

DIGITAL AGENDA FOR THE NORTH SEA (DANS) CLUSTER

Kick-off Conference

*Implementing the Digital Agenda
in the North Sea Region – good practices,
challenges and opportunities*

08 DECEMBER 2011

Karlstad Congress and Culture Centre



DANS CLUSTER

The **DANS** Cluster brings together three projects funded under the Innovation Priority of the Interreg IVB North Sea Programme: Creative City Challenge (CCC), Smart Cities and E-CLIC.

The **DANS** Cluster partnership will build a base upon which the 'Digital Agenda for Europe' (DAE) can be implemented within the North Sea Region (NSR) as the DAE is at the moment not visible in many national and regional strategies. The **DANS** project will focus on the link between the local and regional strategies to the DAE, identify implementation barriers and point to synergies.

The fields of creativity, innovation, digital services and e-government are central to the economic development of the European Union as well as to its future policy until 2020. The Digital Agenda for Europe in particular, is a key element of European policy – a so-called Flagship Initiative – which is of strategic value to the North Sea Region as well, due to the fact that services related to the DAE continuously generate employment, fight social exclusion and contribute to economic development and territorial cohesion. Furthermore, the DAE helps the EU to promote modern communication technologies for increased access to services and hence improving life quality in the NSR. It will lead to a substantial change of regional development in the ways the North Sea Region currently implements the DAE.

“Implementing the Digital Agenda in the North Sea Region – good practices, challenges and opportunities”

The aim of the Conference, which is **DANS** Cluster Kick-off meeting, is to bring the Digital Agenda for Europe to a more regional level and to show how activities and projects implemented in the frame of the Interreg North Sea Region Programme can contribute to it. Major results as well as some good practices from the Interreg IVB NSR projects Creative City Challenge, Smart Cities and E-CLIC will be presented and will showcase the “northern” way of implementing the Digital Agenda.

The kick-off conference is an important part of the **DANS** Cluster’s external communication. On the regional and national level, the **DANS** Cluster aims at a target group consisting of representatives of national and regional policy makers, relevant national ministries, national agencies, higher education/research institutions, regional development organisations, SMEs and local municipalities.

On the EU level, the **DANS** Cluster aims specifically at DG Regio, DG Education and Culture and DG Enterprise and Industry, the Committee of the Regions, Eurostat, other Interreg IV North Sea and interregional/transnational projects in the same field.

CONFERENCE



"Implementing the Digital Agenda in the North Sea Region – good practices, challenges and opportunities"

AGENDA

- 08:30 – 09:00** Arrival and Registration
- 09:00 – 09:15** **WELCOME**
Björn Sandborgh, Vice-Governor of the County of Värmland
- 09:15 – 10:00** **INTRODUCTION TO THE DIGITAL AGENDA FOR EUROPE**
Jeremy Millard, DANISH TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
- 10:00 – 10:30** **THE INTERREG IVB NORTH SEA REGION PROGRAMME AND THE CLUSTER INITIATIVE**
Matt Nichols, Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme Secretariat
- 10:30 – 11:00** Coffee Break
- 11:00 – 11:20** **INTRODUCTION TO THE “DIGITAL AGENDA FOR THE NORTH SEA REGION (DANS CLUSTER)”**
Prof Walter Leal, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences
- 11:20 – 12:30** **RESULTS OF THE PROJECTS CREATIVE CITY CHALLENGE, E-CLIC & SMART CITIES**
Presentations of good practices and discussions about lessons learnt
- 12:30 – 13:30** Lunch
- 13:30 – 14:30** **CHALLENGES AND NEEDS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DIGITAL AGENDA FOR EUROPE ON A REGIONAL LEVEL**
Panel discussion
- 14:30 – 15:00** **QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION**
- 15:00** Closing remarks and end of the Conference



TRAVEL INFORMATION

GETTING TO KARLSTAD BY PLANE/TRAIN

Karlstad Airport has direct connections from/to Copenhagen and Stockholm. Karlstad Airport is located some 10 km from the centre of Karlstad, taxi being the only available means of transport. Taxis can be found outside the terminal building. Karlstad can also be reached by train from Stockholm (2 hrs 30 min), Gothenburg (3 hrs) and Oslo (3 hrs). Train reservations can be made here www.sj.se.

GENERAL INFORMATION KARLSTAD AIRPORT

www.ksdarprt.se

FLIGHTS TO AND FROM KARLSTAD AIRPORT

(regional connections from Copenhagen and Stockholm)
www.skyways.se/en/Book-flight/

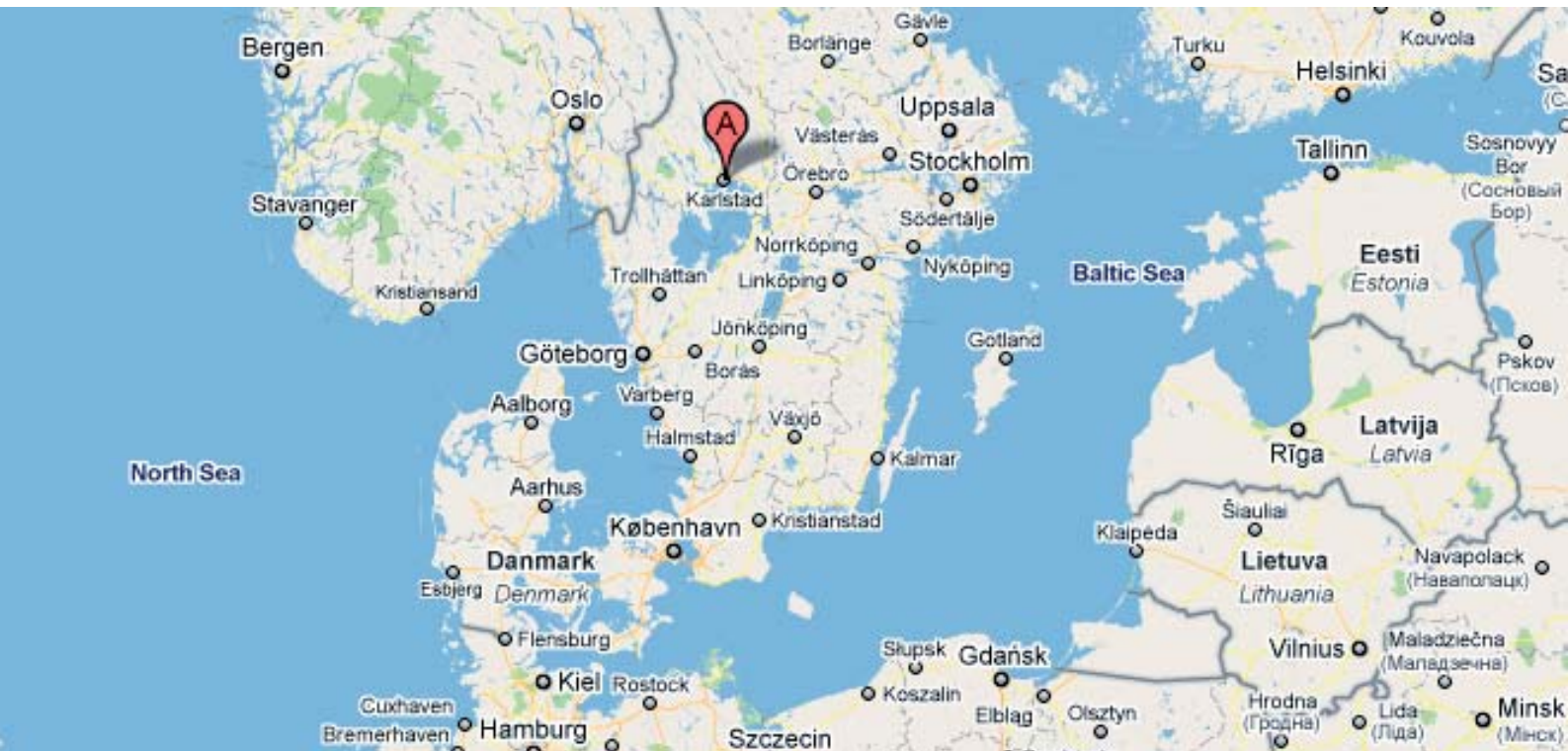
CAR RENTAL AT STOCKHOLM-ARLANDA AND GETTING TO KARLSTAD

Five rental companies at the Stockholm-Arlanda airport are located next to the airport's long-term parking areas Arlanda Långtid Alfa and Arlanda Långtid Beta. There is free bus transfer to and from the terminals.

GENERAL INFORMATION STOCKHOLM-ARLANDA

www.arlanda.se

Alternative airports include Oslo Gardermoen, Oslo Rygge (Ryanair), Göteborg Landvetter, Göteborg City Airport (Ryanair) and Stockholm Skavsta (Ryanair).



HOTEL INFORMATION

HOTEL

Hotel rooms need to be booked by 21 November.
 Please return the registration form in time to guarantee rooms.

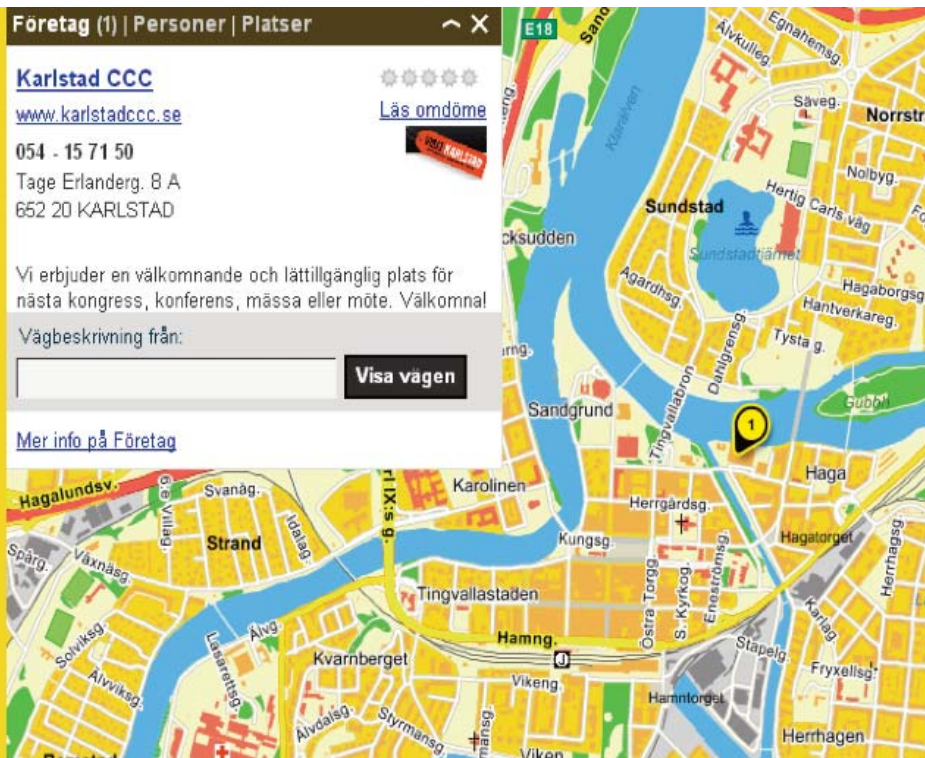
ELITE STADSHOTELLET

(SEK 820 ≈ € 90 for standard room and SEK 922 ≈ € 100 for superior room per night / incl. breakfast)

Kungsgatan 22
 651 08 Karlstad
 Phone: +46 54 29 30 00
 E-mail: info.karlstad@elite.se
 www.elite.se/eng/node/713

CONFERENCE VENUE

Karlstad Congress and Culture Centre
 Tage Erlander gatan 8A
 652 20 Karlstad
 Phone +46 54 15 71 50
 E-mail: info@karlstadccc.se
 www.karlstadccc.se



REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE RETURN TO

Länsstyrelsen Värmland

Att: Katarina Nordmark

Karlstad 651 86

Fax: + 46 54 197300

E-mail: katarina.nordmark@lansstyrelsen.se

Date:

Name:

Organisation:

Address:

E-mail:

Hotel room: () 7 – 8 December (1 night) () 7 – 9 December (2 nights)

I will participate in the kick-off conference on 8 December 2011 () yes () no

I will participate in the conference dinner on 7 December 2011 () yes () no
 (The conference dinner will take place at participants own cost)

