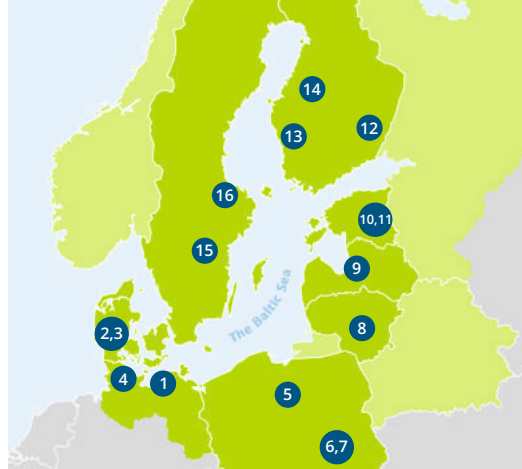


# smart specialisation

## PROJECT PARTNERS



### Germany

1. Rostock Business and Technology Development GmbH
4. Kiel Business Development Agency (KiWi)

### Denmark

2. D2i – Design to innovate
3. South Denmark European Office

### Poland

5. Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship
6. Lubelskie Voivodeship
7. Foundation for Lubelskie Development

### Lithuania

8. Kaunas Science and Technology Park

### Latvia

9. Riga Planning Region

### Estonia

10. Tartu Science Park
11. Tartu City Government

### Finland

12. Mikkeli University of Applied Sciences, Small Business Center

### Sweden

13. Prizztech Ltd
14. Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia
15. Östergötland County Council/Region Östergötland
16. Gävleborg County Council/ Region Gävleborg

### General facts

Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020  
Priority 1: "Capacity for innovation"  
Specific Objective 1.2: "To enhance growth opportunities based on increased capacity of innovation actors to apply smart specialisation approach"

### Project Duration

May 2016 - April 2019

### Project Budget

3.051.841 Euro

## CONTACTS

### Lead Partner

Rostock Business and Technology Development GmbH  
Gert Proba  
proba@rostock-business.de  
www.rostock-business.de

### Project Management

REM · Consult  
Dr. Lars Schieber  
schieber@rem-consult.eu  
www.rem-consult.eu

[www.empinno.eu](http://www.empinno.eu)



S3-Empowering for Innovation and Growth in Medium-Sized Cities and Regions



*Getting Regional Smart Specialisation Strategies closer to business*



**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



How can regional authorities spend public money more effectively to foster innovation and growth?

How can innovation intermediaries better utilise the regional smart specialisation strategies (RIS3) and bring them closer to business?

How can small and medium-sized enterprises and innovation actors be optimally supported to become more innovative and competitive?

Emplnno addresses these and other questions by sharing experiences and competences from all countries in the Baltic Sea Region.

Emplnno fosters the implementation and improvement of research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3) in medium-sized cities and regions in the Baltic Sea Region.

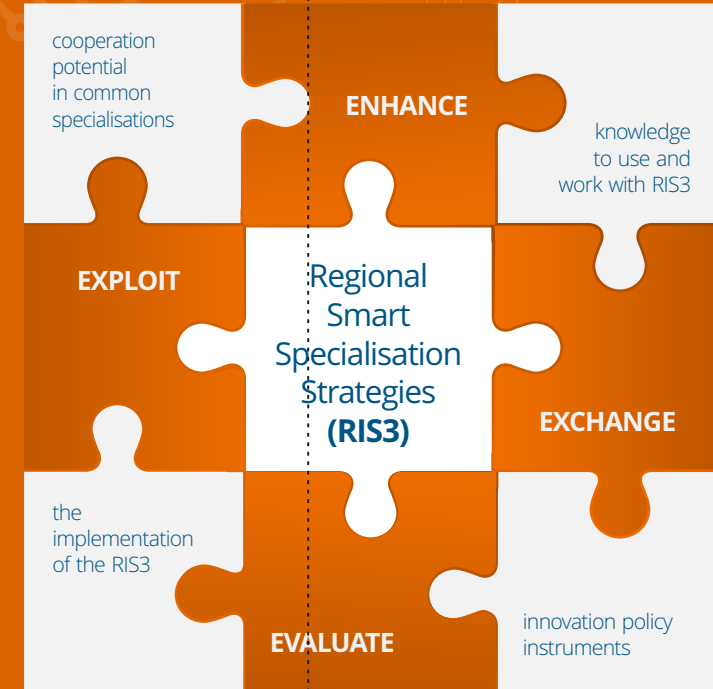
Regional authorities (as “strategy owners”) face common problems and obstacles in the process of managing, delivering and monitoring the strategy. Especially innovation intermediaries (as “strategy implementers”) – such as business support organisations, science and technology parks and universities – often lack institutional capacity, resources and experiences to work with the strategies, which results in unused potential for innovation and growth. This is even more severe in medium-sized cities and regions that have on average a smaller critical mass for innovation and growth and where the local economic actors are less outward oriented compared to metropolises.

In the Emplnno project, 16 partner organisations – regional and local authorities, business support organisations, science and technology parks and universities – cooperate to make the Baltic Sea Region a more innovative place.



## PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- To provide **innovation intermediaries** with the **needed resources** (experiences and competences) to **work** with the novel **RIS3 approach** within their organisations and **apply** this to their work with the end-users **SMEs** and further **innovation actors**;
- To **evaluate** and **improve** the **implementation** of the **regional smart specialisation strategies** by developing and providing **feedback** for the responsible regional **authorities** and by improving monitoring systems and the organisational set-up of delivery instruments;
- To boost **cooperation** between **innovation actors** and **SMEs** as well as transnationally between SMEs and e.g. cluster managements, thus leveraging their **innovativeness** and **competitiveness**.



Smart specialisation is an EU policy concept for priority-setting, where a region can benefit from specialising in a particular area of science and technology and place-based strengths. Regional development and growth become knowledge and innovation driven and thereby stimulate structural change.

