



“Developing a roadmap for updating RIS3: key processes in Kymenlaakso region and the role of Smart-up BSR”

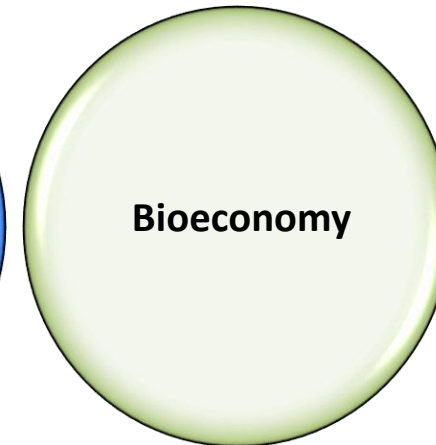
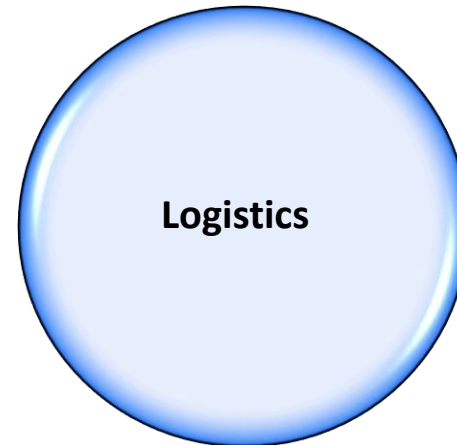
Brandenburg Innovation Camp
28th November 2018

Background: Kymenlaakso region's RIS3 strategy process 2015-2016

- KymRIS Smart Specialisation in Northern Growth Zone –project
 - lead by South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences
 - implemented 1st January 2015 - 31st December 2016
 - Kymenlaakso region's RIS3 strategy process was implemented via this project.
- Kick-off event 16th June 2015
 - around 50 participants
 - 7 working groups
 - potential growth areas/ sectors: ICT & digitalisation, logistics, pulp/ bioeconomy, tourism, health and wellbeing.

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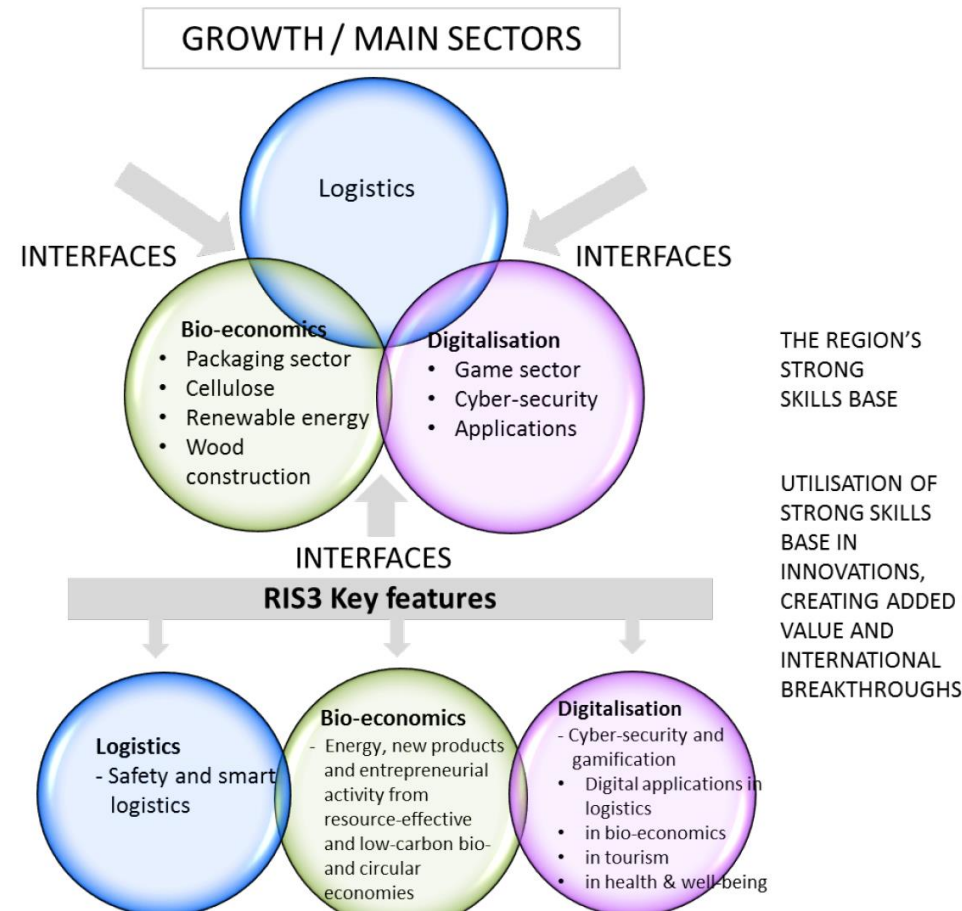
- Set up of sectoral consultation groups in late July -operation started in early August 2015
 - common criterion were used to evaluate the potential and choices of sectors
 - sectoral results with justifications were presented to the project steering group on 4th September 2015.
- The steering group chose the following strategic areas for Kymenlaakso region's smart specialisation:



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- After the choice of main strategic areas, project team and sectoral consultation groups started to work on more specific strategic spearheads in Autumn 2015.
- In October project's steering group chose the following as strategic spearheads of Kymenlaakso region's smart specialisation:
 - Logistics: Safety and smart logistics
 - Bioeconomy: Energy, new products and entrepreneurial activity from resource-effective and low-carbon bio- and circular economies
 - Digitalisation: Cyber security and gamification and digital applications in logistics, bioeconomy, tourism and in health & wellbeing.

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- Webropol survey was executed to test selected RIS3's strategic spearheads in January 2016.
- RIS3 strategy was documented in February 2016.
- Kymenlaakso region's RIS3 strategy was approved in March 2016 by Regional Management Committee.

Implementation of the strategy in Kymenlaakso region 2016-2018

- RIS3 expert working groups for logistics, bioeconomy and digitalisation were set up in late 2016; all groups are organized.
- Working groups' chairmanship:
 - Logistics: Xamk & Cursor Oy
 - Bioeconomy: Kouvola Innovation Oy & Xamk
 - Digitalisation: Cursor Oy & Xamk
- All groups have met; there are differences in groups' activities and composition e.g. the number of company representatives and the level of activity.
- The turnover of chairpersons and the continuity of operations are challenging.
- Region is aiming at arranging a joint workshop for RIS3 expert working groups next year => pave the way for updating RIS3 strategy.

*Cursor Oy & Kouvola Innovation Oy are business development companies and Xamk is a university of applied sciences.

Regional collaboration

- GoSmart BSR is another RIS3 related ongoing project in the northern part of the Kymenlaakso region (another collaboration platform).
- Two business development companies are simultaneously addressing Kymenlaakso region's RIS3 strategy related issues:
 - Cursor Oy in Smart-up BSR project (in the city of Kotka) and
 - Kouvola Innovation Ltd. in GoSmart BSR project (in the city of Kouvola) => more resources for strategic work.

Kymenlaakso region's RIS3 strategy related SWOT synthesis 06/2018

- All regionally relevant innovation actors/ stakeholders were invited to take part in workshop.
- The goal was to deploy RIS3 strategy for forecasting and better understanding region's future development via scenarios and SWOT analyses.
- Result of the workshop was presented in Palanga innovation camp in June 2018.

Innovation stakeholders' RIS3 strategy meeting 09/2018

- RIS3 expert working groups' chairpersons were invited by Regional Council of Kymenlaakso to have a joint meeting in September 2018.
 - RIS3 expert working groups' individual plans and development needs were monitored and synchronized with Kymenlaakso region's overall development plan.
 - All project ideas suitable for autumn's ERDF call were reviewed and prioritized jointly.
- The goal is to create a process where the needs of entrepreneurs are more clearly brought up by RIS3 expert working groups => to develop new projects based on entrepreneurs' development needs.
- All project ideas (and consortiums) will be preliminarily reviewed together with Regional Council of Kymenlaakso before submission to open calls.

RIS3 expert working groups' joint meeting 01/2019

- All RIS3 expert working groups will be gathered together to a joint meeting to share views and experiences from past operations and activities.
- New ideas will be sought for groups' future work.
- New solutions will be scouted out for monitoring and metering.
- Groundwork will be done for updating region's current RIS3 strategy in the future.

Updating of Kymenlaakso region's RIS3 strategy 2019

- The goal is to knit the updating of RIS3 strategy more visibly and closely to other carried out strategy processes like Kymenlaakso region's economic development strategy and provincial program.
- Updating process is planned to be started in spring 2019.
- Updating of RIS3 strategy is planned to be completed during 2019.
- Outside expertise is planned to be utilized in addition to region's own expertise.

Role of Smart-up BSR project

- It assists to gather together small region's limited resources.
- It helps to create impressive projects which are region and entrepreneurship based.
- It enables to receive information about other regions' best practices, experiences and views.
- Regional collaboration will be intensified and international networks will be expanded.
- Expertise relating to international projects will become stronger.
- RIS3 strategy related competence will grow.
- Region's RIS3 strategy will be updated.

Expected outcome from RIS3 workshop for Kymenlaakso region

- Kymenlaakso region is hoping to receive both critical comments and advice how to address specific issues that are currently challenging in the implementation of our RIS3 strategy.
- Among the biggest ones are:
 - How to get innovative SMEs involved in the first place and how to keep them engaged during the process?
 - How to build up an effective and systematic monitoring system for RIS3?
 - What kind of criteria are the most useful in metering the real impact of RIS3?

Thank you!