



The European Small Islands Federation

**Board meeting 26th of November 2014
at 11.00 GMT on Skype**

Host and Secretary for the meeting is Denmark

Participants:

Christian Pleijel	Företagsam Skärgård, Åland
John Walsh	Irish Island Association
Rhoda Twombly	Irish Island Association
Denis Bredin	Association les iles de Ponant
Anetté Larm Johansson	National Association of the Swedish Archipelago
Sandy Brunton	Scottish Islands Federation
Pia Prost	National Association of Finish Islands

Secretary: Lise Thillemann Sørensen (Association of Danish Small Islands)

Not able to attend

Camille Dressler	Scottish Islands Federation
Bengt Almkvist	National Association of the Swedish Archipelago
Dorthe Winther	Association of Danish Small Islands

Agenda

1. Opening – approval of agenda
2. Approval of minutes from board meeting October 28th 2014
3. Financial situation
4. ANCIM input . Comments to be made.
5. Structured dialogue on ESI Funds.
Please note and read: Draft **Guidance for Beneficiaries** / "How to effectively access and use the ESI Funds and exploit complementarities with other instruments of relevant Union policies".
ESIN has been asked to comment as part of the ESIF Dialogue. The request and the document is published on the ESIN webpage <http://europeansmallislands.com/>.
6. GECT/EGTC
7. SMILEgov – status
8. Irish Islands situation: Threats of funding being cut for the five Community Development Companies Offices as from December 31st 2014
9. Meeting calendar
Tuesday 16. December, 11.00 GMT: Skype board meeting.
Tuesday 20. January, 11.00 GMT: Skype board meeting.
10. Other issues

MINUTES

1. Opening – approval of agenda

Christian opened the meeting. The proposed agenda was approved.

2. Approval of minutes from board meeting October 28th 2014

Minutes were approved.

3. Financial situation

ANCIM has paid the fee for 2014 and 2015.

SMILEGOV report is done and sent to Greece.

The Croatian group has paid 2000 Euros to ESIN and is thanking for the meeting. There were some expenses but less than the 2000 Euros.

Lise will make manual and a formula to fill out for travel expenses and Anetté will look at it.

Bank account: 3116 Euros.

4. ANCIM input. Comments to be made

Answered by Bengt in email sent on Nov 20th. Also see point 5 regarding ESI.

5. Structured dialogue on ESI Funds

Christian sent out papers from the meeting in Brussels on Nov 12th. See

<http://europeansmallislands.com/2014/11/23/esif-dialogue-request/>

The input from Italy and Scotland is not able to be put into the present paper, as there is no mention yet of other territories are mentioned, just thematic strategies.

The board decided to give the following comments to the commission

(a) Concerning CLLD's on page 8, line 7, after "climate change": insert "small-scale societies such as islands".

(b) Concerning CLLD's, page 8, line 14: insert ", islands" after "fisheries"

(c) Concerning ITI's, page 8, line 20: insert "a cross-border community" after "strategy"

(d) Concerning Public Administration, page 48, line 22: insert "or the regional units for administrative service to less favoured areas such as small islands" after "ministries"

6. EGTC/.

EGTC: Territorial cooperations formed by regions in Europe see more on ESINs webpage.)

We need to get in contact with Mr. Dirk Peters before we can go further. No meeting has been arranged yet.

7. SMILEgov – status

Despite the difficulties this project gives us in terms of management and cash-flow, the result in terms of profiling ESIN is definitely well worth it!

Please take a moment to look through www.sustainableislands.eu. Both ESIN and SIF make an impressive impact

8. Irish Islands situation

Threats of funding being cut for the five Community Development Companies Offices as from December 31st 2014. See attached paper from John on the situation.

The board decided on the attached letter to be sent to the Irish minister of Environment Alan Kelly.

(To be signed immediately! The letter will then be sent to the Irish Minister.)

The lesson ESIN should learn from this is that Island profiling should happen in all cases of regulation being made or changed. The article 174 should be elaborated and made known throughout Europe so that it will actually be applied.

9. Meeting calendar

The following dates have been set:

Tuesday 16. December, 11.00 GMT: Skype board meeting.

Tuesday 20. January, 11.00 GMT: Skype board meeting.

10. Other issues

- At the ESI meeting in Brussels on Nov 12th Christian got in touch with Lewis Dijkstra and discussed the definition of small islands and the possibility to make a study on small islands regarding demography and economic situation. Database that can be updated?
- EU Island Pledge: If and when you get a MEP to sign the pledge please remember to send the names to the secretariat.

LS/ 26-Nov-2014