

# Transnational Collaboration in the BSR Stars S3 Project

[www.bsr-stars.eu/bsr-stars-s3/](http://www.bsr-stars.eu/bsr-stars-s3/)

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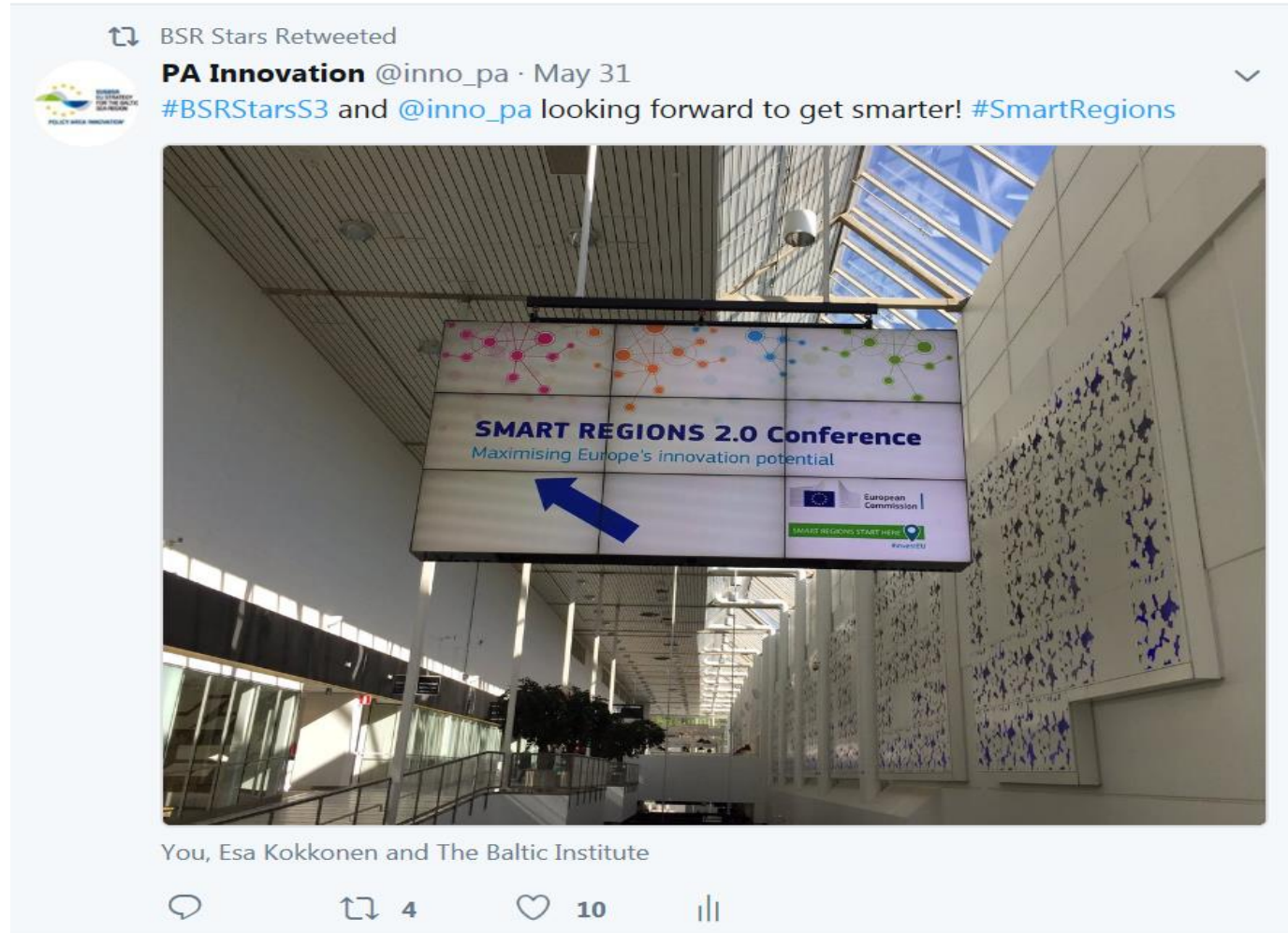
# Project aims

- Improve capacities of regions to **implement regional smart specialization strategies** through engaging business and research and utilising international opportunities
- Increase knowledge among regional authorities and decision makers on **ecosystem based approaches to regional development and business support**
- Enhance **business opportunities in bio-/circular and digital economy** and help companies to transnationally utilise business services and test facilities
- Enhance **new partnerships and business-research cooperation** in the Baltic Sea Region



## Contribution to EUSBSR PA INNO

- BSR Stars S3 is part of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region under the BSR Stars flagship



# Partners

- 1 The Baltic Institute of Finland (FI)
- 2 Nordic Council of Ministers (DK)
- 3 Baltic Development Forum (DK)
- 4 Business Link Greater Copenhagen (DK)
5. Nordregio (SE)
- 6 The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth (SE)
- 7 Region Värmland (SE)
- 8 Council of Tampere Region (FI)
- 9 MITA – Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (LT)
- 10 Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (LT)
- 11 Lithuanian Innovation Centre (LT)
- 12 Sør-Trøndelag County Authority (NO)





# What the project offers?

## For research and business

- Public-research-business matchmaking
- Business coaching
- Voucher system pilot for transnational use of bioeconomy test facilities
- Transnational pilot of RtoB platform
- Baltic Bioeconomy Investment Forum
- Partnerships and international opportunities

## For the regions:

- Learning from other regions
- Tools for engaging and connecting business and research
- Knowledge on ecosystem based approaches and support
- Better use of international opportunities
- Policy recommendations



# BSR Stars S3 value for the regions

- Improved capacities to implement regional smart specialization (S3) strategies engaging business and research, support new value chains and utilise international opportunities in the fields of bio-/circular and digital economy

# BSR Stars S3 value for business

- Improved capacities and opportunities for bio-/circular and digital economy SMEs in the BSR to develop cross-sectoral innovations together with research and public sector as well as transnationally utilise business services and test facilities

# Why bio- and circular economy?

- Bioeconomy is well represented in the smart specialization priorities of the BSR countries
- In circular economy waste has business value
- Industrial symbiosis means innovations that allow one company to utilize waste or side products of another company.
- Public support and transnational cooperation is needed
- Growing business and asset of the BSR in global competition !
- Nordic Council of Ministers has established **the Baltic Sea Region Bioeconomy Council** to speed up the political dialogue, and identify good practices





# Why bio- and circular economy?

Prime Minister of Finland, Mr. Juha Sipilä:

*”Our region offers great potential in both the circular economy and the bioeconomy. The move towards the circular economy is likely to cut carbon emissions by almost 70% by 2030. We will have new bio-based, reusable and clean products and services. Through ecological leadership we improve competitiveness. And we will see remarkable gains in employment”*

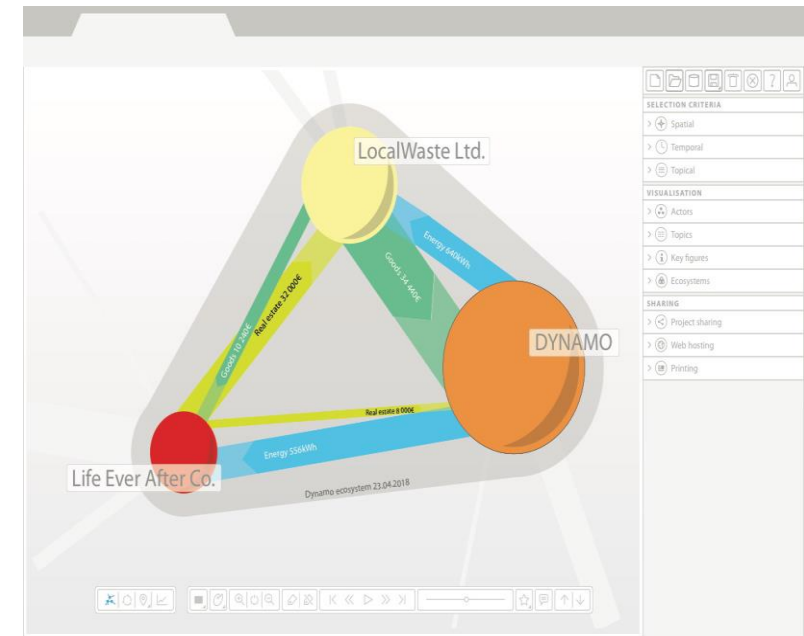


# Example: transnational voucher scheme

- Nordic Council of Ministers made mapping on circular- and bioeconomy related test and demonstration infrastructures
- Open call for the Baltic Sea Region Bioeconomy Innovation Vouchers
- For SMEs from Denmark, Finland, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden to pay in full or in part for testbed services at bioeconomy testbeds in a neighbouring country
- Enables SME to use relevant expertise that does not exist in own country, in another country
- After the pilot, conclusions will be made on the benefits and possibilities of transnational vouchers

# Example: ecosystem management tool

- Tampere develops and demonstrates an open data based visualization tool for innovation ecosystem management
- Idea is to get real time information on circular economy ecosystems including actors and their linkages
- Tool will use data from global and regional sources to visualize how innovation gets initiated, fueled and adopted both regionally and cross-regionally
- The tool will be tested in Tampere, benchmarked for regional action plans in Skåne, Vilnius and Sor-Trondelag and disseminated to other BSR regions and on the EU-level



# Example: S3 Accelerator Camp

- S3 Accelerator Camp method is piloted in Vilnius to solve regional and national S3 related challenges provided by partner regions
- Accelerate in transnational teams new approaches and solutions to bio/circular/digital related regional challenges
- Regional partners participate in the Camp and bring researchers/experts that are related to the selected regional challenges





# Tampere bio- and circular economy matchmaking event “From Waste to Valuables”, 23-24 November 2017

- Company cases as circular business models
- Digitalization in circular economy
- How to make business from nutrient cycles and circular economy in construction
- “Business clinics” with researchers providing advises to companies on how to make better use of circular in their business
- Tampere site visits: ECO3 Eco-Industrial Park, Hiedanranta – smart and resource-efficient district based on circular economy
- 150 participants



# Cooperation with other BSR smart specialization projects

- “Sounding Board” is organized 3-4 times during project
- The projects present 2-3 transnational pilots/activities with potential to be rolled out in the Baltic Sea Region
- Transnational expert panel
- Sounding Board evaluates how the solutions need to be designed to increase their impact and transferability

# New opportunities in circular economy

- Cooperation with other circular economy projects to **strengthen the BSR S3 in circular economy field**
- There is a need to create joint system/platform that identifies and monitors the key actors and types of waste streams and side streams in different BSR countries
- **Joint waste and side stream market in the BSR** would enable a company in one country to make business of certain waste material of other BSR country/countries

BSR Stars Retweeted



**Johanna Leino** @Joh\_Leino · Jun 6

#circulareconomy networking, promoting #Tampere #industrialsymbiosis for #Nordic network at #WCEF2017 @BalticInstitute @bsrstars



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# Achievements so far

- **For involved regional authorities and BDOs, the project activities have provided valuable information and new knowledge** on subregional assets, key expertise and leading actors, new transnational cooperation opportunities and development needs in the project focus areas
- The project's SME support activities have strengthened the **further development of bio and circular economy ecosystems of involved regions and helped to identify new value chains and transnational business and cooperation opportunities for companies**
- Stakeholders have benefitted from joint actions where **businesses are provided with new kind of opportunities to participate in S3 implementation regionally and transnationally**
- Furthermore, **unexpected and totally new business-research and public-private combinations to develop business innovations in the above fields have been initiated, and transnational market competencies of involved SMEs promoted**
  - by opening regional bio/circular economy challenges, projects and investments to be tackled and developed transnationally (accelerator camp)
  - by facilitating transnational utilization of R&D and test facilities (mapping, voucher scheme)
  - by learning from and matchmaking with best practices from other BSR subregions (WP4 study visits)



**EU industry renewal, competitiveness and internationalisation through industry-led interregional cooperation**



[www.interregeurope.eu/s34growth](http://www.interregeurope.eu/s34growth)

**Project summary**

In the S34Growth project, 10 European regions from 8 EU countries develop an innovative interregional element to their structural fund policy instruments, supporting the renewal of Europe's industry and competitiveness.

Within the Vanguard Initiative – New Growth through Smart Specialisation, the S34Growth partners have been pioneering a new approach to European industry-led interregional cooperation since late 2013.

**Key messages**

- Supporting the renewal of Europe's industry and competitiveness
- Emphasising the importance of industry-led interregional collaboration
- New kind of interregional cooperation linking value chains across Europe and improving commercialisation and product & service development

**Project Partners**

- Flemish Government, Department Economy, Science and Innovation (EWI) (BE)
- Basque Government (ES)
- Catalan Agency for Business Competitiveness (ACCIO) - Government of Catalonia (ES)
- The Baltic Institute of Finland (FI)**
- The Council of Tampere Region (FI)
- AFIL - Intelligent Factory Lombardy Cluster (IT)
- Brainport Development (NL)
- Province of Zuid-Holland (NL)
- National Innovation Agency (PT)
- Region Skåne (SE)
- Scottish Enterprise (UK)



**More information**

<http://www.interregeurope.eu/s34growth/>  
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Research & innovation

€ 1.87 M ERDF

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European Union European Regional Development Fund



**Thank you!**

**Smart specialization in bio- and circular economy in the Baltic Sea region** through enhancing cross-sectoral business-research partnerships and innovation ecosystem management.

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