



European Union  
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Development Fund

## SmartPilots STUDY VISIT 5: VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, Bioruukki

**We invite all stakeholders** (managing authorities, intermediate bodies, regional funding authorities and applicants, funding beneficiaries, innovation organisations, cluster organisation, users of SPF...) with an interest in shared pilot facilities (SPF) and innovation **to be actively involved in the SmartPilots study visits and interregional seminars.**

### **Next SmartPilots Study Visit:**

**WHEN:** Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 9am – 3pm

**WHERE:** VTT, Bioruukki Pilot Centre, Ruukinmestarintie 2, 02330 Espoo, Finland

**WHO:** SmartPilots Project Partners and Stakeholders of Shared Pilot Facilities

## What is SMARTPILOTS?

**SmartPilots: Improving policies in support of shared pilot facilities to increase their impact on the Key Enabling Technology Industrial Biotech and the European Bioeconomy**

Shared pilot facilities are open access test sites that bring bioeconomy innovations from the laboratory into industrial practice. They are open to all companies and research institutes, and can thus be seen as shared investments in innovation equipment. They have proven to be successful in helping innovators, especially SMEs, to bridge the so called Valley of Death, i.e. the innovation phase between laboratory and successful market introduction that comes with a high technological and financial risk. Typically, initial funding from governments is available to build a Shared Pilot Facility, but it is a challenge to safeguard their long-term existence, especially since bioeconomy is relatively new and dedicated policies are currently lacking in many regions.

SmartPilots **aims to improve regional policies** to provide support in a cost-effective and impact oriented manner. This will be done by:

- Optimizing direct support for shared pilot facilities
- Optimizing indirect support i.e. direct support for users of shared pilot facilities
- Facilitating interregional cooperation regarding Shared Pilot Facilities.

**Phase 1 (2016-2018):** The project partners, regions that locate a SPF or have a high interest and SPFs, each make a thorough regional analysis of availability and use of funding mechanisms for SPF and their users (through study visits and questionnaires to relevant stakeholders). During three interregional seminars, the results of these regional analyses will be compared and discussed and best-

practices will be exchanged. The findings of the seminars will be summarized in Regional Factsheets, used to draw up regional action plans.

**Phase 2 (2018-2020):** Regional implementation of the action plans and monitoring of the results of the implementation.

The Shared Pilot Facilities and regions involved are **Bio Base Europe Pilot Plant** (lead partner) and the **department of Economy, Science and Innovation** from Flanders (Belgium), **Centre for Process Innovation** from Tees Valley (UK), **VTT** from Helsinki Uusimaa (Finland), **Bioprocess Pilot Facility** and **Provincie Zuid-Holland** (the Netherlands), **Innovhub SSI** from Lombardy (Italy) and **ARD** (France) and **CBP Fraunhofer** (Germany) as Case Studies.

## REGISTRATION:

Interested stakeholders can register via [online link](#).

## PROGRAM

**9.00– 9.30 Stakeholder Registration**

**9.30 – 10.45 Study Visit 5 (SV5) – Part I**

9.30 – 10.00 Welcome and background to VTT and Bioruukki Piloting Centre (Tuulamari Helaja, VTT)

10.00 – 10.15 Introduction to SmartPilots (Brecht Vanlerberghe – BBEPP)

10.15 – 10.45 SmartPilots Partner Summaries (SmartPilots Partners)

**10.45 – 11.15 Coffee**

**11.15 – 13.00 Study Visit 4 (SV4) – Part II**

11.15-12.15 VTT pilot plants for Bioeconomy and VTT Bioruukki Business Model (Mika Härkönen – VTT)

12.15-13.00 Stakeholder Presentations, Customers of VTT pilots

- Jukka Mäkinen, Valmet
- Aarne Sundberg and Elina Harlin, Neste

**13.00 – 14.00 Lunch**

**14.00 – 15.00 Study Visit 4 (SV4) – Part III**

Tour to Bioruukki

**15.00 – 15.15 Closing Comments**