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## FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

# A Conference on Cohesion Policy and Territorial Development: Make Use of the Territorial Potential!

10–11 December 2009 in Kiruna, Sweden



*The Icehotel in Jukkasjärvi, the largest ice hotel in the world, where a workshop and the conference dinner will be held. (Photo: Ben Nilsson/Big Ben Productions)*

### Practical Information

**Conference Website:**

[www.se2009.eu/](http://www.se2009.eu/)  
kiruna10december

**Date:** 10–11 December 2009

**Place:** Folkets hus, LKAB  
Infomine, Icehotel

**Contact:** Mr Anders More,  
Meeting coordinator  
Telephone: +46 8 405 10 81  
E-mail: [anders.more@enterprise.ministry.se](mailto:anders.more@enterprise.ministry.se)

**Information:** Participation is by invitation only. Invitations and further information regarding registration, will be sent in September.

Accommodation is pre-booked and can be reserved via online registration in September.

Cohesion policy gives the regions of Europe opportunities to develop on the basis of their own conditions and to make use of their territorial potential.

On 10–11 December 2009 Sweden will hold a high-level conference with the purpose of spreading knowledge and experience about the conditions for regional growth.

Some 150 participants, from EU Member States, the European Commission, the European Parliament and a range of organisations, will discuss the ability of cohesion policy to make use of territorial potential and its links to new challenges such as climate change, globalisation and demographic change.

The conference will be strategically located in the town of Kiruna, north of the Pole Circle in the far north of Sweden, which is facing major urban change in the near future.

Discussions will be held about how structural funds and sectoral policy can contribute to the optimal use of regional conditions for growth. Workshops will be held in the world's largest iron ore mine close to Kiruna town centre and at Icehotel, the largest ice hotel in the world.

Two reports will be produced for the conference, as a basis for discussions. The Swedish Presidency has the ambition of contributing, through the conference, to policy development in the policy area.

*Welcome to Kiruna. We look forward to seeing you!*



**ROYAL NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Royal Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development  
The Minister*

Your ref

Our ref  
09/1931-1 OGO

Date 3.9.2009

**Dear Madam or Sir,**

In connection with the Conference on Cohesion Policy and Territorial Development – Make use of the Territorial Potential - in Kiruna on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of December, during the Swedish Presidency, we would like to invite you to Tromsø, Norway on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of December.

The purpose of the visit is to share experiences on matters of common interest related to exploiting of territorial potential. The focus will be on the Northern and Arctic areas, addressing issues like cross border cooperation, research and innovation and energy. These are issues of importance, not only as an introduction to the conference in Kiruna, but also with regard to the ongoing debate on territorial cohesion and future cohesion policy.

For organisational purposes, we would like to receive an indication of interest by 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2009. More information will follow primo October. In addition to representatives responsible for regional policy in all EU member states, representatives of the Cabinet of Commissioner Pawel Samecki and from the European Commission, DG Regio, will also be invited. The participants will have to cover travel expenses to and accommodation in Norway. There will be a charter flight from Tromsø til Kiruna paid for by the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development.

If you have questions please contact Counsellor for Regional and Local Affairs,  
Mr. Arve Skjerpen, tel +32 22 38 74 64/arvs@mfa.no

RSVP: Kristin Larsen, Mission of Norway to the European Union,  
tel +32 2 22 38 74 85/krla@mfa.no

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Norway in December.

Yours sincerely

  
Magnild Meltveit Kleppa



## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

# A conference on cohesion policy and territorial development: Make use of the territorial potential!

10-11 December 2009 in Kiruna, Sweden

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### Wednesday 9 December

**19.00–22.00** Buffet Dinner at Hotel Ferrum

### Thursday 10 December

**09.30–11.45** **Opening session, Folkets Hus, Kiruna**

- 09.30 Introduction  
*Willy Silberstein*, moderator
- 09.40 Welcome  
*Jöran Hägglund*, State Secretary,  
Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications, Sweden
- 09.55 Presentation Norrbotten county  
*Per-Ola Eriksson*, County Governor
- 10.10 Territorial cohesion - how to release the potential of all regions  
*Danuta Hübner*, Chair of the Committee on Regional Development  
of the European Parliament
- 10.30 Standpoint on the future of EU regional policy  
*Pawel Samecki*, Commissioner for Regional Policy
- 11.00 Spatial planning and the transformation of the city of Kiruna  
*Lars-Eric Aaro*, LKAB  
*Mariann Nordmark*, Municipality of Kiruna
- 11.40 Questions and summary of the first session  
*Willy Silberstein*, moderator
- 11.45 Lunch at Hotel Ferrum
  
- 13.15 **Bus to parallel workshops**  
Town guiding on the bus

## Workshops

### 14.00–16.45 **Workshop 1 – LKAB Infomine**

#### **Territorial potentials for European regions and tools for further development**

The territorial potential can be determined by many factors such as geographical location, access to markets and capital, natural resources as land, raw materials and energy resources. Also labour force, including skills of the labour force, can be mentioned together with more intangible territorial capital as culture, creativity and governance. The territorial potential can be released through policies and actions at different levels. Cohesion Policy is one of the most important tools in this respect.

- 14.00 Introduction  
*Kai Böhme, moderator*
- 14.05 Welcome to LKAB  
*Lotta Fogde, LKAB*
- 14.15 What are the territorial potentials in different European regions?  
*Erik Gløersen, Nordregio*
- 14.45 Coffee and refreshments
- 15.15 Possibilities for cohesion policy to make use of the territorial potential  
– Structural funds programmes as tools for positive development  
*Katarina Mathernová, Regional Policy DG*
- 15.40 Project presentation  
*Susanne Rostmark, FriGeo*
- 16.10 Services of general interest - The importance of public goods to make best use  
of territorial potentials  
*Betty-Ann Bryce, OECD*
- 16.35 Conclusions  
*Kai Böhme, moderator*
- 16.45 **Bus to ICEHOTEL, Jukkasjärvi**

## 14.15–16.50 **Workshop 2 – ICEHOTEL, Jukkasjärvi** **Challenges affecting Europe’s regional future**

Globalisation, demography and ageing population, climate change and access to sustainable and competitive energy are some of the most serious challenges that will impact on the development of Europe’s economies and societies over the coming years. Regions are affected very differently by each challenge, but they can also give rise to new solutions and business developments such as e-health and production of renewable energy.

- 14.15 Introduction  
*Willy Silberstein, moderator*
  - 14.20 Regions 2020 – An assessment of future challenges for EU regions  
*Wolfgang Münch, Regional Policy DG*
  - 14.55 ICEHOTEL - Presentation on their work towards the goal of being CO<sub>2</sub>negative by the year 2015  
*Yngve Bergqvist, Icehotel*
  - 15.15 Coffee and refreshments
  - 15.45 Regional strategies and demographic ageing -  
Effects of the demographic change and how to handle the challenge  
*Belinda Wadsworth, Age Concern and Help the Aged*
  - 16.15 Project presentation  
*Agneta Granström, E-health*
  - 16.45 Conclusions  
*Willy Silberstein, moderator*
- Change into warm clothes

## 17.15–23.00 **Evening session, ICEHOTEL, Jukkasjärvi**

- 17.15-18.45 First group: presentation of ICEHOTEL, guided tour in the hotel and the production area
- 17.15 Participants from the workshop at LKAB Infomine arrives at Icehotel  
Change into warm clothes
- 17.45-19.15 Second group: presentation of ICEHOTEL, guided tour in the hotel and the production area
- 20.00 Dinner and entertainment at ICEHOTEL restaurant (indoors)
- 23.00 **Bus to Kiruna**

## Friday 11 December

### 09.00–12.00 Closing session: Future perspectives, Folkets Hus, Kiruna

- 09.00 Introduction  
*Willy Silberstein*, moderator
- 09.05 Territorial implications of the global economic crisis for the future of European space  
*Klaus Kunzmann*, professor spatial planning
- 09.45 Conclusions from the workshops  
*Willy Silberstein*, moderator  
*Kai Böhme*, moderator
- 10.05 Coffee and refreshments
- 10.30 Panel discussion on the possibilities for the cohesion policy to make use of the territorial potential  
*Maud Olofsson*, Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden and Minister for Enterprise and Energy  
*Danuta Hübner*, Chair of the Committee on Regional Development of the European Parliament  
*Pawel Samecki*, Commissioner for Regional Policy  
*Michael Schneider*, Chair of the Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy, Committee of the Regions  
*Mercedes Caballero Fernandez*, Director General of Community Funds, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Spain  
*Mario Pezzini*, Deputy Director Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD
- 11.30 Concluding remarks  
*Maud Olofsson*, Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden and Minister for Enterprise and Energy
- 11.45 Lunch

