



SmartPilots Interregional Seminar 5

Invitation and Program

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 Interregional Seminar:

WHEN: March, 28th 2018 from 8.30am-16pm

WHERE: Innovhub SSI - Chamber of Commerce of Milan, Via Meravigli 7, Section A (Scala A), 3rd Floor, Room 2

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 **Province Zuid-Holland** (the Netherlands), **Innovhub SSI** from Lombardy (Italy) and **ARD** (France) and **CBP Fraunhofer** (Germany) as Case Studies.

PROGRAM

Goal: to present the outcomes of the action plans prepared by all regions involved

08.30 – 09.00 Registration and coffee

9.00-9.15 Welcome and introduction
By Ilaria Bonetti, INNOVHUB

9.15-12.00 Presentation of Action Plans and discussion & feedbacks (all partners)

- EWI
- Helsinki Uusimaa – VTT
- CPI
- Province of Zuid Holland - BPF
- Lombardy Region - ISSI
- CBP
- *ARD (tbc)*

12:00-13:30 Lunch

13:30-15:00 Phase 2: Monitoring tools for evaluation of action plans' impact + Next Steps
Discussion/brainstorm led by Brecht Vanlerberghe, Project Coordinator, BBEPP

15:00 – 15:30 Discussion on elements for SmartPilots video aimed at policy makers
Discussion/brainstorm led by Pauliina Tukiainen, VTT

15:30-16:00 Action points, homework and concluding remarks
By Ilaria Bonetti, INNOVHUB