

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.

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

Programme

Morning session – setting the scene (room Tammer-koski)

09:00 Welcome by the Nordic Council of Ministers and the Baltic Development Forum

09:10 Setting the Scene: Test and demonstration infrastructures in the Baltic Sea Region

- *Thomas Winther, Innogate ApS*

09:30 Policy perspectives on sharing test and demonstration infrastructures

- *Tony Backer-Meurke, Supporting test and demonstration in SMEs in Sweden, Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, Coordinator Enterprise Europe Network*
- *Lasse Månsson, Supporting test and demonstration in SMEs in Denmark, Danish Business Authority, Head of Section*
- *Jukka Reunavuori, Regional innovation vouchers, Tampere Region Economic Development Agency, Project Manager*

Parallel track I. Bio-business testbeds & smart specialisation in the BSR (room Valimo)

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*

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, Nordic Council of Ministers, Senior Adviser*

Parallel track II. Digital business testbeds & smart specialisation in the BSR (room Tammer-koski)

10:00 The BSR as a hub for transnational digital collaboration

- *Torben Aaberg, BDF, Head of Public & Digital Affairs*

10:20 Perspectives from test and demonstration infrastructures providing technology services to SMEs in the digital economy

- *Kurt Nielsen, Robot Technology, Danish Technological Institute, Director (on Skype)*
- *Johan Olsen, ALMI/Skåne, Sweden, Head of Innovation (on Skype)*
- *Jarno Pinola, 5G Test Network, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, Senior Scientist*
- *Tony Backer-Meurke, Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, Coordinator Enterprise Europe Network*

11:30-12:00 Technological services for digital SME's: A local case.

- *Introduction to SMACC-Labs*

Lunch 12.00-13:00

Served at restaurant Tampella

Afternoon: Joint session on sharing test and demonstration infrastructures

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, 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

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. Accommodation options: <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