

# Conference

## Innovation in the Public Sector: From Ideas to Action

29 September 2014, GORS Concert Hall, Rezekne

*The conference is organized by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Latvia and the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS) in cooperation with the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia, Innovation Norway and the Rēzekne Municipality.*

**Date:** 29 September 2014.  
**Venue:** GORS Concert Hall, Pils street 4, Rezekne.  
**Time:** 10.30.-18.00.  
**Admission:** free entrance.  
**Working languages:** Latvian and English, simultaneous interpreting provided.  
**Transport:** Free of charge buss *Riga- Rezekne* – Riga on 29 September.  
**Registration:** by e-mail to [inba@mfa.no](mailto:inba@mfa.no) by 24 September.  
**Info:** Tel. +371 67814100, +371 67814106.

When registering please indicate whether you plan to take the buss *Riga-Rezekne- Riga* on 29 September. Hotel "Column" in Rezekne will be provided from 28 to 29 September to the guests from distant municipalities who need to arrive in Rezekne a day before the conference. Hotell expenses will be covered by the organizers.

**When registering please indicate whether accomodation in Rezekne will be needed.**

## Programme

- 07.00. Buss *Riga-Rezekne*. Departure from Strēlnieku Square (Riga Old City).  
10.30. Registration and coffee.
- 11.00. Opening of the conference.**  
Ambassador of Norway Mr. Steinar Egil Hagen and a representative of the Rezekne Municipality.
- 11.10. Innovation and regional development in Latvia.**  
Raivis Bremšmits, Director of Regional Policy Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia.
- 11.25. Innovation in the public sector - the main challenges in Latvia.**  
Dr.oec un Dr.phys. Māris Pūķis, Senior Advisor, Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments.
- 11.40. The synergy of cooperation for the local economic development.**  
Sniedze Sprōģe, Advisor for Rural Development Issues, Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments.
- 12.00. Innovation in the public sector - a Norwegian perspective.**  
Professor Rolf Rønning, Lillehammer University College (Norway).

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12.30.-12.45. Coffee and snacks.

**12.45. What is innovation in the public sector?**

Trude Andresen, Director of Research and Innovation Department,  
Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS).

**13.10. Norway's experience:**

**"New and smart"**

Kjell Sjursen, Advisor, Innovation and Development Department,  
Arendal Municipality - a winner of the Innovation Prize 2014 in Norway.

**How to attract people to stay?**

Tom Pettersen, Senior Advisor, Recruitment and Immigration Project,  
KS Northern Norway Office.

**13.40. Green innovation and innovation in public procurements:**

**Support to green innovations in Latvia.**

Inese Andersone, *Innovation Norway* Consultant in Latvia.

**Public procurement law and innovation in public procurements.**

Dace Gaile, Director, Procurement Monitoring Bureau.

**Green procurement in timber industry development.**

Kristaps Klauss, Executive Director, Latvian Forest Industry Federation.

**14.10. Challenges and cooperation opportunities:**

**in the waste management sector.**

Sia ZAAO.

**in the green energy sector.**

SIA Fortum Jelgava.

**in the road reconstruction and maintenance sector.**

Viktors Reblis, Executive Director, Northern Latgale Region Forestry,  
AS Latvijas Valsts Meži (Latvia's State Forests).

**14.40. Panel discussion.**

15.00.-15.30. Coffee and snacks.

**15.30. The main challenges in regional development and public sector innovation:  
lessons learned from regional meetings with Latvia's municipalities:**

Elita Cakule, Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS).

**15.40. Innovation in the public sector: from ideas to action - a working group session.**

**16.30. Group presentations.**

**17.10. Closing.**

17.10. Dinner at the GORS Concert Hall.

18.00. Buss to Riga.

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