

Finland's Chairmanship of the Steering Committee for the Barents Euro-Arctic Transport Area (BEATA) 2013-2015

Summary

The Steering Committee for the Barents Euro-Arctic Transport Area (BEATA) continued to work on the Joint Barents Transport Plan under the Chairmanship of the Finnish Ministry of Transport and Communications.

The aim of the Working Group was to utilise the intelligent transport systems and services in creating new transport solutions to the Barents region.

BEATA arranged all of its five meetings together with the Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics and the Barents Regional Working Group on Transport and Logistics, which enhanced collaboration, synergy and exchange of information between the regional and governmental level.

The main event of BEATA during the Finnish term was the high level transport seminar *"ITS in Logistics in the Northern Dimension, Barents and Arctic Area"* organized in Helsinki in June 2014.

The most significant achievement was *The Update of the Cross-Border Road Corridors in the Barents Region report*, which was prepared by an expert group with members from all the four Barents countries. *The Joint Barents Transport Plan (JBTP)* and the Kolarctic ENPI CBC project *Barents Freeway* served as the basis for the report. The Barents Cross-Border Road Corridors report was published at *the High-Level Meeting* in Rovaniemi in September 2015 together with a Joint Declaration, which provides guidelines and recommendations for the development of all modes of transport in the border-crossing corridors. A *Barents Transport Forum* was organised back-to-back with the High-Level Meeting.