### A Smart North Sea Region (lead: Smart Regions Group)

#### Key topics and goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smart specialisation strategies</th>
<th>Priorities, meetings &amp; events</th>
<th>Mapping &amp; reports</th>
<th>Policy positions</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>External cooperation</th>
<th>United Nations Sustainable Development Goals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic diversification</td>
<td>2. Transition from S3: Smart Specialisation Strategies to Smart Specialisation Strategies for sustainable and inclusive growth</td>
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<td>2. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; 3. Responsible Consumption and Production</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable tourism</td>
<td>3. Sustainable tourism</td>
<td>Mapping of smart specialisation activities taking place in member regions in our priority areas.</td>
<td>Identification of gaps and policy positions as our group’s work in this focus area develops during the 2 year Action Plan period to be presented to the Executive Committee, at the annual business meeting and in our regular required reporting.</td>
<td>The group will encourage the development of cooperation projects across member regions and in collaboration with the other NSC working groups. We will have project development as a regular post on the agendas of our steering group meetings and ordinary business meetings. We will also actively participate in the NSC project development team. The NSC Youth group will play an active role in this work.</td>
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<td>Circular economy and digitalisation</td>
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<td>4. Responsible Consumption and Production</td>
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#### Skills/competences and mobility of researchers, students and the work force

**Goal:** High employment rates thanks to high innovation capacity, skilled workforce, successful inclusion of migrants and marginalised groups

**Priorities:**
- Skills in the renewable energy sector (hydrogen, wind energy, alternative fuels, etc.)
- Skills in the handicraft sector (incl. repair skills)
- Meeting topics to be organized: Skills in the green economy: Enhancing the skills in the hydrogen sector and recycling of electric batteries in the transport sector
- Sharing of best practices and expertise in support to FA4 and FA5 activities based on our 2 priorities. Cooperate on activities focusing on fit for S5 and skills development within the other thematic working groups when relevant.

#### Circular use of resources

**Goal:** Economic growth based on sustainability and climate change mitigation should be among the highest in Europe

**Priorities:**
- Follow-up on the results of the mapping of regulatory framework and best practices in the field of the production and recycling of electric batteries in the transport sector
- Re-use of wastewater
- Circular use of resources in the construction sector
- P5: Joint meeting with Transport group on results of the report
- P2: Joint meeting with Marine Resources Group on the re-use of wastewater
- P3: A meeting to share best practices and expertise will be organized.

| Report finalized and presented to Annual Business Meeting on "Results of the mapping of regulatory framework and best practices in the field of the production and recycling of electric batteries in the transport sector" | Identification of gaps and policy positions as our group’s work in this focus area develops during the 2 year Action Plan period to be presented to the Executive Committee, at the annual business meeting and in our regular required reporting. | The group will encourage the development of cooperation projects across member regions and in collaboration with the other NSC working groups. We will have project development as a regular post on the agendas of our steering group meetings and ordinary business meetings. We will also actively participate in the NSC project development team. The NSC Youth group will play an active role in this work. | Cooperation with the NSC Marine Resources Group, Energy and Climate Change Group and Transport Group
| Participation in CPMRs EU programs and projects GC (Geographic Commission) coordination meetings, when relevant
| Youth involvement through the NSC Youth Group (member of our steering group and ordinary business meetings)
| Participation in NSC Task Force "Fit for 55"
| Participation in Interreg North Sea Region Program relevant meetings and events | |