

Get to know your neighbour goes Open Space

How do we change the story about the Baltic Sea?

14-15 November 2017 from lunch to lunch
Alandica Kultur & Kongress House in Mariehamn, Åland, Finland

Welcome to the fifth edition of the event "Get to know your neighbour"! This year YOU will set the agenda in an Open Space event. You get the opportunity to drive and discuss the issues you are most interested in and feel most passionate about with people who feel the same. You are expected to participate in the discussions to learn from others and contribute with your knowledge and experience. We hope to mix past experiences, present realities and all our hopes and dreams for the future.

THE THEME

The Baltic Sea is known as one of the most polluted seas in the world. We might not be able to achieve a completely clean and healthy sea during our lifetime, but we can leave behind the story about how we broke the negative spiral and changed the trends.

But how do we change the story about the Baltic Sea? What needs to be done next? How do we deal with both old and new problems, threats and risks? Eutrophication, hazardous substances, micro particles, climate change, loss of biodiversity, invasive species... What is most important for you?

At the end of the event we hope to have a lot of roadmaps of what should be done next concerning different topics and teams of persons/ organisations responsible for the execution.

THE METHOD

Open Space is a meeting form based on making use of the participants' commitment and knowledge to solve problems, find new forms and create action. It is a meeting form where participants together create the agenda and take responsibility for the results, and where the questions are driven by the participants' involvement. Everybody can bring up issues on equal terms and only you decide what you get out of the event.

This is how it goes:

- **Opening:** We start with a short round of introduction of the participants and the working method
- **Agenda Setting:** The next step is to gather topics to discuss during the event. Everyone can present topics. You write down your topic on a sheet of paper, read it out loud for everybody to hear and put it on the agenda on the wall in the conference room. If you set a topic on the agenda you are expected to take responsibility for it; convene the group, give a short introduction to the topic and summarize the discussions on our summary wall. No Power Point or other presentations are needed for the introduction (nor will not even be possible to show) but prepare in advance so you can be clear and on the spot.

- After all the topics have been set on the agenda we take a look at it together. Some topics can maybe be combined, some might need to change time or space. We will work it out together. There we have the agenda!
- Open Space: Now it is time to start working. If you have put up a topic on the agenda, make sure to take care of it. If you find a topic you are intrested in, find the right group. If you just want to hang around the coffee table, chill out and let yourself be inspirade by all the people passing by. If you want to be part of as many topics as possible, buzz around.
- Summary: After the discussions have ended the results are put on the result wall for everybody to see. The results papers are also photographed and sent to the participants afterwards.

Our working language is English.

Find our programme and instructions on registration below, and look for more information

- at Facebook event: Get to know your neighbour goes Open Space
- at www.ostersjofonden.org
- contact Lotta Nummelin at lotta.nummelin@ostersjofonden.org

Programme

Tuesday, 14 November 2017

- 13.00 **Lunch** at hotel Arkipelag (Strandgatan 35, Mariehamn)
- 14.00 **The programme begins** at Alandica culture and congress house (Strandgatan 33, Mariehamn)
- Welcome and Introduction**
- Setting the Agenda**
- 14.30 **Open Space Session 1**
- 18.30 **Break:** get ready for dinner
- 19.00 **Dinner and mingling**

Wednesday, 15 November 2017

- 9.00 **Opens Space Session 2** at Alandica culture and congress house
- 12.00 **Summary and Closure**
- 13.00 **Lunch**

*Join us in rewriting the story for the sea
- warmly welcome to the Åland Islands!*

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How do we change the story about the Baltic Sea

Practical information

Registration

Registration deadline is October 31st:

Lotta Nummelin: lotta.nummelin@ostersjofonden.org / + 358 18 15 270.

The number of participants is limited, so please register on time to ensure your attendance.

On www.ostersjofonden.org you can check out who is coming!

Travel and accommodation on Åland

From Stockholm by boat:

Tue: Silja Line from Stockholm 7.10, arrival in Mariehamn 13.35

Wed: Silja Line from Mariehamn 13.45, arrival in Stockholm 18.15

Viking Line from Mariehamn 14.25, arrival in Stockholm 18.55

Viking Rosella from Mariehamn 16.00, arrival in Kapellskär 17.30, bus to Stockholm arrives at 19.15

...by plane:

Tue: NextJet from Arlanda 9.30, arrival in Mariehamn 11.00

Tue: NextJet from Mariehamn 16.55, arrival in Arlanda kl. 16.30

From Turku by boat:

Tue: Silja Line from Turku 8.15, arrival in Mariehamn 13.35

Wed: Silja Line from Mariehamn 13.45, arrival in Turku 19.15

Viking Line from Mariehamn 14.25, arrival in Turku 19.50

From Helsinki by boat via Turku

...by plane:

Mon: Finnair from Helsinki 8.35, arrival in Mariehamn 9.30

Tue: Finnair from Mariehamn 21.15, arrival in Helsinki 22.10

Accommodation can be booked at hotel Arkipelag to a discount (86 euro single, 106 euro double room), phone +358 18 24 020, info@hotellarkipelag.ax. Please indicate "Get to know your neighbour" when booking. Other options can be found at www.visitaland.com.

The programme, including lunch and dinner is free. The participants pay for their own travel and accommodation.