

RIS3 Feedback Paper Summary

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The feedback paper presented here describes the results of a testing and feedback process that took place as combined local and international interaction of protagonists involved into the RIS work, SME from the region and the international project partner consortium of the EmpInno project. A regional exchange was the starting point: Rostock Business as project partner of the EmpInno project collected information on the structures and implementation plans developed in the state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern regarding the RIS. The information process started with nominating mainly responsible staff members in the partner institution and involved the entire team in a second step. In return, the regional communication path established for this was used for recommending best practices and experiences from third countries identified in the EmpInno project for addressing optimization needs identified in regional exchange and feedback processes. The basis for such improvement recommendations were ~~problems, lacks or gaps~~optimization potentials identified in the communications with the regional companies that were collected and compiled in a catalogue of ~~needs for action~~recommendations and, subsequently, discussed with the members of the international EmpInno consortium. The joint discussion allowed to interlink the relevant regional situation to the specific experiences and expertise of the other project partners. Thus, the partner were able to make highly relevant recommendations. The transferability of methods and formats to Mecklenburg-Vorpommern was jointly considered here. The following requirements were identified as most relevant for the RIS implementation in MV in the course of this regional and international exchange:

1. Intensified integration of the RIS communication into existing and regularly (also in short intervals) implemented formats
2. ~~Creation of a~~Enhancement of the permanently available information basis for reactivating available knowledge on RIS3 structures and activities, available on individual demand
3. More detailed, cClear and transparent agreements on communication channels that facilitate an „on demand“-feedback on latest developments and needs
4. Ensured-Optimized information flow into both directions: ~~one-the~~ exchange on RIS guided by the know-how carriers that keeps informed about latest developments, successes, specifications etc., and a feedback from the company and network levels, organized by the interface („strategy implementers“) that aims at optimizing running processes and existing structures in the RIS sector.

The following formats were identified as suitable for a transfer to M-V in the course of the EmpInno experience exchange, which includes an adaptation to the regional requirements towards improving the link between business development and work on the RIS strategy and, thus, interlinking the work on the future fields of the states in an optimum way for further optimization:

2.3.1 Research and Implementation Fund (RIF)

Within the context of the EmpInno project, the project partners from M-V got the opportunity to get more acquainted with the RIF project and to assess it regarding it's suitability for an implementation in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. They got to know a very efficient instrument for establishing contacts between SME and research institutions that facilitates and promotes the cooperation between both parties. It was particularly the interest in the format, mainly on the SME side, that was considered as impressive and convincing. More than 80 applications for support in total were registered here. A transfer to

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern is considered as recommendable and should include the consideration if the regional SME are actually informed about existing other funding opportunities.

2.3.2 SPARK Demo centre

The number of SME that received support via this format is assessed as impressive from the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern point of view. There are 41 companies in total that present themselves in the demonstration and information centre, permanently or in regular intervals, with upward tendency. According to the German project partner, no corresponding structures or institutions have been established in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern so far, so that a provision of information on the format, the approach or the institution plus the experiences collected there and the relevant proceedings and principles (establishment and operation) could give valuable impulses for the future work of the strategy owners from the region, the Ministry of Economics in particular.

2.3.3 LAWP (Lublin Agency for Entrepreneurship Support)

Of particular interest is, from the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern point of view how the project calls are launched and implemented as well as the project selection procedure. How to support the cooperation with research institutions that increase the innovation level of regional SME with their contributions is a very relevant topic for Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, too. According to our understanding, similar approaches and structures exist in this federal state of German, so that a mutual exchange would be as beneficial for the strategy owners from Mecklenburg-Vorpommern as for those from Lubelskie Vojevodeship.

2.3.4 Growth Catalyst

Because of the use of design methods, the developed advisory and support structure can be assessed as particularly innovate and seems to be suitable to be transferred to Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. This could be addressed via a related initiation within the regional creative industries sector, i.e. by feeding the format into these structures as important and interesting main impulse. It would be the aim to also strengthen the strategic business growth in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern with this, which means that a screening and qualifying structure is created here which is oriented to the Design Thinking method. This approach will allow to plan the future strengthening of the companies in a way that enables a corresponding cooperation of strategy owners and strategy implementers. The figures achieved in the context of LAWP can be considered as benchmark/target indicator. Still they are assessed as impressive and ambitious: 20 out of 100 companies considered in the screening finally received active advisory support in the end.