

LETTER OF INVITATION

9 December 2013

On behalf of the Union of Baltic Cities, Baltic Development Forum, City of Turku and Tartu Smart City Lab are delighted to invite you to the **Baltic Urban Forum ideas and concept development workshop on 19- 20 January 2014 in Tartu, Estonia.**

As the cities are playing the most important role in the Baltic Sea Region development, UBC Board has together with the Baltic Development Forum and City of Turku taken the initiative to prepare a concept for a “Baltic Sea Region Urban Forum for Smart Cities”. The initiative has get initial financing for the preparatory activities from the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Seed Money facility.

The main project will establish the “Baltic Sea Region Urban Forum for Smart Cities”. This forum that will play an important future role for enabling urban areas in the Baltic Sea Region to move beyond “pockets of smartness” to becoming genuinely smart. The Baltic Urban Forum is planned to launch in June 2014.

In Tartu one-day workshop we like to start the discussion about the Baltic Urban Forum concept.

Who are invited?

- Municipal and regional leaders and policy developers;
- Business leaders, interested to contribute to the smart cities technologies and concepts;
- Financial and development institutions, focused on regional development and innovation;
- Citizens groups representatives.

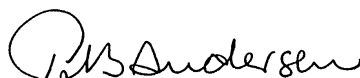
The event will start on Sunday, 19 January 2014 with the welcome cocktails.

Monday, 20 January 2014 the workshop take place in Hotel London Conference Hall, Rütli st. 9, from 9.00 to 16:00.

As the seed money funding is very limited, we can cover only meeting costs. Travel and accommodation should be covered by the participants.

Please register and learn more in our website: <http://smartcitylab.eu/buf/>

We look forward to greeting you at the Baltic Urban Forum workshop!



Per Bødker Andersen
President
Union of Baltic Cities



Hans Brask
Director
Baltic Development Forum



Aleks Randell
Mayor
City of Turku