PARTICIPATION DAY**

**Tuesday 13 June 2017**

**Representations of the Federal states of Brandenburg and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, In den Ministergärten 1 - 3, Berlin**

**Aim: To enhance role of local actors and bottom-up approaches in the shaping of policy processes and practical implementation of Baltic Sea cooperation.**

## **INVITATION**

Dear friends of the Baltic Sea Region,

The successful implementation of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) and its objectives depends on the broadest possible mobilization and participation of stakeholders in all respective countries.

Strong bottom-up participation and sense of “ownership” by various stakeholders - both in policy shaping and practical implementation - can significantly contribute to the success of the Strategy.

The macro-regional strategies, and their emphasis on participatory multi-level governance can also be of special importance now, when the European Union is striving to reconnect better with its citizens and to chart its way forward.

Therefore, the Horizontal Action Capacity and its coordinators, charged with the task of involvement, participation and capacity building of the EUSBSR stakeholders, together with the states of Brandenburg and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, have decided to organize on Tuesday 13 June 2017 a **Participation Day** back-to-back with the EUSBSR Annual Forum in Berlin.

This Participation Day is a “first timer” within the context of the EUSBSR. It has been inspired by the success of three Danube Participation Days, which have proven to be very successful. The Berlin Day will also serve as a pilot project for following editions, in Tallinn 2018 and beyond.

Due to limits of time and space, the Participation Day in Berlin will this time concentrate on three themes:

- Sustainable tourism development
- Education, research, employability and integration of refugees
- Involvement and cooperation - new approaches

We invite representatives of EUSBSR stakeholders, such as local and regional authorities, civil society organisations, academia, business and media, to this Berlin Participation Day.

The organisers will do their best to ensure that as many different organisations/networks as possible can attend and present their proposals and views. As the space is limited (max. 80 participants), we can unfortunately accept only one participant per organization.

**The final day for expressing your interest to participate is 5 May 2017.**

**[Please use this online form...](#)**

You are also invited to present in advance short, concise and concrete project proposals, concepts or ideas about the themes of the Participation Day. These will be available at the HA Capacity website before the Participation Day in Berlin.

**The organisers will confirm the acceptance of participants and select the most promising proposals to be presented in the Berlin Participation Day by 10 May 2017.**

You will find the draft programme, instructions for expressing your interest to participate and to present your proposals as well as other useful information in the attachments.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

#### HA Capacity



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#### Land Brandenburg



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