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600 participants make Fehmarnbelt Days a huge success

As Fehmarnbelt Days 2012 comes to a close, the region comes alive. More than 600 business people, politicians, scientists, artists, students and many more came together over three days to take part in 19 different events in Hamburg and Lübeck.

Their common objective: to help shape the new Fehmarnbelt Region within the context of the future tunnel between Denmark and Germany. Workshops, conferences and podium debates generated countless ideas that point the way towards a dynamic and integrated Fehmarnbelt Region bound together by the Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link, which will open in 2021.

At today's closing ceremony, the seven organising partners voiced their ambition to hold the next Fehmarnbelt Days in 2014.

The majority of the proposals were innovative and tangible. A special cross-border ticket that offers access to all regional attractions, exchange programmes for public bodies, a mobile university that moves across countries: these are just some of the many suggestions that Germans, Danes and Swedes put forward together.

Carsten Hansen, the Danish Minister for Housing, Urban and Rural Affairs, pointed out that the responsibility of implementing the many and varied ideas lies with the political decision-makers:

“Fehmarnbelt Days has shown the huge potential of the region between Copenhagen/Malmø and Hamburg. So many good ideas were developed over these three days. It is now our task in the governments of the three countries to use them to bring down barriers.”

In a video address to the participants, the Prime Minister of Schleswig-Holstein, Torsten Albig, confirmed that the future Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link played a central role in dismantling those barriers and stressed the need for political action:

“We must make the Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link into something positive for the whole of Northern Europe. I'm convinced that it will become a reality because our Danish friends are energetically pressing ahead with it. We need to bring people along with us and explain the benefits to them. We need to send a strong signal to Berlin from everyone who is present here today.”

The ideas will serve as guideline for the efforts of the different regional and national governments as well as for the many cross-border stakeholders and organisations in the region. The Baltic Network STRING has already agreed to publish a “book of ideas” containing the valuable input from the three days in

Hamburg and Lübeck. In addition, the website www.fehmarnbeltdays.com will document all further developments stemming from the ideas that have now set the course of the Fehmarnbelt Region.

Information on all events, including the latest reports and pictures, is available at www.fehmarnbeltdays.com. Videos can be found [here](#).

Press centre:

Dat Hoghehus (1st floor), Koberg 2, 23552 Lübeck
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Open from 8.00 until 23.00 from 26 to 28 September 2012.
There are work stations for journalists at the press centre.

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