BERRY+ S3 partnership

Assessment & next steps

BRIDGES project, additional activities

Closing meeting
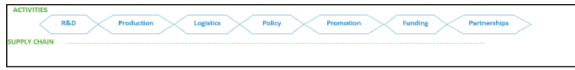
Helsinki, 27 and 28 September 2022

AGENDA

ARRIVAL 26.9.2022 and 27.9.2022	
19:00 – 22:00	Arrival of partners Project dinner, BRIDGES project and BERRY+; Bridges project-funded dinner NOTE: those of the BERRY+ partners who wish to participate in the BRIDGES meeting, come earlier.
BRIDGES project meeting	
27.9.2022	
8:30	Arrival and registration of partners in Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, Maakuntasali.
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and purpose of the meeting (PP2 (Jouni Ponnikas) & PP4 (Juha Eskelinen)) Meeting programme and structure of the event; Teams connection will be available.
9:30 – 10:30	Presentation of the BRIDGES project outputs, access to the final reports. All BRIDGES partners keep short presentation (5-8 min). The presentations have been sent out to participants earlier and will be also available online (Interreg Europe BRIDGES library). The presentations refer to the final deliverables that will be available online (Interreg Europe BRIDGES library): good practices, value chain maps, policy instrument improvement recommendations, per region and the synthesis reports.
10:30 – 10:45	*Coffee break*
10:45 - 12:30	Round tables (10:45 – 11:45) The purpose of the round tables is to provide more insights and critical approaches to themes introduced and processed by the BRIDGES project. There will be one coordinator and one rapporteur per round table. The coordinator introduces the relevant issues. Roundtable 1. Renewal of the economy, what can regions do for self-sustaining, transformative growth? Value chain mapping experiences (includes related good practices) and conclusions. Location: Hautomo / Studio tai Visio Roundtable 2. Research – industry collaborations, related to the selected value chains; how can regions effectively address innovation-based growth? Location: Studio / Visio Roundtable 3. Interregional collaboration and activation of networks as a strategy: policy instrument improvement (process, achievements, what could / should we do better). Location: Maakuntasali Plenary session (11:45 – 12:15) & Conclusions (12:15-12:30) The coordinators of the three roundtables, based on the preceding exchanges, conclude on issues as: is there an economic model? Are there optimisation options? What can regions do in times of Policy instrument improvement, expected impact, involvement of organisational actors, experiences, barriers, expectations. Location: Maakuntasali.
12:30 – 13:30	*Lunch break, Piano restaurant*
13:30 – 14:00	18th Interregional Steering Committee; focuses on reporting process.
14:00 – 15:30	News briefs and interviews; focus on usefulness of the BRIDGES project as well as challenges, and what remains with us for the future.
16:00	Closing of the meeting
19:00 – 22:00	Project dinner, BRIDGES project and BERRY+; Bridges project-funded dinner

BERRY + meeting	
28.9.2022	
8:30	Arrival and registration of partners in Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, Maakuntasali. BRIDGES partners welcome to participate.
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and purpose of the meeting: renewal of the BERRY+ partnership, state of play and next steps. Introduction by BP1 (Jouni Ponnikas) & BP2 (Juha Eskelinen). Meeting programme and structure of the event; online connections available. BERRY+ governance and focus areas
9:30 – 9:45	EC/META
9:45 – 11:45	BERRY+ partners who are value chain coordinators, active in the respective themes, present the state of play of selected value chains and discuss next steps. The value chain experience is planned to be structured into three parts: immediate benefits (projects and commercial exchanges), learning experiences & needs (studies and methodologies), and institutionalisation (policy improvements and associated initiatives). Issues to be covered include, for example: value chain activation and overall state of play; concrete results, industries that have benefitted most; synergies with other projects and S3 partnerships; methodological insights (activation approaches); strengths; challenges, any learning experiences, next steps. Coordinator of this session: XXXXXXXXXX and rapporteur: YYYYYY.
11:00 – 11:15	*Coffee break / coffee available during the meeting*
11:45 - 12:30	Value chain mapping training (the value chain mapping methodology that was developed and applied through the BRIDGES project). The value chain mapping methodology consists of the following steps: Step 1.- Supply chain mapping of the total value chain, with special focus on higher added value segments and on enablers (policies). The Figure 1 below is an example of mapping the supply chain of the berry industry, focusing on innovations. Step 2.- Applying statistical analysis to identify concentrations (peaks) and valleys in the regions, Figure 2 below. Step 3.- Deciding re-shoring and in-shoring parts of value chains; this includes local / regional / national and FDI initiatives. Regional stakeholder group meetings; VC TT exchanges. Step 4.- Deciding near-shoring initiatives based on interregional complementarities with value chain members. Step 5.- Implementation of initiatives.

Table 1 Supply chain mapping of the berry industry (BRIDGES project action plan, LP&PP2, Action 2)

Supply chain mapping

	Key technologies		Products	Application	Key in-vestment	Promotion	Policy, 3S, industrial modernisation/ agrifood	Partnership/ Markets
Input /raw material	Cultivation development in field an forest (wilderness)	Facilitative: ICT and logistics	Cultivars, lines, material from specified production	Correct raw material to correct process	Plant breeding	Economic sustainability	Rural (innovation) policy	Horticulture, agriculture, forestry,
Harvesting	Harvesting technology	Primary supply networks	Harvester: robot or hand-held tools	Intensification of the harvesting process	Automatic, robotics	Sustainability, naturalness	(Rural) innovation policy	Robotic, censor technology markets
Storing	Storage manufacturing	Logistics	Optimization	Balancing of the input to processing	Renewable energy, material efficiency	Clean technology	Energy and climate policy	Energy technology
Cleaning	Sorting, cleaning, grading – utilization of side flows	Robotics, blockchain technologies	Fresh products	Food and food ingredients	Automatization	Naturalness, organic, freshness, cleanness, health impacts, sustainability	Nature-based innovation, clean investment, competition, health, SDG	Manufacturing
Processing	Extraction – utilization of side flows, deoil	Assembling critical masses, stabilizing (drying and freezing)	Berry juice concentrates, berry nfc juices and syrups. Purees with seeds.	Food, feed, end ingredients	Extraction facilities- concentration –(hot water, ethanol, supercritical l-CO2 circulation	Naturalness, organic, freshness, cleanness, health impacts, sustainability, techn. Quality	Nature-based innovation, clean investment, competition, health, SDG metrics	Food technology
	Dewater, dry, deoil, grinding	Logistics	Berry powders for feed, food Grinded material for cosmetics compensate plastic beans	Food, feed, cosmetic ingredients	Mill/grinder, separator, drier, concentrator SFE	Naturalness, organic, cleanness, health impacts, sustainability, techn. Quality	Innovation (purity), clean investment, competition, transparency, health, SDG metrics	Food technology, cosmetics technology
	Functional food and cosmetic ingredient processing	Critical quality of the raw material, wide spectrum	Aromatic ingredients, functional polyphenolics, seed oil, fibre, stains	Cosmetics	Extraction facilities- concentration –(hot water, ethanol, supercritical l-CO2 circulation	Naturalness, organic, cleanness, health impacts, sustainability, techn. quality	Innovation (purity), clean investment, nature-based competition, transparency, health, SDG metrics	Cosmetics technology
	Consumer product processing	Encapsulation (micro, nano) fron the extract during the drying process	Consumer product for feed, for cosmetic	Consumer products in combination with oat ingredients (together with Valio and Dermosil etc.)	Food technology investments	Taste, applicability, naturalness, organic, health impacts, cleanness, sustainability, image building	Health, food, Innovation (purity), clean investment, nature-based competition, transparency, SDG metrics	Food, feed, heath care, hotel services, fashion and life style enterprises and NGOs

Table 2, below, aims at operationalising Table 1 and linking it to regional strengths and weaknesses, namely taking into account five (5) categories: (i) businesses- employment & / or turnover in the region, (ii) products available & income generated through exports, (iii) on-going research programmes and priorities, (iv) TRL- and IPR- based available research results, (v) locally available relevant skills (none, some, average, very good, seeking to transfer knowledge and curricula), and targeted policy measures).

Table 2 Value-chain based regional peaks and valleys

Value chain mapping based on supply chain linkages

	Key technologies		Products	Application	Key in-vestment	Promotion	Policy, 3S, industrial modernisation/ agrifood	Partnership/ Markets
Input /raw material	Cultivation development in field an forest (wilderness)	Facilitative: ICT and logistics	Cultivars, lines, material from specified production	Correct raw material to correct process	Plant breeding	Economic sustainability	Rural (innovation) policy	Horticulture, agriculture, fo
Business								
Product								
Research								
Solution								
Skills available (none, some, average, very good, seeking to transfer knowledge and curricula)								
Policy								
Harvesting	Harvesting technology	Primary supply networks	Harvester: robot or hand-held tools	Intensification of the harvesting process	Automatic, robotics	Sustainability, naturalness	(Rural) innovation policy	Robotic, censor technology markets
Business								
Product								
Research								
Solution								
Skills available (none, some, average, very good, seeking to transfer knowledge and curricula)								
Policy								
Storing	Storage manufacturing	Logistics	Optimization	Balancing of the input to processing	Renewable energy, material efficiency	Clean technology	Energy and climate policy	Energy technology
Business								
Product								
Research								
Solution								
Skills available (none, some, average, very good, seeking to transfer knowledge and curricula)								
Policy								
Cleaning	Sorting, cleaning, grading – utilization of side flows	Robotics, blockchain technologies	Fresh products	Food and food ingredients	Automatization	Naturalness, organic, freshness, cleanness, health impacts, sustainability	Nature-based innovation, clean investment, competition, health, SDG	Manufacturing
Business								
Product								
Research								
Solution								
Skills available (none, some, average, very good, seeking to transfer knowledge and curricula)								
Policy								
Processing	Extraction – utilization of side flows, deoil	Assembling critical masses, stabilizing (drying and freezing)	Berry juice concentrates, berry nfc juices and syrups. Purees with seeds.	Food, feed, and ingredients	Extraction facilities-concentration –(hot water, ethanol, supercritical l- CO2 circulation	Naturalness, organic, freshness, cleanness, health sustainability, techn. quality	Nature-based innovation, clean investment, competition, health, SDG metrics	Food technology
Business								
Product								
Research								
Solution								
Skills available (none, some, average, very good, seeking to transfer knowledge and curricula)								
Policy								
	Dewater, dry, deoil, grinding	Logistics	Berry powders for feed, food, Grinded material for cosmetics compensate plastic beans	Food, feed, cosmetic ingredients	Mill/grinder, separator, drier, concentrator SFE	Naturalness, organic, cleanness, health impacts, sustainability, techn. Quality	Innovation (purity), clean investment, competition, transparency, health, SDG metrics	Food technology, cosmetics technology
Business								
Product								
Research								
Solution								
Skills available (none, some, average, very good, seeking to transfer knowledge and curricula)								
Policy								
	Functional food and cosmetic ingredient processing	Critical quality of the raw material, wide spectrum	Aromatic ingredients, functional polyphenolics, seed oil, fibre, stains	Cosmetics	Extraction facilities-concentration –(hot water, ethanol, supercritical l-CO2 circulation	Naturalness, organic, cleanness, health impacts, sustainability, techn. quality	Innovation (purity), clean investment, nature-based competition, transparency, health, SDG metrics	Cosmetics technology
Business								
Product								
Research								
Solution								
Skills available (none, some, average, very good, seeking to transfer knowledge and curricula)								
Policy								
	Consumer product processing	Encapsulation (micro, nano) fron the extract during the drying process	Consumer product for feed, for cosmetic	Consumer products in combination with oat ingredients (together with Valio and Dermosil etc.)	Food technology investments	Taste, applicability, naturalness, organic, health impacts, cleanness,	Health, food, Innovation (purity), clean investment, nature-based competition,	Food, feed, heath care, hotel services, sports, fashion and life style enterprises and NGOs
Business								
Product								
Research								
Solution								
Skills available (none, some, average, very good, seeking to transfer knowledge and curricula)								
Policy								

	The benefit of the above approach is that it depends to a large extent, to statistical information and only part of it requires field-interviews, especially those related to research and skills issues. It implies that organisations that
	
	DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
	1. How useful has the mapping exercise been?
	    a. The methodology has been applied by 6 BRIDGES project regions. Partners were interviewed and found the approach very useful. It linked to practical and to strategic initiatives. It also linked to interregional initiatives, e.g. PP4-PP5, in the dairy industry side-streams.
	
	    b. The approach has been discussed also with two BERRY+ partners (BP5 and BP10). The importance of the mapping grid cannot be overemphasised. A science & industry mature expert is needed to do this.
	
	2. How easy is to apply it? (Step 2)
	    a. The person who is making the supply chain map is a high level science & industry expert. Our experience is that anything less than that reduces the effectiveness and, most importantly the potential understanding of the issues at hand.
	
	    b. Mapping the regional peaks and valleys, requires a statistician and an economic developer or sector expert to interview research and education.
	
	    c. Operationalising the results collected through Table 2, i.e. linking them to re-shoring, in-shoring and near-shoring initiatives requires involvement of regional policy makers, in addition to regional stakeholders.
	
	    d. Identifying & agreeing the near-shoring options and, in some cases, also in-shoring or re-shoring will require complementarity inputs between and among several regions.
	
	    e. Activating the above in.re- and near-shoring options will require access to funding with smooth transition options from regional, to national, to European.
	
	3. What were the difficulties / barriers?
	    a. Lack of qualified experts in some cases.
	
	4. Is there a success recipe?
	    a. The importance of the mapping grid cannot be overemphasised.
	    b. Carefully but not myopically following the steps outlined under item 2, is a must,

12:30 – 13:30	*Lunch break, Piano restaurant*
13:45 – 17:00	Matching session & site visits Bilateral meetings between BERRY+ partners with research & enterprises from Finland. Themes and times of meetings TBC. Location: ZZZZZZ
19:00 – 22:00	Project dinner, BRIDGES project and BERRY+; own costs

BRIDGES project, 18th ISC

2.- Closing report guidance

I. ADMINISTRATION

1 The closing report is available in the iOlf.
2 Reporting period: 1.10.2021 - 31.3.2023
3 The 5th call activities should be finalised by the end of September 2022.
4 The eligibility of costs ends on 31 March 2023, which is also the date by when the last progress report must be submitted to the JS.
5 In the 18th ISC, we can discuss the option to submit the final report by 31.12.2022.
6 Eligibility of expenditure: the project end date is the cut-off date for all expenditures.
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II. POLICY INSTRUMENT

a)   In case a policy change concerns a policy instrument that was not yet introduced in the progress report, we use the button "+ policy instrument" to introduce a new policy instrument.
b)   In case another policy change for a policy instrument is already included in the PR, it can be reported.

In our experience, none of the partners has achieved an actual policy impact. So this option is not relevant to us. Also, we all have linked to RIS3 at national or regional level and PP6 to the CLLD, and these issues were mentioned already in the approved additional activities proposal.

c)   In case there has been no policy change, we report the activities organised in the region / national level to prepare for the policy change. We need to make reference to the text in the approved additional activities in relation to the policy instrument improvement we had committed in the first place.

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We focus to fulfill item c. In terms of activities we have done to prepare for the policy change they are the following: **1)** We linked the GP selection and the value chain mapping recommendations to the policy instrument selected by each one of the partner regions. This is evidenced by the policy instrument improvement reports by each one of the regions**. 2)** We linked the policy instrument recommendation report to the selected policy isntruments as well as to fudning soruces and types of policy impact. **3)** The policy instrument synthesis report takes into account regional commitments for the policy instrument improvement recommendations and also the learning implications. **4)** All reports have been uploaded to the IE BRIDGES library, i.e. there is formal publicity implying commitment to the process and recommendations.
5) For the partners with final deliverables all completed, there have been interviews and newsbriefs in the IE BRIDGES- NEWS location, confirming partners' commitment. The plan is to include all partners there.

MISSING INPUTS: 1) Internal meetings with the Mananging Authority have not been organised yet. Preparatory meetings might have been made, however, there has not been commitment either way. So, meetings with the MA and other funding sources must be organised by the end of December. The need for such meetings was anticipated when we added the last slide to the regional presentations, but only few partners have been filling them in. 2) The policy instrument improvement recommendation are only briefly descriobed. They need to be further elaborated, to be operationalised for implementation.

III. ARCHIVING OF TH

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According to the Common Provisions Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 Article 140, all project documents must be available for a "two-year period from 31 December following the submission to the European Commission of the programme's annual accounts in which the expenditure of the last progress report is included".