



Transregional access to innovation on demand

The BRIDGES project experience

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CONTRIBUTORS, alphabetically

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BRIDGES project reminder

- Programme: **Interreg Europe, 1st call, www.interregeurope.eu/bridges**
- Full name: **Bridging competence infrastructure gaps and speeding up growth and jobs delivery in regions.**
- Index: **PGI 00040 BRIDGES**
- Priority: **Specific objective 1.1 Improving innovation infrastructure policies.**
- Timetable: **approved 10.2.2016, Phase 1 1.4.2016-31.3.2019; Phase 2: 1.4.2019-31.3.2021.**
- Partners: **(i) Regional partners: PP2/PP1: Regional Council of Kainuu (IB) & Kainuun Etu Oy, FI; PP3: Lubelskie Voivodship (MA), PL; PP4: Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council (IB), FI; PP5: ANKO, GR; PP6: Soca Valley Development Centre (CLLD), SI; PP7: PBN, HU; (ii) advisory partners: PP8: CEEI Burgos, ES, PP9: CERTH, GR.**
- Budget: **1 807 696,00€, 85% funded by the Interreg Europe programme.**
- Good practices: **17 uploaded to the IE policy learning platform, 14 approved, 7 transferred**
- Action plans: **6 approved by the IE, 6 endorsed**
- Action plans implementation: **6 regions (different paces)**
- Policy impact: **4 policy instruments (2 improvements during Phase 1, and 2 during Phase 2)**

Reasons for the BRIDGES project

1. RIS3 visibility “on the ground” unclear.
2. “Imperfect” regions, rather, imperfect regional innovation systems + imperfect markets (triple helix is here).
3. Is it possible to link advanced with less advanced regions operationally & strategically? Is it possible to have long term, constructive partnerships?
4. If it would be possible, then, what would be the linkages and what could be the tools?
5. The answer to questions 1 - 4, led us to the concept of ‘transregional access to innovation on demand’.

Tools

1. Interreg Europe tools: Phase 1 (diagnostics & planning: state of play in the regions, good practice analysis, selection and transfer, action plans); Phase 2 (action plan implementation and policy impact).
2. BRIDGES project methodology (adaptation of the Interreg Europe tools to the project needs, next slide)

BRIDGES project methodology

Shared sectorial RIS3 priority: Bio-based industries part of the RIS3 if all partner regions

1. Diagnosis

1.1 Context

From the RIS3 industries, identification of the most promising industries

1.2 Innovation map: how does research connect to business in the partner regions?

Assessment of the state of play of technological connectivity types relevant to RIS3 in the region

1.3 Second readings

What is the regional potential through the eyes of an external scientist?

2. Opportunities

2.1 Good practices

Examples of 'technological connectivities', of how well functioning innovation infrastructures connect to businesses.

2.1 Good practice selection for transfer

2.2 Regional economic complementarities & knowledge base synergies, for long time partnerships

3. Localisation

3.1 Optimisation questions = Localisation of the GP to regional opportunities, needs and findings on innovation map

3.2 Feasibility study: Analysis of the RIS3 in terms of possibilities for the GP transfer, as a precondition for the action plan

3.3 Non-anticipated findings: mismatches of the research and productive base can be addressed by matching economic and research strengths, provided tools accessing interregional innovation on demand are available.

4. Action plan & pilot action implementation

Transregional access to innovation on demand

- (1) Cooperation between strong (leaders & strong) and less strong innovation regions seems to be relevant in at least three types of domains: a) research-to-business, b) research-to-industry and c) research-to-innovation systems.
- (2) These domains have dynamics for long term cooperation.
- (3) The required tools are contextual, institutional, and tactical
 - 3.1) for example for what kind of complementary innovation needs regions allow interregional initiatives?
 - 3.2) tools exist but are not really practiced; more on the next slide.

'Transregional access to innovation on demand'?

Types of actions	Possible activities	"....innovation on demand"?
Research to business	1) Joint product development; 2) commercialisation of research; 3) Interregional value chains, 4) Ad hoc research services to businesses; 5) Increase TRL.	1) Structural funds; 2) National innovation funds with interregional provisions 3) Horizon 2020 —> EUROPE projects possibly
Research to industry	1)Comprehensive modernisation programmes (strategic documents); 2) Systematic 'upstreaming' and 'downstreaming', Annex I CPR 2014-2020; 3) Standardisation	1) Structural funds ; 2) National innovation funds with interregional provisions
Research to regional innovation systems	Centres of competence & RTOs (institutional level); 2) Linking centres of competence and RTOs to businesses (programme/project level); 3) Innovation management chain (service level)	1) Structural funds ; 2) National innovation funds with interregional provisions

Transregional access to innovation on demand: what matters

CONSTRUCTING regional comparative advantage by accessing what is needed, when it is needed, including interregional access options.

REGIONAL INNOVATION SYSTEM Triple helix, special focus on innovation infrastructures

INSTITUTIONAL LANGUAGE (RIS3) Policy provisions (priorities, funding, institutional proximities...)

ECONOMIC BASE; similarity, complementarity but not identical bases

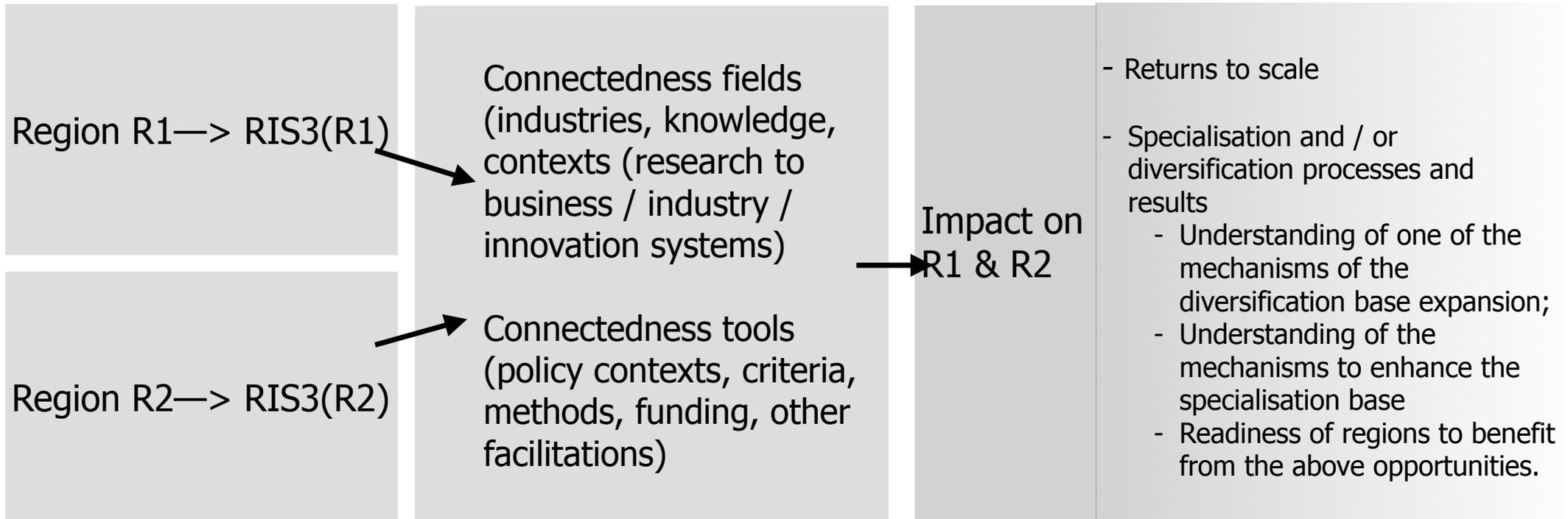
BASELINE FEASIBILITY Economic growth model (knowledge economy, 4th wave VS capital cumulation economy)

Results to date (June 2020)

1. RIS3 visibility “on the ground” achieved in 50% of regions (new products)
 - 3 new products in process (Slovenia, Western Macedonia/Helsinki-Uusimaa, Kainuu)
2. Improvement of innovation absorptive capacity of SMEs (4 regions)
3. Transregional tools to access innovation on demand (3 regions)
 - 4 mini projects
 - Research-to- business and research-to-industry projects ready to deploy (depends on the final opening of the ERDF calls in Western Macedonia)
4. The importance of innovation infrastructures as accredited knowledge distributors and spillover enhancers (against the concept of death by distance)
5. One industrial modernisation application to the JRC approved and now in process of being finalised (BERRY+).

Achieved model

- How and to what extent can inter-regional cooperation strengthen the operation of S3 in the region? Are the two mutually reinforcing? How can / does inter-regional cooperation contribute to improving regional innovation performance and regional competitiveness?

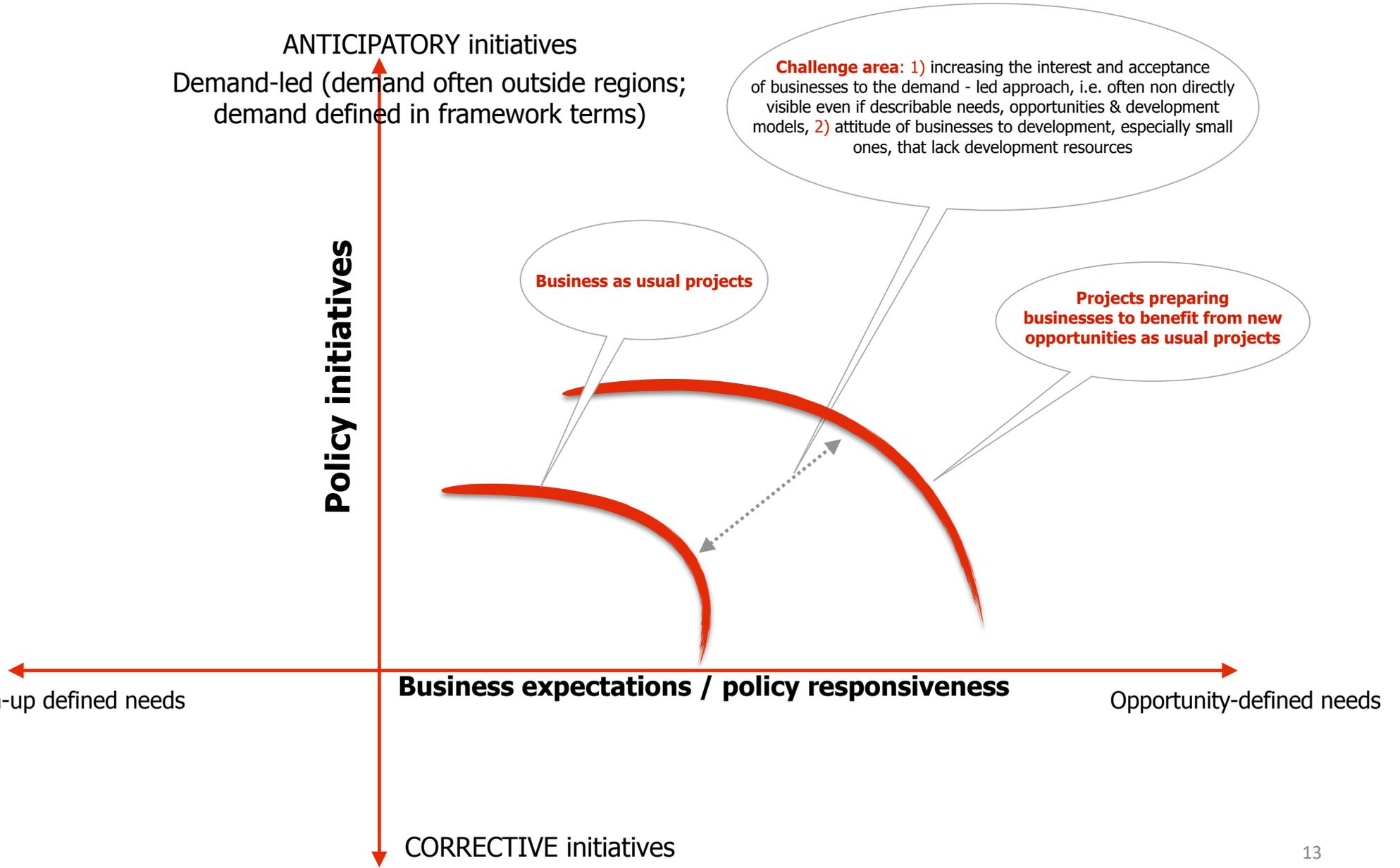


Thanks

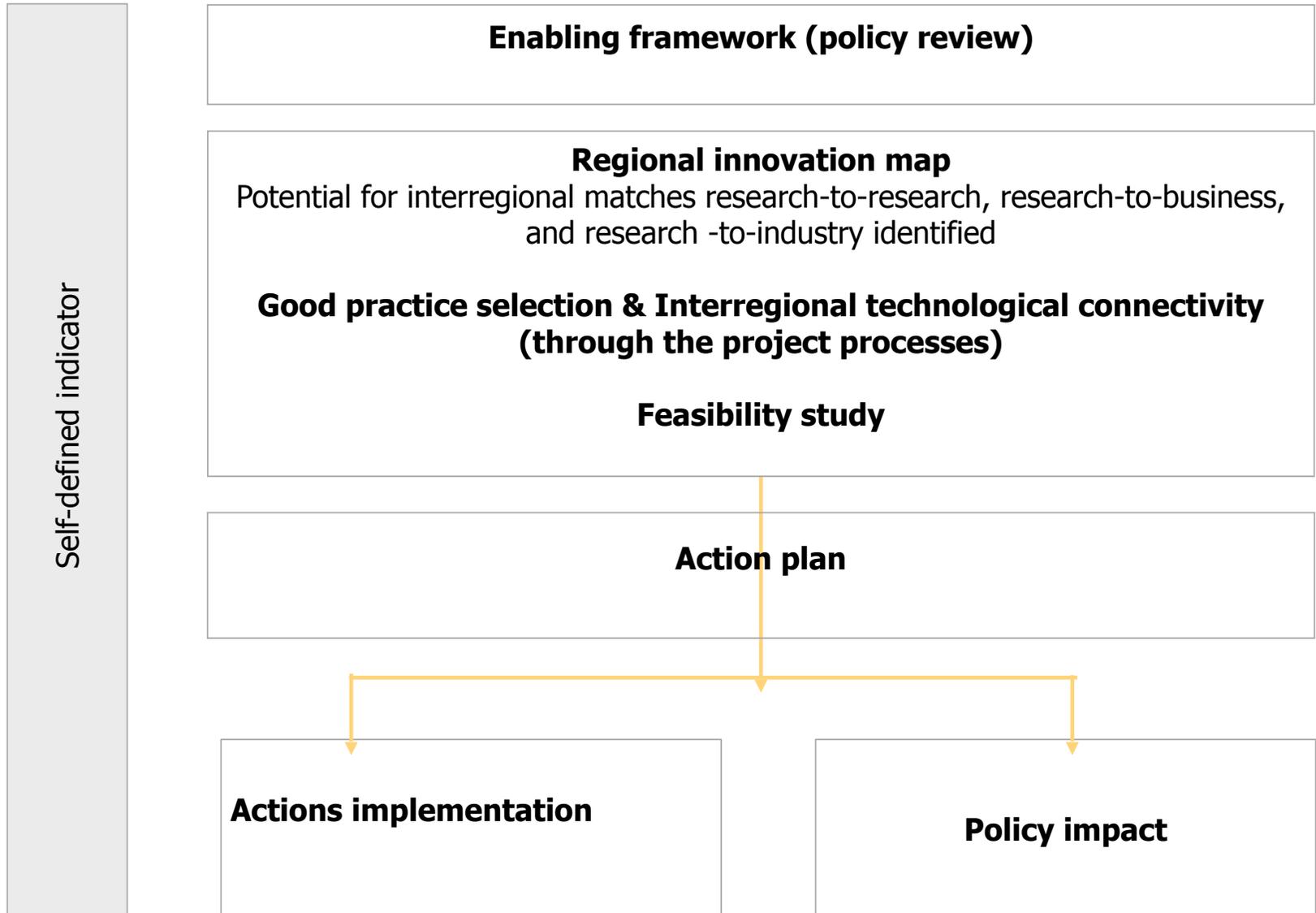
- To the Interreg Europe programme and the Joint Technical Secretariat for their long term support.
- To the Joint Research Centre / Lagging Regions project and the long term cooperation and fruitful exchange.

Notes

The steep learning curve in the BRIDGES project



The action plan process



Partner region	Action plans
Kainuu, FI	<p><u>Investment focus:</u> (a) Emerging industries based on lignine processing (circular economy); (b) Commercialisation of research results through internationalisation actions initiatives coordinated by the Intermediate Body; (iii) reinforcing linkages to RTOs.</p> <p><u>Good practices transferred:</u> (i)The Bioeconomy Science Center (BioSC), located in Jülich (Nordrhein-Westfalen), added value: the concept of developing new industries; (ii) Traceability and Big Data for achieving European AgroFood Sector Smart Specialisation; (iii) CENTROPE innovation voucher.</p> <p><u>Type of mismatch addressed:</u> (i) research-to-regional innovation system, (ii) research-to-industry, (iii) research-to-business.</p> <p><u>Access to the full action plan:</u> https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1565773671.pdf</p>
Lubelskie, PL	<p><u>Investment focus:</u> Increase the absorptiveness of the Regional Operational Programme innovation calls by increasing the innovation absorptive capacity of Agri-food SMEs; involvement of RTOs.</p> <p><u>Good practices transferred:</u> AUTODIAGNOSTIC TOOL FOR AGRO-SMEs</p> <p><u>Type of mismatch addressed:</u> Research-to-business.</p> <p><u>Access to the action plan summary and key information:</u> Annex 2</p> <p><u>Access to the full action plan:</u> https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1565778266.pdf</p>
Helsinki – Uusimaa, FI	<p><u>Investment focus:</u> Increase the commercialisation base of Uusimaa-based research through internationalisation initiatives coordinated by the Intermediate Body; reinforcing linkages to RTOs.</p> <p><u>Good practices transferred:</u> (i) Large research infrastructure services for SMEs (Science Link & Baltic TRAM projects); (ii) CENTROPE innovation voucher.</p> <p><u>Type of mismatch addressed:</u> (i) Research-to-business; (ii) research – to- industry.</p> <p><u>Access to the action plan summary and key information:</u> Annex 2</p> <p><u>Access to the full action plan:</u> https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1566302341.pdf</p>
West Macedonia, GR	<p><u>Investment focus:</u>(i) improving competitiveness, productivity and sustainability of selected agri-food product lines; (ii) improving RIS3 management and governance tools; (iii) introducing transregional 'innovation on demand' tools and innovation partnerships as part of the West Macedonia Regional Operational Programme.</p> <p><u>Good practices transferred:</u> (i)AUTODIAGNOSTIC TOOL; (ii) HURC platform by the PP4 good practice Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council RIS3 coordination; (iii) CENTROPE innovation voucher.</p> <p><u>Type of mismatch addressed:</u> (i) Research-to-business; (ii) research – to- industry; (iii) Other: MA RIS3 management tools.</p> <p><u>Access to the action plan summary and key information:</u> Annex 2</p> <p><u>Access to the full action plan :</u> https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1565778528.pdf</p>
Goriška, SI	<p><u>Investment focus:</u> To ensure both good state of the ecosystems and development of new products in the sustainable aquaculture industry.</p> <p><u>Good practices transferred:</u> KANTOLA industrial estate and centre of competence.</p> <p><u>Type of mismatch addressed:</u> (i) Research-to-business; (ii) Research-to-industry; (iii) Research-to-regional innovation system.</p> <p><u>Access to the full action plan:</u> https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1564654691.pdf</p>
Western Transdanubia, HU	<p><u>Investment focus:</u> Digitalisation of the wood processing, furniture industry; establishment of a thematic regional innovation platform.</p> <p><u>Good practices transferred:</u> (i)AUTODIAGNOSTIC TOOL; (ii) KANTOLA industrial estate and centre of competence.</p> <p><u>Type of mismatch addressed:</u> (i) Research-to-business; (ii) Research-to-regional innovation system.</p> <p><u>Access to the full action plan:</u> https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1565169704.pdf</p>

Access to transferred good practices

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/1648/the-bioeconomy-science-center-biosc-located-in-juelich-nordrhein-westfalen/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/162/traceability-and-big-data-for-achieving-european-agrofood-sector-smart-specialisation/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/11/centrope-innovation-voucher/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/157/autodiagnostic-tool-for-agro-smes/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/8/large-research-infrastructure-services-for-smes-science-link-baltic-tram-projects/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/11/centrope-innovation-voucher/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/157/autodiagnostic-tool-for-agro-smes/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/252/helsinki-uusimaa-regional-council-ris3-coordination/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/11/centrope-innovation-voucher/>