

18th BDF Summit in Stockholm

The 18th Baltic Development Forum Summit will be held in Stockholm on 8 November 2016, in conjunction with the 7th Strategy Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. Taking stock of the current state of the Baltic Sea Region, the 18th BDF Summit will explore how we can find common ground in a changing environment, looking closer at the regional economic affairs, the political climate, and the potential for business.

18th BDF Summit Programme, 8 November

08.30-09.00 Registration and Coffee

09.00-09.10 Welcome

Lene Espersen, Chairman, Baltic Development Forum

09.10-09.50 State of the Baltic Sea Region 2016

With the launch of the 2016 State of the Region Report we will provide an overview of the economic trends in the Baltic Sea Region, including outlooks on investments, growth and competitiveness.

Christian Ketels, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm School of Economics, and Faculty Member, Harvard Business School

Helge Pedersen, Group Chief Economist, Nordea

Comments by:

Jan Vapaavuori, Vice-President and Member of the Management Committee, European Investment Bank

09.50-10.05 Special Address

Martina Larkin, Head of Europe and Eurasia and Member of the Executive Committee, World Economic Forum

10.05-10.45 Business Responses to Current Regional Trends

What defines the business climate in the Baltic Sea Region in 2016? Is the region still attractive to invest in, and what is its biggest potential? In a world increasingly impacted by global trends and volatile business environment, how can we build on the momentum and secure accelerated sustainable economic growth? How can we best make use of well-established industrial experiences and new entrepreneurial thinking to define future strategies?

Janne Öhman, CEO Siemens Finland

Ilja Laurs, Founder of GetJar and Nextury Ventures

David Zable, Partner, Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG)

10.45-11.00 Key Note

Rickard Gustafson, CEO, SAS Group

11.00-11.10 Political State of the Region

Launch of the 2016 Political State of the Region Report

Per Carlsen, Senior Advisor, Baltic Development Forum

11.10-12.00 What Will It Take for Baltic Sea Regional Cooperation to Survive?

In a time of broader political conflicts and mistrust, can Baltic Sea regional cooperation be regenerated and play a positive role?

Jana Puglierin, Head of Programme, German Council on Foreign Relations

Andrei Kolesnikov, Senior Associate, Carnegie Moscow Center

12.00 Closing Remarks

Flemming Stender, Director, Baltic Development Forum

Welcome Event, 7 November 18.00-20.00

An opportunity to meet and greet over a glass of wine and some snacks before the start of the 18th Baltic Development Forum Summit. During the mingle we will challenge a few regional profiles to a playful debate on Baltic Sea Regional identity and trends.

Lauri Rosendahl, President of Nasdaq Nordic

Andris Piebalgs, Leader of the Unity party (Latvia) and fmr European Commissioner for Development and Energy

Henrik Hololei, Director-General, DG MOVE, European Commission

Venue: Nasdaq Stockholm , Tullvaktsvägen 15, Stockholm

Sessions at the 7th Strategy Forum of the EUSBSR, 8-9 November

BDF organises a number of sessions within the programme of the 7th Strategy Forum of the EUSBSR:

8 November, 15.00-16.20: Connecting for a digital market in the Baltic Sea Region

The launch of the “State of the Digital Region 2016” report by “Top of Digital Europe” will set the stage for a high level session on the potential of a digital market in the BSR. Two panels will discuss the region’s digital potential and how cities can support and connect digital start-up ecosystems. The session is co-organised with Swedish Agency of Economic & Regional Growth and Nordic Council of Ministers.

8 November, 15.10-16.00: The Political State of the Baltic Sea Region – Challenges and opportunities for regional cooperation

Using the 2016 BDF Political State of the Region Report as a starting point, this hot seat will allow a high-level politician to reflect on the current situation in the Baltic Sea Region. How are we impacted by international events such as the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, BREXIT and the US election?

8 November, 16.30-17.30: Internationalisation models for digital start-ups in the Baltic Sea Region

This seminar will deepen the discussion on the potential of connecting environments for digital start-ups to boost a digital eco-system in a region known for being on the cutting edge of digital development.

9 November, 14.00-14.50: Achieving knowledge-driven innovation and growth in the Baltic Sea Region

Investments in innovative capacity boosts competitiveness and growth in the Baltic Sea Region. This seminar explores how public and private sectors can pool together for joint innovation and regional prosperity, and examines the structures and funding needed for stimulating a knowledge-driven economy.