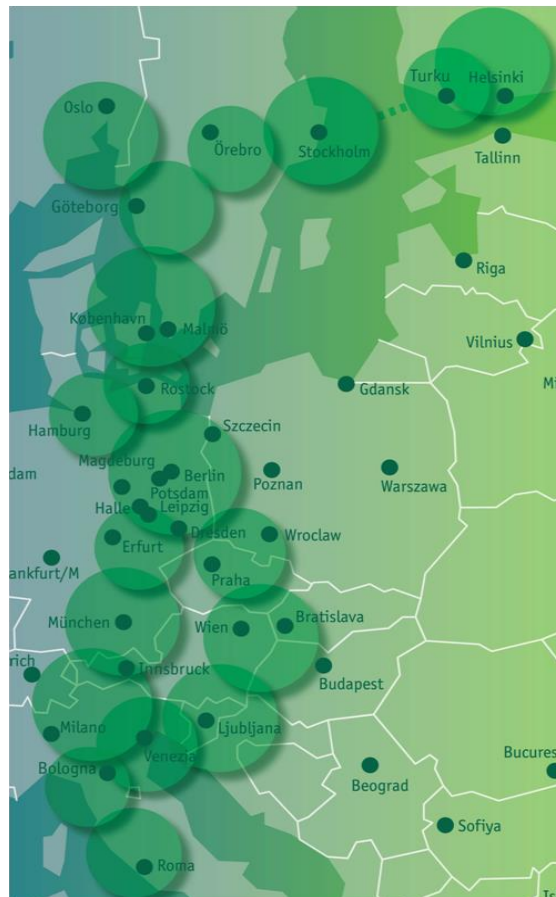


Interregional Agreement on Establishing Scandria® Alliance for Territorial Cooperation along the Scandria®Corridor



Founding Members:

1. Region Örebro County
2. Region Skåne
3. Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council
4. Eastern Norway County Network
5. City of Turku
6. Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg

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Introduction

Scandinavian and central European regions are characterized by a long history of exchange in trade and commerce, the establishment of transport infrastructures and traffic services as well as the regional development. Since more than ten years – in fact with the “Berlin Declaration” of 2007 as a milestone – the regions showcase a continuous cooperation in several strategic projects such as Scandria and BSR Transgovernance. The recent Scandria[®]2Act project, from May 2016 to April 2019, has a transnational approach and follows an initiative and action plans of regions located along the Baltic Sea Region and stretches to the TEN-T Core Network Corridor Scandinavian-Mediterranean.

The main objective of Scandria[®]2Act is to improve and foster the sustainable and multimodal transport of freight and passengers and the interaction with spatial development in order to increase the connectivity and competitiveness of corridor regions whilst reducing environmental impacts caused by freight and passenger transport. The present available results of the project indicate the need and importance of an integrated communication approach for further cooperation between various partners and stakeholders, so that jointly agreed messages can be communicated to the outside.

The Scandria[®]2Act core members aim to continue their strategic cooperation beyond the Scandria[®]2Act project period. In order to achieve this, the partners agree upon setting-up a partnership, aiming at securing a long-term transnational interregional partnership and cooperation. The founding members of the agreement represented by:

- Mats Gunnarsson, Chairperson of the Regional Public Transport Authority and Regional Infrastructure Board, Region Örebro County,
- Henrik Fritzon, Chair of the Executive Committee, Region Skåne,
- Ossi Savolainen, Regional Mayor, Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council,
- Roger Ryberg, Chairman of Eastern Norway Regional Co-operation Board, Eastern Norway County Network,
- Minna Arve, Mayor, City of Turku
- Kathrin Schneider, Minister for Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, Federal State of Brandenburg and Katrin Lompscher, Senator for Urban Development and Housing, Federal State of Berlin representing the Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg,

support and agree upon establishing the Scandria[®]Alliance for Territorial Cooperation along the Scandria[®]Corridor, as well as, the Scandinavian–Mediterranean European Transport Corridor.

The partners agree as follows:

Article 1 - Constitution of the Agreement

This agreement sets-up a lasting partnership.

Article 2 - Name

The name of the partnership is “**Scandria® Alliance**”.

Article 3 - Geographical Scope

The geographical scope covered by Scandria® Alliance is the Scandria® Corridor made by the regions around the Baltic Sea and along the Scandinavian–Mediterranean Core Network Corridor, and is outlined in the map in Annex A.

Article 4 – Vision and Tasks of Scandria® Alliance

The vision of the Scandria® Alliance is to cooperate with the European Union, the Member States and other relevant stakeholders in order to implement a sustainable and multimodal transport system by 2030 in the Baltic Sea Region and the regions involved along the Scandinavian–Mediterranean Core Network Corridor.

The following tasks will be met to ensure the vision:

- address the transport and infrastructure developments and their contribution towards interregional economic development;
- facilitate transfer of knowledge, sharing experiences and good practices;
- evaluate relevant existing action plans and initiate measures as well as support in policy formulation in line with the vision;
- ensure innovation deployment across its members;
- serve as a central forum to promote and foster jointly agreed core interests;
- act as a counterpart to the European Coordinator of the TEN-T Core Network Corridor Scandinavian-Mediterranean;
- ensure multi-level governance and coordination of activities;
- connect regions with corridors and with each other for better cohesion;
- create programmes and submit proposals designed to further strengthen the sustainable and multimodal transport system;
- cooperate with other organisations and networks on joint subject matters;

Article 5 - Objective of the Agreement

The partnership has the objective to bring together the representatives of the regions located along the Scandria[®]Corridor, in particular, the regional authorities, municipalities and other public authorities, who are responsible for the subject matters described in Article 4, or their nominated representatives, and share the principle of a harmonized spatial planning and development along the above mentioned corridor (Article 3) and related regions, in light of this, intend to define, develop and promote common interests.

Article 6 - Thematic Scope

Against the background of the Scandria[®]2Act Project, the thematic scope focuses on decarbonisation of transport, “clean fuels” deployment and development of multimodality for both passenger and freight taking into account the interaction with spatial development.

Main thematic scope:

- governance (e.g. European / national transport policies);
- logistics (e.g. unit-trains, innovative transshipment technologies);
- railways (e.g. freight and passenger rail infrastructure projects, interoperability);
- Green Corridor (e.g. alternative fuels and propulsion technologies like biogas or e-mobility);
- economic cooperation (e.g. cluster cooperation);
- development of urban nodes;
- financing issues (e.g. funding programmes and project finance).

The thematic scope may be further developed by a decision of the General Assembly.

Article 7 - Membership & Subscription

Article 7.1 - Scandria[®]Alliance Founding Members

The founding members of Scandria[®]Alliance are the core members of Scandria[®]2Act project, represented by regions and other public authorities. These are

- Region Örebro County,
- Region Skåne,
- Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council,
- Eastern Norway County Network,

- City of Turku
- Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg, represented by the Ministry for Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, Federal State of Brandenburg and the Senate for Urban Development and Housing, Federal State of Berlin.

Article 7.2 - Membership

Membership of Scandria®Alliance is open to all regional authorities, municipalities and further public authorities responsible for the subject matters described in Article 4, or their representatives, in line with spatial planning and development at regional level along the Scandria®Corridor.

The founding members seek to expand the membership by completing the coverage of the Scandria®Corridor (see Article 3 and the map in Annex A).

In addition to that, managers of seaports, airports, road and rail infrastructures, chambers of commerce, and other organisations situated in the Baltic Sea region and along the Scandinavian-Mediterranean Core Network Corridor can also join the Scandria®Alliance as associate members.

Candidates for membership or associate membership can join the Scandria®Alliance upon request or invitation with the approval of the General Assembly (see Article 8.1).

A member or associate member, which counteracts with the articles of the agreement to the disadvantage of the Scandria®Alliance or its members may be excluded from the Alliance upon reasoned request of any member and with the approval of the remaining members of the General Assembly.

Article 7.3 - Associate Members

Associate members may participate in working group meetings upon invitation and contribute to the subject matters in line with the vision.

Article 8 - Organs and competences

The organs of Scandria[®]Alliance are as follows (see Organigram in Annex B):

- The General Assembly
- The Chairperson of the General Assembly
- The Steering Committee
- The Chairperson of the Steering Committee
- Working Groups - Ad hoc Experts

Article 8.1 - General Assembly

The general assembly is the decision-making body of the Scandria[®]Alliance and is composed of one person per member.

The person representing the member shall be appointed by the member and holding a political mandate.

The general assembly is responsible for the adoption of the general strategy and the biannual work plan.

The general assembly elects a chairperson (see Article 8.2).

The chairmanship shall rotate among the members regularly every two years.

The assembly shall meet on a regular basis every two years. If more meetings are recommended, this shall need the agreement of 1/3 of the members. The regular meetings shall take place at the occasion of the transnational conference or – when the conference organiser and place do not allow for - at the place of the region or municipality holding the chairmanship.

Further responsibilities:

- developing and adapting the general strategy and adopting the work plans in line with the European and national political objectives and the Scandria[®]Alliance vision;
- amending this partnership agreement;
- elaborate and confirm internal rules of procedure;
- selecting the next and 2nd next chair organisation ensuring a continuous “hand-over” according to the rotating principle;
- selecting the host organisation for the next bi-annual conference;
- electing and dismissing the chairperson;
- amending the geographical scope;
- disapproval and/or approval of any member;

- dissolving the Scandria[®] Alliance needs the agreement of 4/5 of the members.

Article 8.2 - Chairperson of the General Assembly

The chairperson is appointed out of the membership by the general assembly every two years at the general assembly. The chairperson represents the Scandria[®] Alliance towards third parties at regional, national and European level within the limits of his/her responsibility.

Article 8.3 - Steering Committee

Each member organisation is a member of the steering committee. The members (persons representing the organisation) of the steering committee are appointed by their organisation with the approval of the general assembly. They are at least civil servants from the highest or second administrative level of the members. They shall generally meet at least twice a year. Meetings shall be chaired by the chairperson of steering committee. The chair is a representative of the same organisation chairing the general assembly.

Main tasks:

- representing the Scandria[®] Alliance;
- determining the agenda for meetings of the general assembly;
- setting up working groups;
- developing and adapting the work plans in line with general strategy and the Scandria[®] Alliance vision adopted by the general assembly;
- developing and agreeing a communication strategy;
- supporting the member organising the bi-annual conference and agreeing to the conference programme.

Article 8.4 - Chairperson of the Steering Committee

The chairperson of the steering committee may use the title “Secretary General” to be recognised as the representative of the Scandria[®] Alliance by third parties.

The chairperson of the steering committee has the following tasks:

- representing the Scandria[®] Alliance;
- proposing and preparing the agenda for the meetings of the steering committee and the general assembly;

- proposing the work plan;
- proposing the communication strategy;
- developing and monitoring a meeting plan of the general assembly, steering committee and working groups.

The chairperson of the steering committee is supported by a secretariat which is performed by the chair organisation which has in particular the following tasks:

- maintaining a list of general assembly, steering committee and working group members' contact data;
- day-by-day management;
- circulating the relevant documents between the members.

Article 8.5 - Working Groups – Ad hoc Experts

The Scandria®Alliance has working groups to take forward the key thematic issues and projects identified by the Scandria®Alliance steering committee. Each working group shall have its own experts.

Main tasks of the working groups:

- follow the agenda drawn by the steering committee;
- monitor relevant market trends, policy developments at European and national level;
- formulate policy positions and statements;
- actively participate in working group events, workshops and trainings;
- organise joint thematic events addressing different but relevant thematic issues;
- lead management of EU-funded projects (steer, manage, implement and monitor).

The members of the working group shall meet on a regular basis. However, this depends on the work demand and project volume.

In case of ad hoc work is needed, the steering committee is entitled to assign further experts.

Article 9 - Transnational Conference

The transnational conference is the main communication platform of the Scandria®Alliance. The transnational conference brings together all members of the general assembly, members of the steering committee, associate members and further actors along and around the Scandria®Corridor, where ideas and interests are shared and knowledge is transferred.

The conference shall be held biennially by and within the host region. The host region shall be chosen on a rotating basis, to be determined at the general assembly. The host region and the chair organisation of the general assembly may be different. The conference will mainly convene regional representatives, local authorities, national governments and EU institutions and further stakeholders interested in the subject.

Article 10 - Financing

Each member bears its own costs for its active participation in Scandria® Alliance work. This means that

Each member contributes to the following:

- salary and people staffing who will be involved in the activities of Scandria® Alliance on their behalf;
- travelling and accommodation costs of its representatives and all its involved experts participating in meetings, workshops and conferences on their behalf;
- logistics cost (meeting room, food and beverages) for meetings, workshops and conferences hosted by that member;

Chair organisation holding the (rotating) chairmanship contributes

- with salary and people as well as office and communication cost including the website "www.Scandria-Corridor.eu." and travelling and accommodation costs for performing the secretariat of the respective chair organisation;
- logistics costs (meeting room, food and beverages) of the assembly meetings which shall take place at the respective host region holding the (rotating) chairmanship;
- costs (such as conference and seminar room, food and beverages, printing, conference technology, moderator, travel costs of speakers others than members if required, invitation management, and other) for organising and performing the bi-annual transnational conference to be taken by the host organisation;

Participating organisations share costs of their joint activities and support activities such as launching studies, inviting experts to workshops. Joint activities and their financing needs have to be proposed and agreed upon in the Steering Committee with at least the approval of the participating organisations.

Further details will be set in the Work Plan.

Article 11 - Duration

The Scandria® Alliance is set-up for unlimited duration.

Each member may withdraw with a reasoned statement that has to be made in writing to all members with a due time of not less than three month prior to the date of the meeting of the General Assembly.

The Scandria®Alliance shall also be dissolved by the General Assembly by unanimous decision to this affect is made by all its members.

The withdrawal of single members does not terminate the association of the remaining members.

Article 12 - Language

The working language of Scandria® Alliance is English.

In case that a member requires translation, that member bears the translation costs to/from English.

Article 13 - Liability

This interregional agreement does not constitute any liability of the members towards each other and third parties. Each member remains liable for its activities within the Scandria®Alliance.

Article 14 - Final Provisions

Each member of Scandria®Alliance shall ensure that it fully complies with all applicable local, government and international laws, regulations and guidelines which are effective during the period of the Agreement.

If any provision of this Agreement shall be declared or deemed void, invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part for any reason, the Agreement shall be amended in order to give effect to, so far as is possible, the spirit of the Agreement. If the Agreement cannot be amended, the provision, which is void, invalid or unenforceable, shall be deemed deleted and the remaining provisions of the Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

Signatures of Founding Members

Region Örebro County by



Mats Gunnarsson

Chair of the Regional Public Transport Authority and Regional Infrastructure Board

Region Skåne by



First Governor Henrik Fritzon

Chair of the Executive Committee

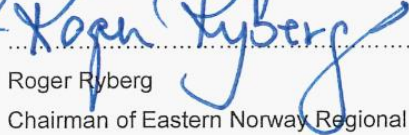
Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council by



Ossi Savolainen

Regional Mayor

Eastern Norway County Network



Roger Ryberg

Chairman of Eastern Norway Regional Co-operation Board

City of Turku



Minna Arve

Mayor

Paulina Ahtas
PAULINA AHTAS
Senior legal counsel

Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg represented by



Kathrin Schneider

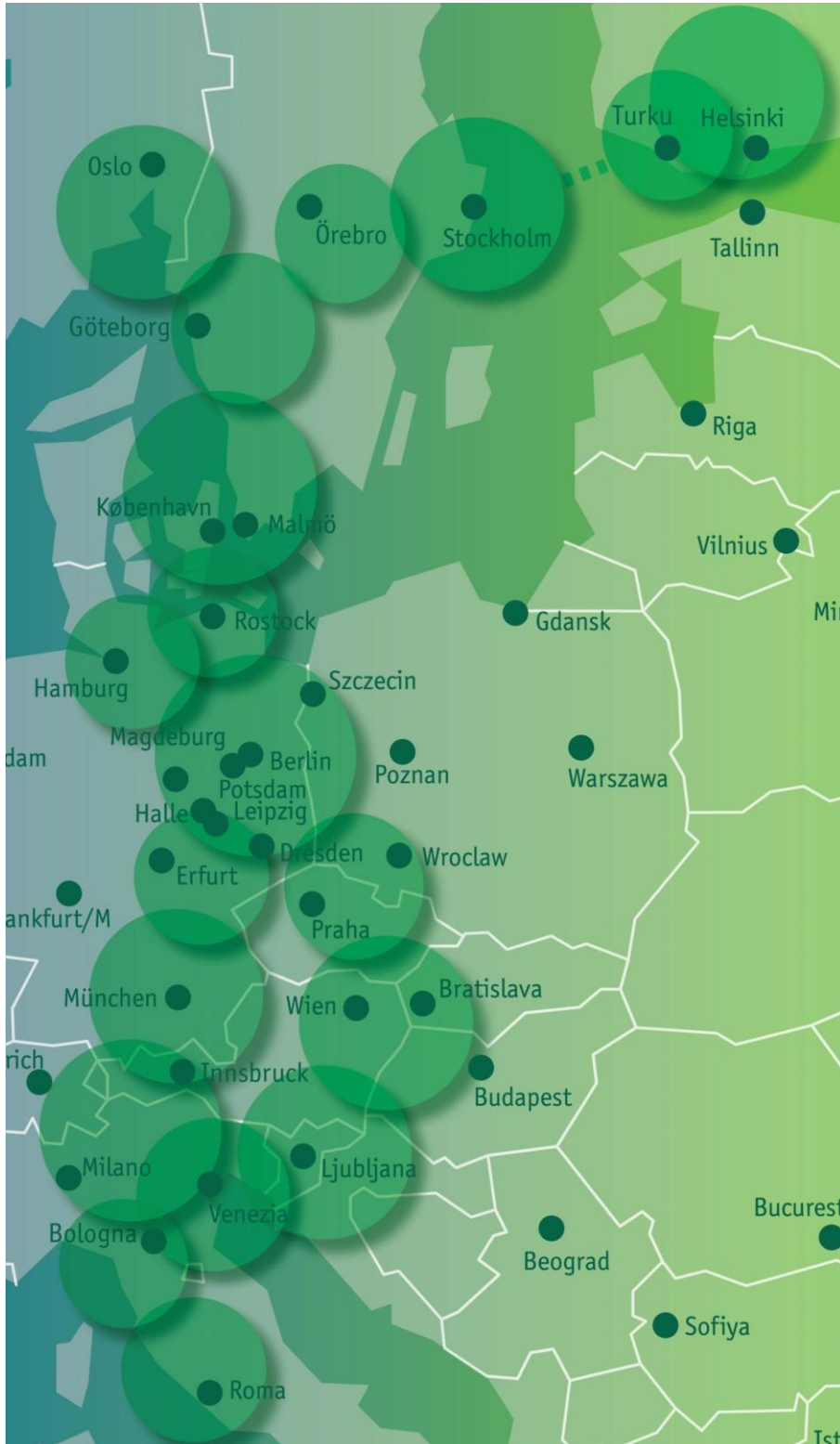
Minister for Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, Federal State of Brandenburg



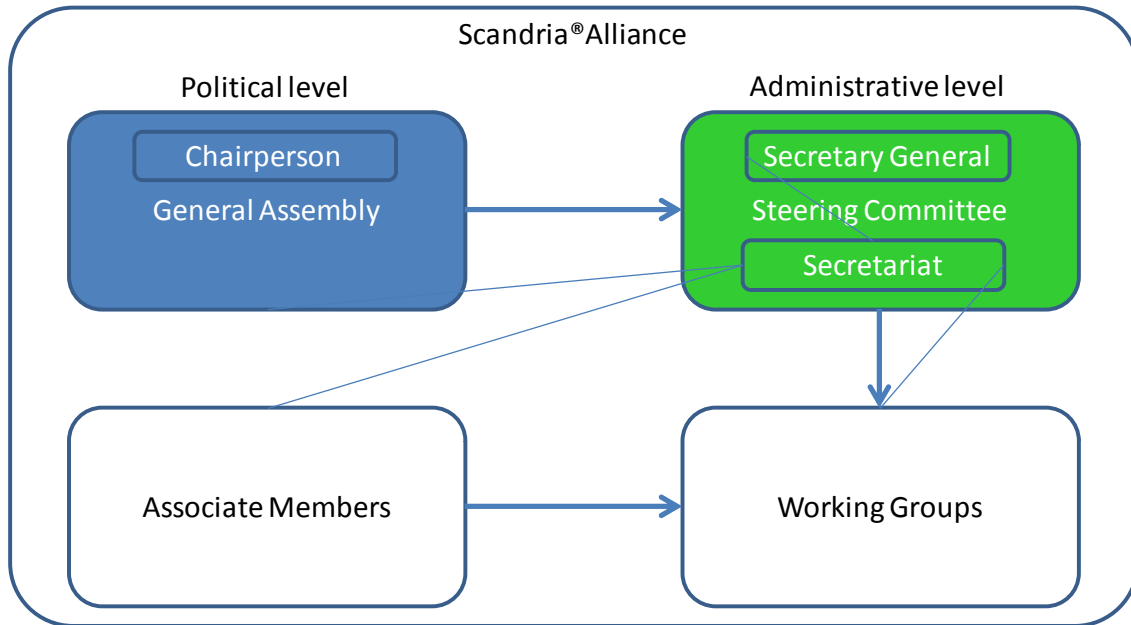
Katrin Lompscher

Senator for Urban Development and Housing, Federal State of Berlin

Annex A with the Scandria®Corridor map



Annex B with the Scandria®Alliance organigram



The „Secretariat“ is performed by the chair organisation.

Annex C with Scandria®Alliance Membership List

<p>Organisation full name</p> <p>Organisation Number, if any, Postal address</p> <p>General e-mail address</p> <p>Contact person for this agreement</p> <p>Contact person e-mail address</p> <p>Contact person phone number</p> <p>Contact person for this agreement</p> <p>Contact person e-mail address</p> <p>Contact person phone number</p>	<p>Ministry for Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, Federal State of Brandenburg</p> <p>Henning-von-Tresckow-Straße 2-8 14467 Potsdam poststelle@mil.brandenburg.de</p> <p>Dr. Ulrike Assig Ulrike.Assig@gl.berlin-brandenburg.de +49(0)331/866 8721</p> <p>Nora Schindler Nora.Schindler@gl.berlin-brandenburg.de +49(0)331/866 8725</p>
<p>Organisation full name</p> <p>Organisation Number, if any, Postal address</p> <p>General e-mail address</p> <p>Contact person for this agreement</p> <p>Contact person e-mail address</p> <p>Contact person phone number</p> <p>Contact person for this agreement</p> <p>Contact person e-mail address</p> <p>Contact person phone number</p>	<p>Senate for Urban Development and Housing, Federal State of Berlin</p> <p>Württembergische Straße 6 10707 Berlin post@sensw.berlin.de</p> <p>Dr. Ulrike Assig Ulrike.Assig@gl.berlin-brandenburg.de +49(0)331/866 8721</p> <p>Nora Schindler Nora.Schindler@gl.berlin-brandenburg.de +49(0)331/866 8725</p>
<p>Organisation full name</p> <p>Organisation Number, if any, Postal address</p> <p>General e-mail address</p> <p>Contact person for this agreement</p> <p>Contact person e-mail address</p> <p>Contact person phone number</p>	<p>Eastern Norway County Network</p> <p>c/o Akershus fylkeskommune Postboks 1200 Sentrum N-0107 Oslo ostlandssamarbeidet@afk.no</p> <p>Jon Petter Arntzen Jon.petter.arntzen@afk.no +47 90108389</p>
<p>Organisation full name</p> <p>Organisation Number, if any, Postal address</p> <p>General e-mail address</p> <p>Contact person for this agreement</p> <p>Contact person e-mail address</p>	<p>Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council</p> <p>Esterinportti 2B 02400 Helsinki, Finland kirjaamo@uudenmaanliitto.fi</p> <p>Malla Paajanen malla.paajanen@uudenmaanliitto.fi</p>

Contact person phone number	+358 50 366 7391
Organisation full name	City of Turku
Organisation Number, if any	0204819-8
Postal address	PO 355, 20101 TURKU
General e-mail address	Turku.kaupunki@turku.fi
Contact person for this agreement	Marjo Uotila
Contact person e-mail address	Marjo.uotila@turku.fi
Contact person phone number	+358 40 651 4724
Organisation full name	Region Skåne
Organisation Number, if any	Registration Number: 232100-0255
Postal address	291 89 Kristianstad
General e-mail address	Email: region@skane.se Switchboard: +46 44 309 30 00 Fax: +46 44 309 32 98
Contact person for this agreement	Petra Stelling, Ph.D.
Contact person e-mail address	petra.stelling@skane.se
Contact person phone number	+46 (0) 40-675 34 97
Organisation full name	Region Örebro County
Organisation Number, if any	232100-0164
Postal address	Box 1613, SE-701 16 Örebro
General e-mail address	regionen@regionorebrolan.se
Contact person for this agreement	Dino Keljalic
Contact person e-mail address	dino.keljalic@regionorebrolan.se
Contact person phone number	+46 19 602 39 34