

North Sea Region 2020
Draft action plan

June 2016 – June 2017

NSR 2020 Priority 1: Managing Maritime Space

NSR 2020 key action	Key activities	Expected outcomes	Instrument	Status
Use maritime spatial planning as a tool to promote dialogue between different governmental levels and stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinate/contribute to NSC activities within the NorthSEE project ○ Compiling data on land/sea interaction in the North Sea Region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dialogue with member states ○ Resolution concerning the land/sea interaction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lobbying ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Policy generation ○ Compiling of data ○ Exchange of best practice 	
Ensure sustainable and innovative exploitation of marine resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Initiate a conference in Bergen to facilitate for exchange of good practice from Norwegian experience in implementing the discard ban to fishery dependent regions in the EU ○ Compiling experience from member regions on implementation of the discard ban 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Present regional interests in cooperation forums at member state/EU- level ○ Resolution on discard ban 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lobbying ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Policy generation ○ Compiling of data ○ Exchange of best practice 	
Ensure a skilled workforce to meet the needs of the future and livelihood in coastal communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilitate for mobility of teachers and students between maritime educational institutions in member regions; ○ Follow the European Commission's blue career initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Projects and mobility schemes between member regions ○ Representation in EU forums 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lobbying ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Policy generation ○ Exchange of best practice ○ Project development 	

NSR 2020 Priority 2: Increasing accessibility and clean transport				
NSR 2020 key action	Key activities	Expected outcomes	Instrument	Status
Ensure good access to the TEN-T Core Network for peripheral and maritime regions through funding instruments (the CEF) and governance mechanisms (Core Network Corridor Forums)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide input to studies, work plans and project lists of relevant TEN-T Core Network corridors (CNC) ○ Develop/shadow relevant CEF-and Interreg projects in the NSR ○ Study how CEF-projects are affecting accessibility in the NSR ○ Draft input to revision of CEF-regulation through the CPMR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Participation of NSC member regions in relevant CNC forums ○ Projects ○ Position paper (s) ○ Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project development/monitoring ○ Policy generation 	
Facilitate modal shift from road to rail and sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide views on EU implementation plan for Motorways of the Sea (MOS) through the CPMR ○ Participate in meeting between the European MoS-coordinator and the CPMR with a view of higher funding and better co-financing rates for MoS projects in the CEF, and more favourable conditions for participation of actors from peripheral regions and 3rd countries ○ Explore conditions for facilitating modal shift from road to rail through stakeholder cooperation and projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Projects ○ Position paper (s) ○ Reports ○ Stakeholder involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lobbying ○ Policy generation ○ Project development/monitoring 	
Support measures and incentives to promote clean, efficient and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Further develop survey on the use of alternative fuels in public transport and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Practices and solutions on alternative fuels transferred between NSC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Compiling of data ○ Exchange of best practice ○ Project 	

<p>inclusive transport, incl. Clean Shipping</p>	<p>other transport services among NSC members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop projects and/or capitalize on results from relevant projects ○ Monitor implementation of EU Directive(s) on alternative fuels in transport ○ Monitor impact of EU Sulphur Directive for shipping 	<p>member regions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Projects ○ Reports ○ Recommendations for policy measures and funding instruments & compensation schemes 	<p>development/monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lobbying ○ Policy generation 	
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NSR 2020 Priority 3: Tackling climate change

NSR 2020 key action	Key activities	Expected outcomes	Instrument	Status
<p>Facilitate climate change adaptation and mitigation through local, regional and national levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of best practices within climate change and climate change adaptation. Focus is on the risks of flooding and the effects of sea level rise: How to cope with the risks, what are the consequences for the water systems and water safety: innovative water retention, effective water use in agricultural areas (for example drip irrigation), managing wet soils (paladi culture) and smart sediment. ○ Stimulate exchanging activities around 'building with nature involving tourism, recreation and culture. Focus on what governments, cities and regions can learn from each other. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A brochure for the North Sea based on its best practices. ○ Transfer of good practice examples between member regions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of best practice ○ Collection of data ○ Stakeholder involvement 	

Promote energy efficiency as well as innovation and green growth in low-carbon technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of best practices and development of projects for example in Tidal and Wave Energy, bio energy, wind and PV. Focus on energy efficiency in industry and households. Smart cities and communities (smart grid technology) and energy cooperatives in the Icope project. Present the North sea as a power house of Europe, living lab for green growth towards the Energy Union. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Best practice guide ○ Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Policy generation ○ Project development 	
Foster strong regional, national and European support for the development of the North Sea Grid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activities following Dutch Presidency, lobby activities towards EU presidency and the EC after June 2016. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Visibility of NSC positions in relevant statements and documents ○ Active role of NSC in the preparatory action ○ Higher awareness and increased cooperation at EU and member state level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lobbying ○ Stakeholder involvement 	
Facilitate for a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monitor development and stimulate exchange of best practices between member regions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update overview best practice ○ Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Policy generation ○ Project development 	

NSR 2020 Priority 4: Attractive and sustainable communities

NSR 2020 key action	Key activities	Expected outcomes	Instrument	Status
Promote knowledge transfer and cross-overs between different sectors in the North Sea Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Raise awareness and exchange good practice on diversification of economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Projects ○ Workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of best practice ○ Project development ○ Policy generation 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ promote quadrupel helix involvement in projects ○ Involve creative sectors in projects 			
Improve policy coordination to address demographic and migration challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange good practice on healthy and active ageing ○ Lobby for better digital connectivity, including broadband connections, to make peripheral areas more attractive ○ Stimulate the use of cultural offers and cultural activities to promote integration of migrants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Practices transferred between member regions ○ Resolution/policy paper ○ Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of best practice ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Policy generation ○ Project development 	
Promote maritime clusters to continue to play an important role as provider of blue growth, jobs and innovation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project development based on maritime clusters (DG Mare call “blue technology – mobilise stakeholders”) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project proposals ○ Policy document 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of best practices ○ Project development ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Policy generation 	
Support the development of a more sustainable tourism sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange best practice on the use of circular economy practices in the tourism industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Updated overview best practice ○ Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of best practice ○ Collection/compilation of data ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Project development 	
Support the diversification of tourism offers in coastal areas as well as in cruise tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilitate stronger stakeholder involvement in the following projects: 1.Seafood Experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of best practice ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Project development 	

	2.Cruise Awareness			
Support the development of cultural heritage based tourism, nature, outdoor and health tourism in coastal areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinate stakeholder involvement from member regions to promote cultural heritage as an creative source of innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Projects ○ Updated best practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exchange of best practice ○ Policy generation ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ Project development 	
Support the development of permanent networks for cultural actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stimulate cooperation between cultural actors in the member regions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ North Sea participation in Youth Festival in Sandnes 2017 and Kulturmøde 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stakeholder involvement 	

NSR 2020 Guiding principles

Innovation, excellence, sustainability, stakeholder involvement, skills and R&D and visibility are horizontal priorities and are therefore included in all the other priorities.

Strategic issues				
Initiative	Key activities	Expected outcomes	Instrument	Lead
Strategic cooperation in the North Sea Region	Follow-up work on Preparatory action events	Participation in minimum three relevant events	Lobbying Stakeholder involvement Exchange of best practice Policy generation	NSC Secretariat
Mobilising EU institutions/ms in North Sea cooperation	Cooperation with EU institutions and member states	Raised awareness of need for strategic cooperation in the North Sea Region		
	Follow up on the Billund Declaration	NSC positions widely communicated		

**25th NSC Annual Business Meeting
Billund, 17th June 2016
Appendix 14a**

<p>Use of ad hoc task forces</p>	<p>Facilitate for project development DG MARE blue technology</p> <p>Develop sustainable model for permanent NSC secretariat</p>	<p>North Sea project application under DG Mare call “blue technology”</p> <p>Permanent model for NSC Secretariat to be presented to ABM 2017</p>	<p>Project development Lobbying Stakeholder involvement</p>	<p>NSC Secretariat/member regions</p>
<p>Strengthen the NSC role within the CPMR</p>	<p>Active participation in CPMR work on relevant post 2020 issues</p> <p>Coordinate NSC input to Azores declaration</p> <p>Using CPMR (human) resources/staff to assist the NSC</p>	<p>North Sea perspective in CPMR communication to EU institutions</p>	<p>Policy generation Stakeholder involvement</p>	<p>NSC Secretariat</p>