

## Discussions on general topics of RIS3 in Norrköping

### How could RIS3 strategy facilitate the birth of effective transnational collaboration networks?

**Which type of networks partners belong to? Thematic or general?**

**Create new networks or to join current ones?**

**Any partners participate in S3 (thematic) platforms?**

***(Role and function of partners in networks)***

***(What do the partners get out from the networks)***

Partners were involved in many kinds of networks, mostly thematic but also some more general smart specialization networks. There was no clear need for a new formal type of network but participants thought that an informal and personal RIS3 specialist network that is formed over the course of EmplInno project would be good. LinkedIn/Skype etc. could be a useful tool for such informal group. It would be important to identify who are these RIS3 specialists in each region and what is their role.

**Strategy owners** receive new contacts from transnational networks. From regional networks they can find constant communication channels with stakeholders. Partners from the Baltic States often want to get more knowledge from outside the country from the transnational networks. Strategy owners also found themselves being the network organisers to cultivate the local or regional innovation ecosystem and bring together actors who usually would not work with each other. Also some partners stated that because they are small regions, it's important for them to be outward looking.

**Strategy implementer** concluded that they belong to mostly smaller business oriented networks together with the companies (e.g. small and fast growing SMEs, "wellbeing at work"), there the strategy implementers facilitate and "make the glue", sometimes also provide actions – e.g. facilitate how CEOs work with each other. Also horizontal networks, for example to support entrepreneurship and fast growing companies.

All partners agreed that networking and nominating specialists in order to find out synergies and possibilities more easily, is important as such. Different partners have complementary knowledge and this should not go into waste. Many pointed out that having a contact with a name and a face makes it easier to ask and to make the first contact. Also it would be beneficial to have a list where also the specialist area is pointed out so that it is easy to see what each other's competences are.