

Invitation

Workshop

Sharing Test and Demonstration Infrastructures - an opportunity for Smart Specialisation in the Baltic Sea Region

Tampere, Finland

6 April 2017

There is strong evidence for the correlation between the competitiveness of technology-based SMEs and their access to test and demonstration infrastructures. Thus, improving SMEs access to specialized test and demonstration infrastructures is likely to increase the competitiveness of SMEs.

There is an abundance of test and demonstration infrastructures in the Baltic Sea Region – with partly overlapping, partly complementary areas of excellence.

The project BSR STARS S3, co-financed by the EU Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme, aims to support that SME's gain access to test and demonstration infrastructures that best suit their particular needs when attempting to commercialise new products, services or processes in the digital economy as well as in the bioeconomy. In other words, BSR STARS S3 aims to provide opportunities for *smart specialisation* among test and demonstration infrastructures in the Baltic Sea Region: <http://www.bsr-stars.eu/bsr-stars-s3/>

The workshop in Tampere will present two recent mappings of test and demonstration infrastructure in respectively the bioeconomy and the digital economy. The workshop will provide key stakeholders with an opportunity to explore opportunities for actually and practically facilitating transnational access of these infrastructure for SMEs in the Baltic Sea Region. The workshop welcomes representatives of test bed and demonstration facilities, innovation agents, policymakers, business representatives, researchers and other stakeholders that want to explore the transnational opportunities in this area of innovation.

Programme

Morning session, two tracks in parallel

Venue: Conference center Pellava (Tampella), address: Kelloportinkatu 1 B, Tampere

Track I. Bio-business testbeds & smart specialisation in the BSR

09:00 Welcome by the Nordic Council of Ministers

09:10 Bioeconomy test and demonstration infrastructures in the Baltic Sea Region – presentation of mapping suggesting opportunities for cooperation

- *Thomas Winther, Innogate ApS*

09:30 Policy perspectives on sharing bioeconomy test and demonstration infrastructures

- *Jon Johansen, Siva Norge, Senior Adviser Innovation (tbc).*
- *Jukka Reunavuori, regional innovation vouchers, Tampere Region Economic Development Agency, Project Manager*

10.00 Perspectives from test and demonstration infra-structures providing technology services to SMEs in the bioeconomy:

- *Mika Härkönen, VTT Finland, Principal Scientist, Pilot plant development, Solutions for natural resources and environment.*
- *Anne Maria Hansen, Danish Technological Institute, Director Innovation*
- *Karin Øyaas, Paper and Fiber Research Institute Norway, Research Director*
- *Björn Alriksson, RISE Processum og Innventia, R&D Head Biotechnology*

Coffee

11.00 Panel session: Persistent bottlenecks and opportunities for cooperation aimed at sharing test and demonstration infrastructures.

- *Moderated discussion with contributions also from industry.*

11:45 Presentation of ambition to pilot a Baltic Sea Region Innovation Voucher Scheme for SMEs in the bioeconomy

- *Torfi Johannesson, Senior Adviser, Nordic Council of Ministers*

Track II. Digital business testbeds & smart specialisation in the BSR

09:00 Welcome and expectations for the day

09:15 The BSR as a hub for transnational digital collaboration

- *Torben Aaberg, BDF*

09:35 Digital economy test and demonstration infrastructures in the BSR: Presentation of mapping and discussion paper on opportunities for sharing infrastructures

- *Thomas Winther, Innogate ApS*

09:55 Policy perspectives on sharing digital test and demonstration infrastructures

- *NN, Sweden (tbc)*
- *NN, TEKES, Finland (tbc)*

10:30 Coffee

10:45 Perspectives from test and demonstration infrastructures providing technology services to SMEs in the digital economy

- *NN, Denmark (tbc)*
- *Jarno Pinola, VTT, Finland (mangler titel)*
- *Pär Hansson, Researcher, SICS, Sweden (tbc)*

11:30-12:00 Persistent bottlenecks and opportunities for cooperation aimed at sharing test and demonstration infrastructures

- *Views from industry*

Lunch 12.00-13:00

Served at restaurant Tampella

Afternoon: Joint session on bioeconomy and digital economy

Venue: Talent Space (Finlayson), address: Satakunnankatu 18A (200 m. walk from Tampella)

13:00 Reports from morning session
- *by rapporteurs*

13:30 Moderated discussion: Opportunities for sharing test and demonstration infrastructures – and synergies with other on-going cooperation efforts

Food for thought contributions from Manufacturing Nordics, EUROSTARS, Baltic TRAM, Nordregio, ECO3/Kolmenkulma Eco-Industrial Park project etc.

15:00 Concluding remarks and next steps
- *Baltic Development Forum and Nordic Council of Ministers*

15.15 End of programme

(Flight connecting to most destinations in the Baltic Sea Region departs at 16.50)

7 April – optional programme

An opportunity to participate in a Bio- and Circular Economy public-research-business matchmaking event at Tampere University of Technology, including an evening program on 6 April. The matchmaking event provides networking opportunities with key Finnish bio- and circular economy actors. The speeches are held in Finnish, but there is possibility for bilateral meetings in English. Visits and meetings at Tampere University of Technology research laboratories will be organized upon request.

<http://www.bsr-stars.eu/events/bio-and-circular-economy-matchmaking-event/>

Registration

We kindly ask you to register **by the latest Thursday 30 March 2017**, indicating if you want to attend the bio or digital track. Please indicate also if you are interested in participating the matchmaking event on 7 April and additional visits or meetings at Tampere University of Technology.

Further information and registration:

Bioeconomy track:

Torfi Johannesson, Senior Adviser, Nordic Council of Ministers, torjoh@norden.org, tel +45 29 69 29 33

Digital economy track:

Torben Aaberg, Head of Public & Digital Affairs, BDF, ta@bdforum.org, tel +45 60218574

Travel and accommodation

The venue is located in central Tampere. The city is served by direct flights from Helsinki and Stockholm/Arlanda. For accommodation options see: <https://visittampere.fi/article/hotels-in-tampere>

Some hotel suggestions near meeting premises:

Hotel Cumulus City

<https://city.cumulus.fi/en/hotels/cumulus-koskikatu-tampere>

Radisson Blu Grand Hotel Tammer

www.radissonblu.com/en/hotel-tampere