



PP07 Riga Planning Region

Project Synthesis Report

Smart Blue Regions project

WP3 “Incorporating new blue growth policy measures into RIS 3 implementation”

GoA 3.1 “Transnational identification of effective BLUE RIS3 implementation measures”

Project synthesis report

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Executive summary

The purpose of smart specialisation and Research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3) process is to identify areas of the economy where the potential for growth and the value added are above average and where a competitive advantage can be achieved by investing in R&D. “Blue Growth” is the long-term strategy to support sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors as a whole.

The goal of the report is to investigate and to identify effective Blue RIS3 implementation measures and best practices in the six participating regions and to synthesize the findings in one document. The analysis aims at finding important aspects and conditions for future Blue Growth and RIS3 implementation.

This report has been done as part of the project “Smart Blue Regions: Smart Specialisation and Blue Growth in the BSR”.

As a result of the performed analysis, four suggestions have been concluded:

- 1) There are regions that will lead in smart specialisation and Blue Growth development, hence inequality reducing mechanisms are crucial for the development of the whole Baltic Sea Region.
- 2) Greater focus on SME in relation to the smart development concept would not only improve innovation and new idea implementation, but would also support greater contribution to the social innovation and inclusiveness. Still, every reasonable measure shall be taken to maintain and hopefully attract new large companies in respective regions to act as the hub or engine for the SME entrepreneur business development.
- 3) Awareness of the importance of smart development should be raised amongst policy makers at all levels – local, regional and national.
- 4) Regions should not try to simultaneously target too many innovative technologies or economic activities, but rather consider the available resources, size of the region and its strengths within the broader international context. This is the core essence of the smart specialization strategy.

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Abbreviations and terms

Abbreviation/term	Explanation
Beneficiary	A person/organisation/institution designated as the recipient of funds
Blue growth	The development of the maritime economy using the sea and coastal natural resources, infrastructure, and other benefits from the territory location on the coast – in other documents used also as “Blue Growth” or “The sea and coastal resources for economic growth”
BSO	Business support organisations
BSR	Baltic Sea Region
DG MARE	The Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
EU	European Union
GoA	Group of activities as defined in project “Smart Blue Regions: smart specialisation and blue growth in the BSR” application
Implementation measure	Measures for implementing RIS3 (i.e. R&I) with the provisions of the parallel regional operational programmes governing the regional EU structural funds usage
OP	National Operational programme governing the regional EU structural funds usage in the specific country or region
Owner	Organisation that is responsible for measure creation and implementation, as well as responsible for result achievement
Partner regions	Ida-Viru County (Estonia), Riga Planning Region (Latvia), Pomorskie Region (Poland), Skåne County (Sweden), Schleswig-Holstein Region (Germany)
Project	Project: “Smart Blue Regions: Smart Specialisation and Blue Growth in the BSR”
PP	Project partners
RIS3	Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation
RPR	Riga planning region
Smart Blue Regions	Acronym of the project “Smart Blue Regions: smart specialisation and blue growth in the BSR”
SPA	Denotes a wide complex of services, where various aquatic procedures for improvement of wellness and health are included
Target group	A person, group or organization that is affected (involved) by the actions, objectives and policies, receive “goods” from measure implementation

1. Introduction

Research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3) are a new policy instrument introduced by the European Union (EU). Countries and regions that want to invest EU Structural Funds into research & innovation (R&I) in the new programming period 2014 – 2020 are bound by their RIS3.

The purpose of smart specialisation and RIS3 process is to identify areas of the economy where the potential for growth and the value added are above average and where a competitive advantage can be achieved by investing in R&D. The growth areas that are selected in the course of smart specialisation identification process are prioritised at EU, national and regional level.

At the same time, the RIS3 process opens up opportunities for macroregional cooperation to create synergies and exchange best practices, in particular when applied to specific sectors.

Furthermore, “Blue Growth”, initiated by DG MARE, is also a relatively new concept. Whereas traditional maritime activities such as shipping and fishery have been targeted by European, national and regional policies for decades, there is still only a limited base of experience of proven policy measures when it comes to blue biotechnology/blue life science, maritime surveillance/technology or new propulsion technologies based on marine energy resources.

“Smart Blue Regions”, part of the flagship project - SUBMARINER Network, can complement EU wide initiatives for RIS3 with blue growth and Baltic Sea Region (BSR) specific elements to facilitate the implementation of RIS3 in six participating regions and beyond.

This analysis has been done in the context of the project “Smart Blue Regions: Smart Specialisation and Blue Growth in the BSR”, under the activity 3.1. “Transnational identification of effective BLUE RIS3 implementation measures”.

The goal:

The goal of the report is to investigate and to identify successful methods and approaches in the project regions, which stimulate Blue Growth, and to synthesize the findings in one transnational analysis document. The analysis aims at finding important aspects and conditions for future Blue Growth and RIS3 implementation.

The scope:

The analysis will cover the following Blue Growth sectors - Machinery & Technology, Life Science & Blue Medicine, including SPA and coastal tourism, and Energy. Where applicable, the analysis will also include other business sectors of the OP that are related to Blue Growth strategies.

2. Methodology

2.1. Analysis of existing implementation measures (GoA 3.1a of project)

First, each project partner (PP) identified blue growth measures and filled in the summary table of 5 identified measures. Based on this, experts suggested at least two measures for each partner for further analysis to ensure a variety of analysed measures with regard to Blue Growth.

Second, each PP carried out general analysis of each selected measures by completing a “Measure general analysis matrix” and SWOT analysis (Annex 1).

Third, each PP carried out interview/-s with measure owner, beneficiary and target group representatives and carried out regional and thematic group analyses, e.g., measures that support business support institutions or research and innovation.

Next, experts grouped the selected implementation measures and performed a more detailed analysis.

2.2. Analysis of good practices in blue growth RIS3 implementation (GoA 3.1b of project)

Next, it was necessary to identify and further analyse three to five best practices in each partner region, therefore each PP provided filled in matrices (Annex 2) and created short descriptions for each identified best practice.

Meanwhile, experts carried out research for best practices in other Baltic Sea regions. Research included expert interviews with representatives of other regions. Interviews were conducted by using similar questions the PP used in the previous analysis phase.

2.3. Analysis of relevance and feasibility for Blue Growth (GoA 3.1c of project)

Based on the identified implementation measures (during 3.1.a. activity) and best practices (during 3.1.b. activity), all project partners evaluated 2 to 5 best practices for the possibility for adapting them in their region according to the defined factors (Annex 3).

Defined factors were:

- Legal - determines whether the proposed implementation measure and/or “good practice” conflicts or corresponds with existing legal requirements, also - possibility for integration of implementation measure and/or “Good practice” in the existing support framework in OP;
- Operational - how well implementation measure and/or “good practice” solves threats/weaknesses of Project partner region, and takes advantage of the opportunities/strengths;
- Economic - determine the positive economic benefits that the proposed implementation measure and/or “good practice” will provide.

Experts compiled the results and drew general conclusions on the relevance study.







2.4. Assessment of relevance of blue growth for other sectors







Based on the results from project activities 3.1.a. - 3.1.b, RPR experts created a summary for the identified economic sectors that are positively affected by Blue Growth activities in the partner regions.

3. Existing implementation measures

In total, 30 measures were identified by Project partners (PP). Based on the provided information, 17 of the measures were selected for further analysis. Since many of the measures were very similar, the objective of selecting measures was to select ones that can demonstrate the broad variety of different measures. The table below shows the selected measures as grouped in four different thematic groups - Research and Development (R&D), Business Support (BS), Tourism and Infrastructure. Measure analytical matrices and SWOT analyses can be found in Annex 1. The measures have been numbered from M1 to M17 in regional order.

Table 1. Implementation measures that were selected for further analysis

Thematic axis:	 Skåne County	 Pomorskie Region	 Schleswig-Holstein Region	 South-West Finland	 Riga Planning Region	 Ida-Viru County
R&D	(M1) Promoting models, knowledge and methods for needs-driven and market-based development and innovation	(M2) Industrial research and development work carried out by the company		(M6) Developing renewable energy and energy-efficient solutions	(M9) Promote private sector investment in R&D (Support for new product and technology development within competence centres)	(M14) R&D program for smart specialization in growth areas
		(M3) Expansion through innovation – Support Grant				
BS			(M4) Cluster development / funding	(M7) Developing research, competence and innovation clusters that draw from regional strengths (research)	(M10) Facilitate availability of funding for enterprises for the development of business in various stages of development, and promote the formation of new enterprises (Regional business incubators)	(M15) Development of regional competence centres
			(M5) Competence Centre	(M8) Creating new business activities		

Thematic axis:	 Skåne County <small>REGION SKÅNE</small>	 Pomorskie Region <small>! Pomorskie 'Pomorskie in the European Union' Association</small>	 Schleswig-Holstein Region <small>SH Schleswig-Holstein Ministry of Economic Affairs, Transport, Employment, Technology and Tourism</small>	 South-West Finland <small>VARSAINAIS-SUOMEN LIITTO KESKITYTTÄ FINLANDS FÖRBUND REGIONAL COUNCIL OF SOUTHWEST FINLAND</small>	 Riga Planning Region <small>RIGA PLANNING REGION</small>	 Ida-Viru County
Tourism					(M11) Promote regional development by promoting sustainable development of cultural and natural heritage of international importance and the related services	(M16) Development of tourist attractions of international interest and their supporting infrastructure
Infra-structure					(M12) Upgrade VET institutions by ensuring compliance of the learning environment to the development of industries of national economy, and improve the availability of vocational education (M13) Promote competitiveness of SMEs and development of new ideas in manufacturing industry by ensuring availability of industrial infrastructure	(M17) Activities for physical, economic and social recovery of under-utilized urban sites

3.1. Regional analysis

Sweden – Skåne region

The measure related to needs - driven models developments was the Energy Pilot, launched in June 2014 with the objective to make EU the global leader in the development and production of robust, high integrity and cost-competitive equipment, components, systems and services for applications related to offshore energy in the most demanding environments from a whole life cycle perspective. As a result of the pilot project, better understanding of the positioning of the companies in the value chain was gained. The development of a Technology Roadmap was a decisive step for generating bottom-up ideas, and supporting synergies and alignment

of industry stakeholders. The roadmap will help guide future policy, funding and R&D efforts in support of these industries. The main goal is to create new business opportunities and increased growth for the sector. In particular, the pilot aims to help larger companies strengthen their offshore supply chains by working with innovative SMEs all over Europe, and provide smaller companies with new, high-demand customers to grow their businesses.

The participation in Vanguard is helpful from several perspectives in implementing RIS3 as well as Innovation Strategy: (1) It has allowed to carefully map companies relevant for the sectors/s in question and to gain a good overview where the strengths are. (2) It has led to companies getting to know each other and elaborating further collaboration/business potentials. (3) It has enhanced the international links, exchange and collaboration and led to a considerable learning on transregional value chains. (4) It has facilitated the establishment of consortia for specific applications to EU funds (5) It has strengthened the possibilities to join forces in influencing the EU COM and other players.

Poland – Pomorskie region

Pomorskie Region selected two actions, potentially the most effective, that can support the blue growth and implementation of RIS3s: Expansion through innovation - Support Grant and Industrial research and development work carried out by the company.

All stakeholders see the possibility of developing and getting support for business entities and also for the region resulting from both programs. As program calls are open to all the sectors of the economy, there are many benefits they can bring to Blue Growth, especially to enterprises. During the interviews that were used for evaluating the actions it was noted that it is easier to raise funds when the project application is created by a specialised company. This may be due to the fact that projects financed from this source are more complex and costly, however great accuracy is required when preparing the application. The biggest and the main threat is the risk of not sustaining the results of the project after its completion and slowing down the development of the company. Therefore, great importance should be attached to planning long-term implementation and effective use of products in the future.

Most of blue development activities are located in the north of Poland, by the sea. There is also smart specialisation dedicated to Blue Growth in Pomorskie. Over 20% of projects implemented under Pomorskie Region Operational Program are blue projects. They account for 30% of all selected projects' budgets. Blue companies seem reluctant to resort to national resources and prefer to focus on local ones as they are much easier for them to reach.

Germany – Schleswig-Holstein region

The RIS3 in Schleswig-Holstein is the basis for the EU funding policy of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) during the programme period of 2014-2020. Under the evaluation process, the measures “Cluster” and “Competence Centre” were described.

Competence centres are mostly attached to universities or research institutes while cluster managements are located at business support organisations. Competence centres cover more specific topics and provide research infrastructure for scientists and enterprises. They perform scientific tasks. Clusters however comprise wider topics and do not conduct own research. In the case of Schleswig-Holstein, the five clusters reflect the five specialisation fields nominated in the RIS3. Clusters primarily aim to bring together actors from business, science and politics, therefore, they address a wider range of stakeholders.

In both cases, the main strength is seen in the central management; organising possibilities for exchange and serving as communication platform. Generally, this structure is seen as a trust building institution that enables different topics/ sectors to become more visible. The fact that funding for these central management structures is temporarily limited seems to be the greatest weakness of clusters and competence centres alike.

The blue economy in Schleswig-Holstein benefits from both clusters and competence centres, depending on the topic. The Maritime Cluster Northern Germany and some Competence Centres such as GEOMAR Biotech, the National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture and Fraunhofer Research Institution for Marine Biotechnology are fully oriented towards blue topics. Others are dealing with single blue topics within a variety of non-blue topics. The measures are not exclusively developed to foster Blue Growth, but as the examples show, it is possible to support Blue Growth within clusters and competence centres.

Finland – South-West Finland region

There is one national operational programme in Finland. The program puts strong emphasis on projects that are dealing with low carbon solutions that can be used to support sustainable Blue Growth. However, the program allows the financier to announce a blue specific call for projects if wanted. At the moment, marine industry is one of the main fields that are being funded.

South-West Finland adopted three, potentially the most effective, actions that can support the Blue Growth and implementation of RIS3s: Creating New Business Activities and development work carried out by the company, Developing Renewal Energy and Energy-Efficient solutions and Developing research, competence and innovation clusters that draw from regional strengths.

Creating New Business Activities supports start-up and development of new businesses. It also supports the commercialisation and entry into the market of innovations produced by SMEs. Its aim is to diversify business structures and increase the number of growing innovative and internationally expansive companies

Developing Renewal Energy and Energy-Efficient solutions supports the development and commercialisation of low-carbon products, services and production methods. It introduces new technologies but at the same time also focuses on commercial use of innovations. This measure supports all kinds of innovations and encourages the creation of pilot projects. Its aim in the long run is to speed up structural changes needed to move towards low-carbon solutions required by the ambitious energy and climate targets in cities.

Developing research, competence and innovation clusters that draw from regional strengths supports research, innovation infrastructure that supports regional businesses. Research competence and innovation clusters also developed by R&D&I environments and platforms. Environments and platforms also take into consideration regional competence spearheads. There is an aim is to increase the R&D expenditure and to increase cooperation between research institutions, public corporations and companies both at national and international level.

Latvia – Riga Planning Region

Riga Planning Region has contributed to the survey with evaluation of five measures/actions: Support via competence centres, business support via Regional Business incubators, Development of services related to natural and cultural heritage, Upgrading of Vocational Educational programmes, and support for manufacturing industry via supporting its infrastructure needs.

Understanding of Blue growth concept in the framework of RIS3 is not well recognized among various stakeholders, including the potential beneficiaries in Riga Planning Region and owners of the operational programmes, i.e., the government ministries. There are no special programs dedicated to Blue Growth, therefore the constitution towards the development of coastal area is not clear. According to the interviews with National Smart Specialization developers, RIS3 priorities are desirable rather than compulsory for getting support from the operational programs.

None of evaluated measures has been started, Latvian economy is not innovation driven and knowledge of local municipalities and business representatives about Blue Growth and RIS is relatively low, the effectiveness of the planned measure cannot be predicted. All considerations mentioned above, suggests the idea that without supplementary actions made the planned measures cannot be the lone driving force for Blue Growth in RIS3 priorities in Riga Planning Region.

Further development of coastal tourism, small scale innovative manufacturing plants and other measures should be done by aligning challenges of Blue Growth and RIS3 with the specifics of Riga Planning Region landscape, natural recourses, restrictions, economic trends. The fact, that most of the EU Structural funds have been allocated for already existing manufacturers and previously planned municipality infrastructure, should be taken in account when making further decisions.

Although Operational programmes do not focus on Blue Growth, actions to support Coastal areas in RIS3 can be taken. Existing programmes could be better aimed at Blue Growth and RIS3 through provision of more information, awareness arising and cooperation support.

Estonia – Ida-Virumaa region

Ida-Virumaa region has evaluated R&D program for smart specialization in growth areas and concluded, that it could benefit from the measure that aims to contribute to growth in the research-intensity of the Estonian economy, supporting collaboration between R&D institutions and companies.

The support aims to contribute to growth in the research-intensity of the Estonian economy and to support collaboration between R&D institutions and companies. The support will also help to raise the capabilities of R&D institutions to carry out applied research needed for business in smart specialisation growth areas.

The purpose of the measure is to finance applied research projects and product development projects in predefined national smart-specialization or growth-areas. For this measure private businesses serve the role of applicant, define the research question/problem, and later implement the results. The areas of research and product development should be based

directly on the enterprises' needs and should fit in the national smart specialization framework. The range of activities supported under the applied research is not restricted.

This measure complies very well with the Blue Medicine sphere. Since one of the three smart specialisation areas in Estonia is healthcare and technology services, the measure is supporting applied research and product development in the area of blue medicine, SPA and coastal tourism.

The measure also supports the innovative research and product development in the energy sector, which is one of the three smart specialisation areas in Estonia (“more efficient use of resources”).

The measure is designed to support creative discovery which is the key concept in Smart Specialisation as the entrepreneurs could provide their own ideas and find support in idea development. In addition, the measure serves as a link between industry partners and R&D institutions and should initiate further collaboration.

3.2. Thematic groups

In order to further analyse the measures, they have been grouped together in four thematic groups - Research and Development (R&D), Business Support (BS), Tourism and Infrastructure.

Table 2. Analysis selected implementation measures

Measure number	Type	Funding (in millions of euros)	Primary objective	Beneficiary	Thematic axis	Region
M1	Broad	N/A	Increased R&D activity	Companies	R&D	Skåne County
M2	Financial	19,4	Increased R&D activity	Companies	R&D	Pomorskie Region
M3	Financial	1 880,0	Increased R&D activity	Companies	R&D	Pomorskie Region
M6	Financial	0,6	Increased R&D activity	Universities	R&D	South-West Finland
M9	Financial	65,1*	Increased R&D activity	Competence centers	R&D	Riga Planning Region
M14	Financial	50,7	Increased R&D activity	Companies	R&D	Ida-Viru County
M4	Financial	5,6	Development of BSO	Clusters	BS	Schleswig-Holstein Region
M5	Financial	5,5	Development of BSO	Competence centers	BS	Schleswig-Holstein Region
M7	Financial	16,0	Development of BSO	Clusters	BS	South-West Finland
M8	Financial	0,4	Increase in business activity	Companies	BS	South-West Finland
M10	Financial	25,8*	Increase in business activity	Business incubators	BS	Riga Planning Region
M15	Financial	16,5	Increase in business activity	Competence centers	BS	Ida-Viru County
M11	Financial	41,4*	Development of tourism	Municipalities	Tourism	Riga Planning Region
M16	Financial	39,8	Development of tourism	Municipalities & Companies	Tourism	Ida-Viru County
M12	Financial	104,8*	Improvement of education	Education institutions	Infrastructure	Riga Planning Region
M13	Financial	75,6*	Increase in business activity	Municipalities	Infrastructure	Riga Planning Region
M17	Financial	8,3	Revitalization of underused areas	Municipalities	Infrastructure	Ida-Viru County

*Total available funds for the whole country (one OP), instead of region.

Research and Development

Out of the seventeen chosen measures, the primary objective of six measures is related to Research and Development, therefore, for the purpose of further analysis, they have been

grouped together. Five out of six measures are financial, while one includes both financial and methodological aspects.

Since measure objectives and planned results are similar, measures are relatively comparable, however a key dissimilarity is more than thousand-fold difference in amount of allocated funding, i.e., allocated funding ranges from 0.6 million euros to 1.9 billion euros.

The size of the measures can therefore assist in explaining the two key themes that can be found in the measure SWOT analyses - level of awareness and adequacy of funding. While low level of awareness as has been suggested as weakness for three of the measures, availability of information through different sources has been identified as a strength for the measure with the largest funding allocation. Furthermore, sufficiency of funding as a strength has been identified as strength for two measures with total funding allocation of over 50 million euros, while insufficient funding has been identified as a weakness for one of the measures with less than 20-million-euro budget.

While number of grants/supports given are the most common planned results among the five measures, complementary private investment and number of companies cooperating with research centres has been set as additional planned results for a number of measures.

Business Support

Out of the seventeen chosen measures, the objectives of six measures are either directly related to increasing business activity through business support institutions or indirectly, through development of such institutions as competence centres, clusters and business incubators. All of the measures are of financial type. Allocated funding for the measures ranges from 0.4 million euros to 25.8 million euros.

A common theme that appears is cooperation among various stakeholders. According to the analysis matrices, measures that support various business support institutions not only support the creation and development of companies and business coaching but also facilitate the communication between companies, academia and public sector including the politics.

Another common theme among the analysis matrices is long term survival of the business support institutions. These institutions are dependent on public funding, thus their long term success without identified measures might be a challenge. Finally, the difficulty to recruit people with relevant competences to the cluster organisations/competence centres was also mentioned.

Tourism

There are two measures in the selection that are directly related to the development of tourism in the coastal areas. For both measures the total funding is close to 40 million euros. While the support method for one of the measures is call for projects and strategies of municipalities, the other measure two stage open application. There are two common themes found in matrices and SWOT analyses of the two measures: one - key expected results of the development of tourism is increased demand for local businesses, two – possible synergies with other projects and measures.

Infrastructure

Three measures out of the selected sample are related to the development of infrastructure. They are all financial measures and funding for them ranges from 8.3 million euros to 105

million euros. For two of the measures the main recipients are local government while for the third – vocational educational institutions. One of the measures has an open application round, while two have calls based on development strategies.

4. Good practices in blue growth RIS3 implementation

4.1. Good practices in Baltic Sea regions

In order to bring together the best practices of PP regions in one document, each PP filled in matrices (Annex 2) and created descriptions for up to three to five best practices in their respective regions. In addition, experts carried out research for best practices in other Baltic Sea regions. This section of the report provides a short summary of the identified best practices. The numbers in brackets, for example – “P15”, shows number of the detailed best practice case description in Annex 2.

Sweden - Skane region

(P1) Competence Academy Tourism (CAT)

Competence Academy Tourism is collaboration between Tourism in Skane and Region Blekinge. The project is financed by ESF and its purpose is to offer education and increased competence in small companies within tourism. An IT-based model for analysing gaps between required versus actual level of necessary competences within each company is developed within the project. The competences are chosen by the companies themselves. Courses are offered to the companies based on these knowledge-gaps. Focus is on internationalisation, digitalisation and sustainability. The project started in January 2017 and will continue until fall 2019. 120 companies participate in the project and their knowledge level for the chosen competences as well as attitudes and knowledge within sustainable business will be measured in the beginning of the project as well as in 2019.

(P2) WISA (Water Innovation System Amplifier)

Test environment for water innovation and a research lab for waterworks and molecular analysis has been created in Kristianstad. The test environment is a project financed by European regional development fund and is in collaboration between Region Skåne, Kristianstad University, Kristianstad municipality and Scandinavian Aquasystems. The test environment also works in close collaboration with surrounding municipalities for experiment and testing. The research lab is a platform and lab for molecular analysis, diagnostics and research related to waterworks. It is a new lab set up by Kristianstad University, Kristianstad municipality, Krinova Incubator and Science Park and Chamber of Commerce. This lab makes support research and innovation in collaboration between the academy, public sector and business. The test environment and research lab are interconnected. Together they create new opportunities for a water related cluster with research and innovation for both business and academy.

(P3) Seafarm

Seafarm is an interdisciplinary research project which grows and uses macroalgae for many different purposes in a closed loop system that produces zero waste. A key aspect of this project is to assess the sustainability of the system. Everything is to be assessed, from the impact of algae farms on the environment to the benefits relative to the costs. Seafarm is a joint collaborative project between five universities in Sweden of which one is in Skåne region: KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Chalmers University of Technology, University of Gothenburg, Linnaeus University and Lund University. The Seafarm project is part of the Swedish Research Council Formas' targeted investment in the development of a bio-based economy. The project is being undertaken with industrial collaborators.

Poland - Pomorskie region

(P4) Pomorskie Smart Specialisation's (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)

PSSs Boards operates based on the agreement between the PSS's partnership and the Marshal. Article 10 of the above-mentioned agreement states that the board consist of 10 representatives (4 from research and support organisations, 6 from business) is elected by the partnership. The Board operates based on the rules of procedure established by the partnership and accepted by the Marshal of the Pomeranian Province. The major role of the Board is to coordinate the partners' activities aiming at successful implementation of the PSS as well as to ensure effective communication with the Marshall and potential newcomers.

(P5) Provision of advisory services, including the development of recommendations for the management of the process of entrepreneurial discovery and development of Smart Specialisation of Pomerania

The aim of the project is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness in the management of the regional entrepreneurial discovery process and further development of the SSP through professional consulting and on the basis of recommendations based on achieved results and conclusions. The report provides a summary of the first stage of the project consisting of diagnosis and development of the strategy of action concerning further Smart Specialization progress. Solutions developed in the first stage of the project will be used in the further work which concerns managing the process of entrepreneurial discovery.

In order to diagnose the situation in the first stage of the process Deloitte used the following research tools: desk research based on research papers obtained from various sources, in depth interviews (IDIs) conducted with representatives of all 4 specializations and coming from various institutions and circles (entrepreneurial, business environment institutions, academic and public sector), direct observation (participation in the SSP councils' meetings), survey and brainstorming.

(P6) Expansion through innovation – Support Grant

Action aimed at supporting R&D projects implemented by the company. Support is addressed to both large enterprises and SMEs, where it is possible to organize calls for dedicated solely one of the above groups of companies. R&D projects should include industrial research and development work or only development. In order to receive funding there is the commercialization of the results of R&D, understood as selling the results to other business entity. Support is directed to projects linked to the National Intelligent Specialization, including new specializations resulting from the process of entrepreneurial discovery.

(P7) Scale UP instrument of the “Start In Poland” program

ScaleUP is the first competition opened under the government's programme “Start In Poland”. The aim of the activity is to bring together the potential of novice, creative entrepreneurs with the infrastructure, experience and resources of large corporations, including state-owned companies.

The first stage of piloting was a selection of ScaleUP Accelerators - entities with experience in the implementation of acceleration measures. Then, in cooperation with large companies (state-owned companies will be preferred), corporate accelerators, such as seed / venture

capital or scientific units, are expected to implement comprehensive accelerated programs. Each program will support at least 20 start-ups.

(P8) The Association of Polish Maritime Industries FORUM OKRĘTOWE

The Association of Polish Maritime Industries FORUM OKRĘTOWE is an employers' union set in Poland in accordance with the Union Act.

FORUM OKRĘTOWE was established in 1993 as a result of the efforts undertaken to create a platform for multilateral business contacts among shipyards, their supply chain and other institutions experience their business in the shipbuilding sector. The initiator of the Association of Polish Maritime Industry FORUM OKRĘTOWE was Nestor of the Polish shipbuilding industry Professor Jerzy Wojciech Doerffer the first President of the Association.

FORUM OKRĘTOWE is a member of the SEA Europe (formerly CESA) an organization grouping the shipyards and ship equipment manufacturers from Europe and from Turkey. FORUM OKRĘTOWE is also a member of the Polish Confederation of Private Employers LEWIATAN.

The aim for FORUM OKRĘTOWE set in By-Laws lies in lobbying for suitable conditions enabling further development of the Polish shipbuilding industry, creating co-operation platforms for members of the Association and also protecting their common interests as well as representing them home and abroad.

Germany - Schleswig-Holstein region

(P9) Life Science Nord (cluster management for life sciences)

With a complete value chain – from basic and applied research, to clinical tests, to the market-ready end product – the Life Science Nord cluster offers a unique infrastructure: practically oriented researchers and clinical staff cooperate closely with partners in the industry to help innovative products and technologies make the breakthrough.

This engagement for the region is actively supported by Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein; both states are involved in the Life Science Nord Management GmbH with a 40% share each. This cluster agency coordinates a variety of activities, organises and participates in events, informs about news within the cluster, offers advice and initiates strategic projects for the development of innovative medicine. Furthermore, it brings together economy, research and politics in the north, activating expert knowledge from universities and research institutions as well as their close contacts with companies.

(P10) MCN (Maritime Cluster Northern Germany)

Five Northern German countries – one maritime cluster! The Maritimes Cluster Norddeutschland (MCN) promotes and develops cooperation in the Northern German maritime industry. It gives the maritime industry a voice, creates platforms so that stakeholders are able to interact with one and other and it also promotes interfaces with other industries – innovative, technology-oriented and forward-looking.

(P11) Cluster policy (in general)

The primary aim of Schleswig-Holstein's cluster policy is to bring together actors from business, research and politics so that they can work hand in hand. Cluster managements are established as a measure to foster the transfer of knowledge and skills, promote common

goals and shared ideas, and harness the potential for innovation across sectors and technologies.

(P12) Competence Centre Nanosystems Technology

The Competence Centre Nanosystems Technology was established in November 2013 at the Technical Faculty of the Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel, funded by ERDF. The competence centre uses the infrastructure of the nano laboratory Kiel, to allow users from industry access to most modern processes in nanosystems technology. Strong cooperation exists with spin-offs. Employees of the competence centre advise users of the laboratory during their work. University projects conducted in the laboratory are prepared for technological transfer in an early phase to ensure an efficient use of the results.

(P13) GEOMAR Biotech, National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture, Centre Industrial Biotechnology, Fraunhofer EMB (Society for Marine Biotechnology and Cell Technology)

Competence Centres are thematically connected to one or several scientific institutions and regional enterprises. Within Competence Centres professional expertise is produced and later transferred to regional enterprises.

As part of GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel (Germany), GEOMAR-Biotech (GEOMAR Centre for Marine Biotechnology) is a unique, state-of-the-art centre dedicated to outstanding research in marine biotechnology and biodiscovery and the transfer of research results to application.

The National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture is attached to the Gesellschaft für Marine Aquakultur (GMA) in Büsum. The objective of the GMA is to attend to and support the development of aquaculture, especially with respect to applied research in the field of marine aquaculture. This research facility was built in 2009 and is equipped according to the latest scientific and technical specifications.

The Centrum Industrial Biotechnology is an interdisciplinary research and technology platform at the University of Applied Sciences Lübeck. The Centre is pooling existing expert knowledge in the field of industrial biotechnology. In combining different competences, new research projects and services for innovations in business are developed.

The Fraunhofer Institution for Marine Biotechnology and Cell Technology is a member of the Fraunhofer Group for Life Sciences of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft and addresses the development of new technologies in the fields of cell technology and aquatic biotechnology. The biotechnological use of cells is the focus of the research and development projects which they advance in collaboration with industrial companies and clinics. Especially in the fields of therapy, diagnosis and prevention, new lab-devices are developed and possible cell-based applications for the hospitals are tested. With the scope on marine biotechnology and the application of molecular and cytological methods for aquaculture EMB works on topics regarding the future field bio-economy.

Finland - South-West Finland region

(P14) Bastu accelerating concept

Bastu is an acceleration program for innovative companies. The scarcity of natural resources is the main driving force behind 6th wave entrepreneurship, which will require a rethink

towards established conventions in innovative ways. As such, Bastu operates as a tool, platform and network. The program is a part of cooperation between the University of Turku and the City of Turku, which has the objective to promote circular economy. In practice Bastu means the creative amalgamation of entrepreneurs, Finland Futures Research Centres and Turku city's know-how to achieve solutions that support the idea of circular and 6th wave economy; new business innovations and the redirection of the operations of existing companies and also to develop further existing structures and processes. Bastu started on August 2015. It meets its partners once a month with effective workshops and collaboration, with the aim to find smart 6th wave business models. Solutions will be sought by making the traditional course and field of businesses debatable and by asking questions on whether there would be any new approaches that might be taken advantage of. Mentoring and sparring on the construction of 6th wave business is also a part of operations

(P15) Turku Future Technologies

Turku Future Technologies is a co-operation network between universities and companies in technology industry. Turku Future Technologies supports strategic development projects of the companies by speeding up development of products, production facilities and business management and by helping market entries with know-how expertise. It also provides a seamless model of co-operation for researchers and companies which leads to company-driven, multidisciplinary and profitable innovation collaboration. The Turku Future Technologies offers following services to companies: a) top people for research target specifications b) RDI projects c) professional services and training d) master thesis and internship e) global data search and summaries. The network consists of six universities and two universities of applied sciences, both from the region and beyond. The main focus is in Southwest Finland region, though. The biggest companies taking part to the cooperation are Meyer Turku (marine industry), Valmet automotive (car industry), HKSCAN (food industry) and Oras (sanitary fittings). The funders of the concept are the cities of Turku and Rauma as well as the Turku Science Park.

(P16) Lounaistieto

Lounaistieto is a regional information service operating in Southwest Finland. Lounaistieto shares information about maps, events, open data, statistics, geodata and up-to-date information about the development of the area. Lounaistieto service is meant to be used as a tool for entrepreneurs, students, municipalities, officials, media and the public. Lounaistieto also includes information about current status of key industry sectors in Southwest Finland. Lounaistieto data can be used to anticipate the future needs of the business (e.g. needs of skills). The development is coordinated by the Regional Council of Southwest Finland. It is being created together with multiple actors in Southwest Finland. Lounaistieto is funded by the city of Turku, three higher education institutes in Turku, Regional Council of South-West Finland and Regional Council of Satakunta, all which also acts as members in open data network of the region.

Latvia – Riga Planning region

(P17) (Kolkasrags) Cape Kolka - Sea, Land, Creativity of a human being

Cape Kolka (Kurzeme Planning Region, Latvia) is a meeting point, granted by the Nature. Here come together the seas and nations, the Human and the Nature. Thanks to public and

private funding that went together here in Cape Kolka, this place is alive all year round. The vision of Kolkas is to develop ecotourism based of values- ages, environment, nature and humans.

Cape Kolka today provides jobs for local people, internship opportunities for students, support for local craftsman, space for creative souls and recreation for families.

By contributing a fee for parking, locals and tourists are contributing for development of environmentally-friendly infrastructure – resting places, information stands, walking trails, signposts, litter bins, toilets etc. and high-quality jobs for local people.

(P18) “Saviļņojoša Vidzeme” (Wavy Vidzeme) – Tourism cluster. Platform of Municipalities and entrepreneurs to promote tourism development in Coastal area

Vidzeme coastal tourism cluster “Growing Vidzeme” was created to promote recognition of the coastal region worldwide, to prolong time of stay in the area, to reduce seasonal impact, to promote growth of supply quality and promote cooperation between stakeholders. Five coastal municipalities are involved- Aloja, Carnikava, Limbaži, Salacgrīva and Saulkrasti, and Association of tourism and entrepreneurs. The main task is to promote visibility of the region, give possibilities to develop tourism business, get new experience and knowledge.

(P19) Initiating full scale mussel farming in the Baltic Sea

Six farms in different parts of the Baltic Sea form the basis for the project. In Latvia, the farm will be established near western coast of the Baltic Sea. The aim is to advance mussel farming in the Baltic Sea from experimental to full scale.

To build up a commercially viable mussel farming value chain, it is not only necessary to develop suitable farming techniques for Baltic Sea conditions, but also to develop accepted mechanisms to compensate the ecosystem services provided by mussel farming.

The project’s main outputs will include: (1) Models and functional decision support tools on suitable farming sites and their production potential (2) Business plans and farming manuals for large scale mussel farms (3) A demonstration line for processing mussels into fish and poultry feed (4) A guide on licensing processes for mussel farming in the Baltic Sea Region, (5) Recommendations on harmonised maritime spatial planning and ecosystem service compensation measures.

(P20) Development through development of internationally significant cultural and natural heritage and related services

The case is based on approach how Latvian Ministry of Culture is implementing one of the EU Structural funds measure: Promote regional development stimulating sustainable development of internationally significant cultural and natural heritage and the related services. The key idea is to develop significant culture and natural heritage objects to develop services around it. In the framework of this measure, the special programme for coastal area is established.

The approach is developed in the close cooperation with the Ministry of Regional Development and National Heritage Inspection.

(P21) Integrated Territorial Investments in Jurmala city

Integrated Territorial Investments mean that the city chooses a degraded territory and revitalizes it as a whole using different positions from structural funds. In Jurmala, one of the areas to revitalize is Kemeris where famous SPA is located. With the investments, municipality improves infrastructure and provides area for business activities.

Estonia - Ida – Viru region

(P22) Centre of excellence in health promotion and rehabilitation

The Centre of Excellence in Health Promotion and Rehabilitation, founded in Haapsalu in 2012, is a region-specific developer of entrepreneurship, as well as a cooperation centre for the public sector, entrepreneurs and universities that function as the field's innovation centre and is based on a consortium of 15 partners. The idea behind creating the Centre of Excellence in Health Promotion and Rehabilitation is based on two competence areas traditional to Haapsalu and Lääne County: curative sea mud and mud treatment; mobility and operational capability.

(P23) Port of Sillamäe

Port of Sillamäe is the biggest private harbour in the Baltic Sea region. It is a multifunctional port with around 1500 employees. There are all kinds of services: customs cleaning, stevedoring, warehouses, expedition, real estate, Silport Truck Stop services, electronic border crossing, parking for 450 trucks, all custom services. There are 4 different terminals.

(P24) Small craft competence centre

The project started as the close collaboration between enterprises and educational institutions in 2000, when the Estonian small craft building had been revived from the crisis of the soviet times, shifting its goals from the traditional wooden shipbuilding to industrial small Kraft building, thus a shortage of skilled labour came up. One of the first achievements was the launch of the vocational curriculum of small craft building in the Vocational School in Kuressaare. In principle, the aim of the centre is achieved through 3 wider goals:

- bringing know-how into the regions
- providing them with a proper working environment and tools
- developing intersectoral cooperation.

Other Baltic Sea regions

(P25) Swedish Algae Factory

Swedish Algae Factory is a Gothenburg start-up that is developing algae-based wastewater treatment systems with the goal to process algae biomass into bio crude oil.

Their solution is based on a new strain of algae growing in the polar ice. The algae have a high lipid content making it usable for fuel production. It grows well in low temperature and low light conditions, which enables Nordic countries to produce algae biomass at industrial scale all year around.

(P26) Fishing gear diversification (Estonia)

This best practice case is important for many inhabitants in Coastal areas related to seasonal characteristics of SME. Small company by Diversifying its activities outside of the fishing season into the production of fishing gear and multi-purpose nets. The renovation and

equipping of an old shed to create a modern facility, powered with renewable energy was financed.

Besides a wide range of trap nets, gillnets, trawls, seines, creels, aquaculture equipment and signage flags, the company also produces other net products such as playground climbing nets, football net gates and tow ropes. All products are custom-made and meet the highest technical standards required for fishing gear.

(P27) The pathway to eco-certification (Sweden)

FiskOnline has established a pathway for local fishermen to gain certification for the sustainability for their fishing activities. FiskOnline helps fishermen to navigate this process, achieve accreditation and sell their catch online through e-platform.

Through the direct support of an experienced project coordinator, fishermen are given a clear understanding of what is required to achieve accreditation. They receive advice on improving the environmental sustainability of their fishing activities, handling practices and sales, and assistance in preparing applications to have local fish certified.

(P28) Proteins - The Green Gold of Baltic Sea Regions Bioeconomy

The project identifies alternative and sustainable protein sources such as beans, peas, green grass proteins, marine invertebrates, algae, insects etc. and identifies opportunities for developing new bioeconomy value chains based on such locally produced green proteins.

(P29) Integrated Blue Biotechnology Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

The case is related to the project that aims at supporting pan Baltic cooperation in the blue bioeconomy to foster Blue Growth and to develop sustainable bio-based value chains. It contributes to developing an integrated Blue Biotechnology strategy in the Baltic Sea Region for research and commercialisation of marine bio-based products and ecosystem services delivered by marine resources.

(P30) Fish skin- new trend!

The case is related to new approaches of business development. Unique business based on clothes industry- introducing not just sustainable business, but making new fabrics as trend. The fashion as a rolling element for developing circular economy. Introducing new trends is financed from private investments. In line with the objectives of a more circular economy, Nordic fashion designers are starting to take notice of the unique qualities of fish skin.

(P31) Production of edible seaweed species in Danish waters: the beginning of a new profession

The project involves cooperation between stakeholders from two Danish Fishery local action groups, for commercially exploiting seaweed, an overlooked resource in Danish waters.

By promoting the sustainable cultivation, harvesting and processing of seaweed, the project assisted in diversifying the local economies of the islands, thereby helping to maintain strong local populations and vibrant communities.

The project involves eight islands, five of which are members of the “Danish Small Islands Food Network”. Bornholm, one of the biggest Danish islands, was the founder and is an active member of the European Culinary Heritage Network.

(P32) Fish feed from wood

The case is related to initiatives in developing new products in bioeconomics. Best practice is built on private company case - Processum.

Processum started in 2003 and has developed into a leading biorefinery initiative, both on national and international level. The major part of the activities concern support and initiation of research and development regarding biotechniques, energy techniques, inorganic and organic chemistry and sustainable raw materials.

Together with other biorefinery initiatives along the northern coast of Sweden, Processum and the universities form an important hub for the development of such products as Single Cell protein (SCP). Production of single cell Proteins is based on using biomass as raw material. SCP are dried cells of microorganisms which can be used as dietary protein supplement. They can be used as animal feed and food for humans as well. Production of SCP is not a new product as several companies around the world are already doing this.

(P33) Sea food production - Circular production

The case is based on private company experience related to improvement of their production process to make it eco-friendlier. The company is growing trout in seawater. Their approach is to introduce recirculation of water to be used in production process to avoid negative affect on the environment.

Company has an innovative approach to water treatment. The sea water uses, both inside and outside the plant, can basically be entirely re-used in production. This minimizes emissions back into the sea. The basis of the RAS technology that is used is that the water in the round tanks circulates. RAS is a collective name for the recirculation technology that is used worldwide in modern, land-based aquaculture.

(P34) Development of tourism and education route

The case is based on cooperation project involving nine Polish Fishery Local Action groups and spanning three regions in the north of Poland: Western Pomerania, Pomerania, and Warmia and Mazury to develop a tourist trail – a tourism and education product which links and promotes attractions related to the fisheries heritage of three coastal regions in Poland.

The main objectives for the project:

- To develop the tourism potential of the fisheries areas by focusing on their fishing heritage;
- To bring together people, businesses and organisations involved in developing fisheries tourism;
- To facilitate an exchange of knowledge and experience between the participating FLAGs

4.2. Analysis of relevance and feasibility for Blue Growth

Based on the previously identified best practices, PP evaluated two to five best practices for the possibility for adapting in their regions according to the such defined factors as legal, operational and economic. The following section of the report provides a short summary of the feasibility studies done by the PP. For more details, please see Annex 3.

Sweden - Skane Region

Among the list of implementation measures and best practices Skane has chosen best practices that are in line with the regions ambitions regarding supporting clusters, platforms and networks. These kinds of measures are important for the region's implementation of RIS3 and good practices of how to use these measures effectively are of interest. Other kinds of measures, such as audits, do not have the same priority. Technological development within the industrial sector is important for the region, both when it comes to competitiveness, employment and economic development. The technological and educational level as well as competitiveness of the industry needs to be enhanced, and practices that can lead to such results are of great benefit. Lately, a potential lack of work force with relevant competence has been identified and found to be a critical success factor.

Table 3. Best practise cases that were identified as relevant for the Skane region

Name of measure or "best practice" case	Reasoning for choice of best practice
(P15) Turku Future Technologies	Turku Future Technologies is an interesting best practice, where technology industry would benefit from technological development. This could be an important initiative for future economic development and growth.
(P14) Bastu accelerating concept	The investment in this initiative should lead to positive socioeconomic return. Bastu is a tool, a platform and a network for a circular development. This is in line with Skåne's goals and suitable for the support system in the region.
(P32) Fish feed from wood	The practice could promote innovation through cooperation between research and business for a sustainable economic growth. Cluster, networks, platforms of development projects in cooperation with companies, connecting business and academy, is an important topic for Skåne's ambitions in RIS3.

Poland - Pomorskie Region

The following best practices has been selected for feasibility analysis: Life Science Nord (cluster management for life sciences) COMBINED with MCN (Maritime Cluster Northern Germany) – efficient cluster is supported by stable structure (process) [Schleswig-Holstein], GEOMAR Biotech, National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture, Centre Industrial Biotechnology, Fraunhofer EMB (Society for Marine Biotechnology and Cell Technology) [Schleswig-Holstein], "Saviļņojoša Vidzeme" (Wavy Vidzeme) – Tourism cluster, Platform of Municipalities and entrepreneurs to promote tourism development in coastal area. All of the practices have strong potential to be implemented in the Pomorskie as reliable foundation for their implementation already exists in the region (e.g., there are strong dedicated clusters, the initiative of concentrating blue R&D efforts started in 2011).

One should bear in mind that good practice descriptions are fairly generalized and, in order to be considered for implementation in the Pomorskie region, more detailed information on the rules for their functioning would be needed. It would be extremely valuable for Pomorskie to practice internationalization - especially in the maritime industry and to integrate it into the supply chain not only within the region but above all - in the international context.

Table 4. Best practise cases that were identified as relevant for the Pomorskie region

Name of measure or	Reasoning for choice of best practice
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“best practice” case	
(P9 and P10) Life Science Nord and Maritime Cluster Northern Germany	The new structure would address following threats/weaknesses identified in Pomorskie Regional Development Strategy: low effectiveness of an offer for external investors, unused scientific potential, low efficiency of R&D cooperation with the economy and poorly exploited institutional and infrastructural potential of BSO. It would also address weaknesses identified in the “Pomorskie Creativity Port”: Low efficiency of science and business cooperation, unsatisfactory level of commercialization and transfer of knowledge to economy, lack of effective system of dissemination and promotion of R&D&I offer, unsatisfactory level of BSO cooperation, lack of comprehensive, consistent, integrated support for entrepreneurs, insufficient cooperation in development initiatives.
(P13) GEOMAR Biotech, National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture, Centre Industrial Biotechnology, Fraunhofer EMB	Competence centre acting similar to GEOMAR (connected to one or several scientific institutions and regional enterprises, centre were professional expertise/innovative solutions are produced and transferred to regional enterprises) could first of all help to overcome regional weakness - Unused scientific potential, low efficiency of R&D cooperation with the economy and poorly used institutional and infrastructural support of entrepreneurship support. It could also help overcome other weaknesses such as: 1. Lack of pro-market approach to education programs at all levels of education, flexibly responding to the needs of the Pomeranian economy 2. Low activity and conservatism of SMEs in implementing innovations and realization of pro-development investments 3. The lack of promotion of deployment in the career path of a researcher 4. Lack of effective and flexible orientation of scientific work for implementation and cooperation with the economy
(P18) “Saviļņojoša Vidzeme” (Wavy Vidzeme)	Complex tourist cluster offer may support the regional development, prolongs the tourist-season (especially the demand created by older people significantly extends the tourist season – “silver economy”) and favour a better spread of domestic and inbound visitors.

Germany - Schleswig-Holstein Region

The Smart Blue Regions list of best practice measures contains a lot of interesting projects and institutions. Some, however, are not relevant for Schleswig-Holstein and all the others on first sight are not completely new or different from what already exists. Nevertheless, an exchange between listed best practice measures and stakeholders in Schleswig-Holstein might be very fruitful, however, more detailed information is necessary in order to figure out, what could be learnt. The five chosen measures can help in making RIS3 process better known among enterprises, in supporting start-up initiative, in developing tourism as an innovative sector and to foster technology transfer and research infrastructure for enterprises.

Table 5. Best practise cases that were identified as relevant for Schleswig-Holstein

Name of measure or “best practice” case	Reasoning for choice of best practice
(P4) Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)	RIS3 is not very well known among enterprises and actors in Schleswig-Holstein. Thematic Boards (e.g. in form of cluster managements) for each specialization field could bring RIS3 process closer to enterprises. The practice could bring more innovation and more participation of enterprises in the RIS3 process.

(P7) Scale UP instrument of the “Start In Poland” program	Start-ups have been recognised to be an important topic in Schleswig-Holstein, recently. Building up a start-up ecosystem is still in its beginning. Promoting successful start-ups, to generate innovation, economic development and jobs in Schleswig-Holstein.
(P1) Competence Academy Tourism (CAT)	Tourism is an important economic sector in Schleswig-Holstein, but not yet a specialisation field in our RIS3. Making tourism an innovative sector is a prerequisite for this change. The practice could support tourism as one of the most important economic sectors in Schleswig-Holstein.
(P2) WISA (Water Innovation System Amplifier)	There are no similar institutions in Schleswig-Holstein. A feasibility study for a new test environment has just been launched. Exchange with other institutions would be interesting and helpful.
(P14) Bastu accelerating concept	Start-ups have been recognised to be an important topic in Schleswig-Holstein, recently. Building up a start-up ecosystem is still in its beginning. Promoting successful start-ups, to generate innovation, economic development and jobs in Schleswig-Holstein.

Finland - South-West Finland Region

Selected best practices are directly linked to the updated smart specialisation strategy of the Southwest Finland. The strategy has three themes: 1) Blue Growth and industrial modernisation 2) life science and health technologies 3) innovative food value chains. The selected examples could especially support the cluster development in the region. Region is also interested in different management structures of RIS3 strategies and Pomorskie’s Smart Specialisation Board.

Table 6. Best practise cases that were identified as relevant for the South-West Finland region

Name of measure or “best practice” case	Reasoning for choice of best practice
(P4) Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)	Practice could strengthen region’s capabilities to attract external (EU) funding.
(P2) WISA (Water Innovation System Amplifier)	LOURA water cluster could act as an operational platform and has planned to start this type of co-operation model with regional stakeholders. Practice strengthens co-operation between universities and business, especially for SME’s new way to improve research.
(P9) Life Science Nord	Life Science cluster is strong in SWF. Co-operation in international level is needed. Could improve international co-operation with different stakeholders
(P10) Maritime Cluster Northern Germany	SWF could use MCN as an example for wider regional co-operation. Promotes contacts to other relevant industries and networks
(P13) GEOMAR Biotech, National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture, Centre Industrial Biotechnology, Fraunhofer EMB	Blue biotech is scattered both in universities and companies and more active collaboration is needed. Cooperation between universities and companies (especially start-ups) is needed to commercialize blue biotech innovations.

Latvia – Riga Planning Region

As there is no special strategy for Blue Growth or Smart specialisation in Riga Planning Region, potential for Blue Growth is based mainly on development of tourism, recreation and healthcare. There are, however, natural recourses and institutional and scientific potential for RIS3 development - mainly to increase the effectivity of using coastal and sea resources for economic development.

Chosen good practices are those that have potential to be implemented realistically - support for tourist and fishery business and initiation of business and science cooperation. As existing monetary support instruments are already highlighted for this planning period, there are all possibilities to plan initiatives for the future or find other sources of funding, as most of practices are not very expensive.

Table 7. Best practise cases that were identified as relevant for the Riga Planning region

Name of measure or “best practice” case	Reasoning for choice of best practice
(P16) Lounaistieto - regional information service operating in Southwest Finland	Chosen practice fully corresponds to existing OP measures implementation process, as it can be used as a tool for pooling and identifying the recourses. The chosen practice solves several challenges that are mentioned in Guidelines for Coastal spatial development ¹ . As Lounaistieto regional service is gathering mainly recourses that could or should be used to encourage economic activities, that platform would make positive economic result. Adding more data and statistics for more RIS3 or/and Blue Growth initiatives, the good practice could be a tool to achieve good result for project areas.
(P22) Centre of excellence in health promotion and rehabilitation	With the investments in tourism (also in rehabilitation and health) the centre of excellence as a good example from Haapsalu can be developed in RPR. The Centre of excellence in health promotion and rehabilitation could be significant stakeholder to develop coastal area of RPR and solve one the main challenge- short season for coastal tourism.
(P4) Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)	Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s boards could correspond to need of closer intersectoral cooperation between different OP stakeholders and implementers in Riga Planning region. If Smart Specialisation boards, would be established in RPR, there would be a body, that would work on informative support, awareness raising and making links between municipalities, business sector and science to positively affect economic growth in field of RIS3
(P1) Competence Academy Tourism (CAT)	The best practice corresponds to several OP and other coastal development strategies existing to encourage Blue Growth in RPR. With the increase of competence, especially digital, the good practice would open new business possibilities for existing offers, as well as developing new touristic products that can add additional value or be as the significant incensement of quality and availability for potential customers.

¹As Riga Planning Region does not have SWOT analysis, the Guidelines for Coastal spatial development <http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/3634> are used for Operational analysis.

Estonia - Ida – Viru Region

Project partners chose best practices according to what is interesting and necessary for Ida-Viru region and also for the country in general. The selected best practices are consciously chosen that they would not depend directly on legal requirements. It is not easy to choose the best practices because more information on how these programmes/ organizations work and how they function is needed. In Estonia many similar programmes are implemented, but it would be very interesting to see what differences are and what partner region can learn from them. Most interesting best practice is Pomorskie smart specialisation board. In Estonia and also in Ida-Viru Region, this is a very important aspect – we would like to continue development in smart economy field. We have already taken the first steps to take over this practice.

Table 8. Best practise cases that were identified as relevant for the Ida-Viru region

Name of measure or “best practice” case	Reasoning for choice of best practice
(P4) Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)	It will significantly strengthen the regional and international competitiveness and accelerate the growth of enterprises in the blue economy field; build network on specific smart specialisation theme. External (EU) funding, strategic, thought-out activities will help make the region (blue economy field) much more visible.
(P15) Turku Future technologies	Supports regional enterprises and cluster members to plan and adapt technology innovation. Cooperation between universities and business. Result is more innovative and extensive idea implementations
(P7) Scale UP instrument of the “Start In Poland” program	It is difficult to find and recruit top experts in some areas, such a programme helps to find innovative ideas and top experts. It will promote synergy of science and economy innovation support. Also improve international co-operation with different stakeholders.
(P1) Competence Academy Tourism (CAT)	Industry, cluster partners have the possibility to receive necessary services within the same county. Practice could increase international attractiveness.

List of best practices for further use in GoA 3.3

In the management and process section collaborative projects and platforms, as well as business support and development institutions and platforms (often mixed) that contribute to the overall goal, such as

- ✓ (P4) Pomorskie Smart Specialisation's (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS),
- ✓ (P15) Turku Future Technologies,
- ✓ (P1) Competence Academy Tourism (CAT),
- ✓ (P10) Maritime Cluster Northern Germany,
- ✓ (P13) GEOMAR Biotech, National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture, Centre Industrial Biotechnology, Fraunhofer EMB;
- ✓ (P7) Scale UP instrument of the “Start In Poland” program;
- ✓ (P14) Bastu accelerating concept.

were chosen by the regions as the most times feasible, i.e., chosen the most times, thus they are the most suitable practices for further analysis and are essential for further research and knowledge sharing.

Business innovations (such as Fish feed from wood) were often seen as a singular project, thus not among the most popular, but they are remarkable examples and experiences that could be taken into account in further research.

5. Assessment of relevance of blue growth for other sectors

Research has been carried out by analysing the conformity of implementation measures and best practice cases to the project scope (development of the Blue Growth fields: Energy, Machinery and Technology and Life Science & Blue Medicine, (incl. SPA and coastal tourism)) and identifying all other business sector that are positively affected.

Most of the examples (16 examples) are related to the implementation of various support centres, platforms, and management approaches for promoting Blue Growth. A strategic approach to the availability of funding for the implementation of various business and infrastructure projects (5 examples) also plays an important role among the good practices. For Blue Growth, according to the practices summarized by the project partners, there is also the development of coastal tourism concepts (2 examples) and port development (1 example).

A visualisation of the most commonly mentioned sectors that are affected by the analysed measures and best practices is available below²:



All examples of good practice offered by the project partners are characterized by an integrated approach to entrepreneurship, management and science institutions that have a positive impact on different sectors of the economy, as well as opportunities for developing existing and new business areas.

Analysing the content of positively affected business sectors, it appears that good practices have a primary positive impact on the maritime sector, which in turn has a positive impact on the shipping industry, including service providers, ports, port logistics, shipbuilding, ship repair and related industries, as well as offshore business.

Significant influence emerges on the relatively new concepts of economic development - bioeconomics and the circular economy, which has a positive effect on the Energy sector,

² List of identified sectors can be found in Annex 4. The more times the sector is mentioned in the measure and best practice descriptions, the larger is the size of the sector name.

where the development of new technologies, including eco-efficiency and reduction of energy consumption, plays an important role.

The impact of the development of new technologies, stimulated by the availability of funding and the development of forms of cooperation, the field of medicine and pharmacy is developing. According to the analysis, it contributes to coastal tourism and medical tourism as well.

Coastal tourism and the food industry are developing alongside with the increase in the common wealth, available infrastructure, and services. With the increase in the demand for bio-resources, the traditional areas such as fisheries, aquaculture and even agriculture are encouraged to grow, with emphasis on the start-up development.

With new technologies and the diversification of the use of biomaterials, such areas as the clothing and fashion industry have also been identified as having a positive impact, while such industries provide a positive impact on the blue growth sectors. It should be acknowledged that these trends are related to ecological considerations, where new solutions are sought in the context of the circular economy (use of surplus) and the provision of new ecological solutions on the market, for example in the field of eco-technology construction, the creation of new materials, including through nanotechnologies.

While Blue Growth has a great influence on the development of IT and the digital economy, these industries also have a positive effect on the Blue Growth industries. This is largely determined by the evolution of the new economic paradigm towards trends in the digitization of the general economy.

With Blue Growth, logistics and transport industry are positively affected. As support mechanisms described by project partners are generally flexible enough for any business development without focusing on the development of smart or knowledge-intensive economic areas.

Analysing the impact of Blue Growth on the development of other business sectors it was found out that coastal development policies in the Baltic Sea Region have a significant impact on different sectors of the economy:

- ✓ traditional sectors (like seafaring, food, fishing);
- ✓ contemporary sectors (IT industry, technology sector);
- ✓ developing industries (bioeconomy, circular economy).

Blue Growth does not only promote the development of sustainable and innovative economic sectors, but also maintain traditional activities. Blue Growth has become and it has the potential to become an even more important driving force of the economy in coastal areas.

6. Conclusions and suggestions

Success of Blue Growth

It can be concluded that the success of the Blue Growth concept in every region is highly dependent on the efforts made by local, regional and national authorities, the effectiveness of supporting agencies and the awareness raising for existing and new entrepreneurs. All involved parties and institutions should continue the development of the created instruments with the objective of achieving the common objectives of the European Union and increasing the competitiveness of the whole BSR.

Measures

In general, analysed measures offer great opportunities for the development of both regions and enterprises. In most of the evaluated regions, however, measures are not specifically dedicated to Blue Growth.

There are clear differences in relation to the volume of finance, the scale of projects and the way of supporting planning initiatives - starting with the calls of proposals, strategies, and provision of methodology. There are also different approaches how the target groups are reached - directly (open calls) or indirectly via close project calls, infrastructure development and investments in research for scientific institutions.

The main challenges raised in the surveys were related to support tool openness towards its beneficiaries, complication of project calls, long term policy planning, sustainability of newly established companies and marketing of new/innovative products as well as of complementarity of new business to already existing industries.

Best practices

The numerous examples of best practices found in Section 3 of this report clearly illustrate the great diversity and broad impact of Blue Growth approaches.

Several best practices have shown that growth of coastal economies is not only based on the resources of the sea itself (such as mussels and fish), but also on the efficient use of coastal special areas (for example, tourism and health).

Economic sectors

Growth of coastal economies has an impact on a wide range of industries, including food, tourism and health sectors, as well as in higher education and science. Furthermore, numerous examples have shown the importance of cooperation among different sectors.

Suggestion No 1 – Spreading the experience for further development of the BSR

It can be concluded that the various regions analysed are currently not working at the same speed on the smart specialisation and Blue Growth development. On one hand, some regions are clearly focused on the governance, cooperation at regional and international level, commercialisation and research. On the other hand, other regions are working on the basic infrastructure and accessibility. It can therefore be expected that there will be vanguard regions in the near future that will lead in smart specialisation and Blue Growth development, hence inequality reducing mechanisms are crucial for the development of the whole BSR.

The recommendation for Project partner regions is to further explore the experience of other regions, both at the level of implementation measures and best practice cases. It is advisable to explore the most popular and necessary cases in detail in the next project stages, and, as far as possible, invite representatives to present their success stories and visit them;

Suggestion No 2 – Better engagement of small local entrepreneurs

During the analysis of best practices, it was identified, that there are many great examples of projects and initiatives that are led by the public sector. Nevertheless, many of the local innovations have been created in micro and small companies, hence growth of coastal economies should be invigorated at various economic levels, starting from small start-up companies to large corporate associations, each of which contributes to the economic development of marine regions.

Many of the companies have innovated in the traditional economic sectors through the use of their internal resources, however they do not have the human and financial capacity to take part in project competitions, cooperation networks, etc., that would allow them to attract scientific resources. Greater focus on these companies in relation to the smart development concept would not only improve innovation and new idea implementation, but would also support greater contribution to the social innovation and inclusiveness. Attention must also be paid to the marketing and sales process. Innovative small scale entrepreneurs do not always have a vast business development experience and may need support when introducing their products to the market.

Suggestion No 3 – Raising the awareness of importance of smart specialisation and blue growth

Another noticeable difference that was observed among the regions is the policy makers' approach to measure planning. While in some partner regions, local policy makers are putting great focus on the smart development of the regions, in others regions direct focus on EU fund investments and the relevant conditions can be observed. It is therefore recommended that the awareness of importance of smart development is raised amongst policy makers at all levels– local, regional and national. It is important to consider the local context, traditions and resources during regional smart specialisation strategy development. EU funds, however, may not be flexible enough to adapt to the needs and advantages of the each region.

Suggestion No 4 – Focusing on strengths

It can be concluded that there is wide range of economic sectors that are affected by Blue Growth and smart specialisation. On the one hand, this can be considered as a positive effect, since, among other benefits, this allows for the industries to develop based on the market demand. On the other hand, lack of focus could lead to too excessive spreading of resources, reducing support for the activities with the greatest socioeconomic return.

Consequently, regions should not try to simultaneously target too many innovative technologies or economic activities, but rather consider the available resources, size of the region and its strengths within the broader international context.

Public sector investments should primary be made in sectors, that:

- complement the regions traditional sectors;

- that can compete on a broader scale, i.e., outside of the region while not creating excessive local competition;
- support the economy in solving new challenges, e.g., climate change and its impact on workplaces, technology change.

Suggestion No 5 – Defining a new type of intermediary function


Throughout the project, “clusters” have been discussed. However, there is no uniform structure for the regions cooperation with the clusters. But it seems like many regions identify the same challenges such as difficulties getting the SME to be engaged in collaborations, difficulties recruiting people with relevant competence to the cluster organisations or competence centres, financing models of clusters and innovation projects not necessarily leading to regional growth.

An intermediary function will be crucial for building interregional competitive value chains, which is the core of the smart specialization concept.

Per definition “clusters” act in a clearly specified and limited geographical area. For building competitive value chains, intermediaries that works cross-border and cross-sector are needed. This issue needs to be investigated thoroughly discussed and a new model shall be defined.

Business development will be the main focus for this new type of intermediary function. Since implementation of smart specialization strategies is a regional responsibility and necessary for regional development, the regions should be prepared to finance the intermediary.

Annex 1 - Attachments on measure analyses

		(M1) General information	
Name of OP	Skåne-Blekinge		
No. of specific objective in OP			
Name of measure	Promoting models, knowledge and methods for needs-driven and market-based development and innovation		
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Broad measure, including both financial and methodological aspects		
Detailed description			
Planned activities	Scaling up engagement in Vanguard Initiative “Advanced Manufacturing (ADMA) for Energy Related Applications in Harsh Environments” as well as in other pilots.		
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Call for grants, working groups, action programs, innovation strategy		
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	1 man year work effort and Vanguard fee Financing Vanguard fee 10 000 €, Financing Blue Cluster (160 000 € 2017)		
Identification/listing of groups:			
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP	
Region Skåne	Swedish Maritime Technology Forum	Companies: Suppliers of services and products to the maritime technological sector	
Results			
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)			
Conformity to policy			
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	The Vanguard Initiative Pilot “Advanced Manufacturing (ADMA) for <u>Energy</u> Related Applications in Harsh Environments”, short the ADMA Energy Pilot, was launched in June 2014 with the objective to make the EU the global leader in the development and production of robust, high integrity and cost-competitive equipment, components, systems and services for applications related to <u>offshore energy</u> in the most demanding environments from a whole life cycle perspective. The ambition of the Efficient and Sustainable Manufacturing pilot is to address multiple enabling technologies in a systemic perspective, making available an infrastructure that is currently not existing, due to its complexity and to the high innovation level of the industrial applications for which it is conceived, constituting a neutral and		

	cooperative playground for cross-sectorial and interregional collaboration, facilitating the access to state of the art and newest process technologies to all European manufacturing environment.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	<p>The participation in Vanguard is helpful from several perspectives in implementing RIS3 as well as our Innovation Strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It has made us carefully map companies relevant for the sectors/s in question and to gain a good overview where the strengths are. 2. It has led to companies getting to know each other and elaborating further collaboration/business potentials. 3. It has enhanced the international links, exchange and collaboration and led to a considerable learning on transregional value chains 4. It has facilitated the establishment of consortia for specific applications to EU funds 5. It has strengthened the possibilities to join forces in influencing the EU COM and other players.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It is needs, challenge and market driven – and at the same time links these drivers to key technologies and a cross-cutting (cross-border, cross sector) perspective and work methods, opening up options to gain forces, build consortia, pool resources and mobilize financing. ✓ It is demand driven and therefore puts the companies in the driver seat. ✓ Interesting for companies in general to expand their collaboration level, providing opportunities for them to meet new partners. ✓ Allowing for positive synergy in the offshore wind value chain, facilitating stronger interaction between project developers, suppliers, and partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It is dependent on sufficient resources under a period of years. You have to decide whether you go for it fully or your better skip your intention, rather than working with low ambitions and disappointing companies after you have created expectations. ✓ Another weakness is that the financial support structure for this kind of initiatives is not well developed. A key barrier to financing is a lack of specific funds to finance the activities carried out by Pilot – and the difficulties tend to increase when we are looking for financing for industrial development projects. Above all, regions note that there is no European funding program focused on these types of initiatives. There are of course some programmes – such as INTERREG – which can finance some Pilot-related activities, but these activities are not often always eligible on closer.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The Vanguard Initiative and its specific pilot dealing with offshore energy is driven by a political commitment made by regions to use their smart specialisation strategy to boost new growth through bottom-up entrepreneurial innovation and industrial renewal in European priority areas. The political engagement to position the smart specialisation agenda at the centre of the EU’s drive for new growth is based on a firm belief that entrepreneurship and common policy goals will provide the stimulus for revitalising European industrial growth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We cannot identify any outspoken negative side effects or threats of the measure as such, however the financing issue is as always not easy. The threat is also, not getting the companies in the driver seat, if do not manage to create an attractive business agenda. ✓ The measure may awake expectations within the group of companies involved, which may get disappointed if the process is characterized by great words but less action and if the intermediaries/BSO lack industrial/business competence.

<p>✓ This Vanguard Initiative has its foundations at the regional level. EU regions are the closest policy link to the bottom-up growth dynamics necessary for the renewal of our industrial fabric through their proximity to innovative partnerships and clusters. Such partnerships and clusters form eco-systems that are the catalyst for fast-growing innovative SMEs. Regional innovation ecosystems can and do develop solutions for significant societal challenges while delivering on the EU's ambitions for improved international competitiveness.</p> <p>✓ The Vanguard Initiative seeks to lead by example in developing interregional cooperation and multi-level governance for supporting clusters and regional eco-systems to focus on smart specialisations in priority areas for transforming and emerging industries. Vanguard regions want to build the synergies and complementarities in smart specialisation strategies to boost world-class clusters and cluster networks, in particular through pilots and large-scale demonstrators. These investments will strengthen Europe's competitive capacity to lead in new industries in the future and develop lead markets that offer solutions to our common challenges.</p> <p>✓ The Measure provides considerable opportunities for positive cross sectoral effects, as example the transfer of solutions and technological applications to new contexts, leading to new break through situations. It also provides for pooling of resources in between regions and their players, making it possible to work on new pathways, otherwise impossible. The measure also helps the region in the ambitions to enhance the international & interregional cooperation according to the regional innovation strategy</p>	<p>✓ Thus you must ensure that you can create business cases or show that there are some in the end of the process.</p>
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(M2) General information

Name of OP	National Operational Programme Smart Growth	
No. of specific objectives in OP	Action 1.1.1	
Name of measure	Industrial research and development work carried out by the company	
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial	
Detailed description		
Planned activities	<p>Action aimed at supporting R&D projects implemented by the company. Support is addressed to both large enterprises and SMEs, where it is possible to organize calls for dedicated solely one of the above groups of companies. R&D projects should include industrial research and development work or only development. In order to receive funding there is the commercialization of the results of R&D, understood as selling the results to other business entity. Support is directed to projects linked to the National Intelligent Specialization, including new specializations resulting from the process of entrepreneurial discovery.</p> <p>1.1.1 - Funding is provided for projects that include industrial research and development work or development (projects that do not provide development cannot obtain financing).</p> <p>The beneficiary may delegate the implementation of part of the R&D project to a subcontractor. The value of the work carried out on the basis of subcontracting cannot exceed the thresholds set out in the regulations of competitions (usually 50% of the project value).</p>	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	call for projects	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	<p>Total allocation: EUR 1 879 958 563</p> <p>Maximum level of EU funding of eligible expenditure at project level: max. 25% - 80% (according to the possible granting aid intensities).</p> <p>Minimum beneficiary's own contribution as a % of eligible expenditure: min. 20% -75% (As possible to grant aid intensity).The minimum and maximum value of the project: The minimum value will be determined in the rules of competition (separate for each competition). Not expected to finance major projects within the meaning of art. 100 of the General Regulation.</p>	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP

Ministry of Economic Development Implementing Authority: National Research and Development Centre	Entrepreneurs	Entrepreneurs
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	<u>The list of direct results indicators:</u> The increase in employment in the supported enterprises O / K / M [EPC] (CI 8) The number of patent applications filed Number of implemented results of R&D Revenue from implemented the results of R&D <u>List of output indicators:</u> Number of enterprises receiving support The number of small and medium-sized enterprises receiving support Number of enterprises receiving grants Private investment complementary public support for enterprises (grants) Number of enterprises cooperating with research centres The number of ongoing R&D work Number of enterprises supported	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	The measure is open for all National Smart Specialisations, thus also for the all blue growth fields identified in the SBR project.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	National Smart Specialisation No 20 is the same as Pomorskie ISP1- “blue specialisation”	

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Many sources of information about the measure. Effective promotion. ✓ Optimal time period for the submission of applications. ✓ Clearly understandable rules regarding the application process. ✓ Thematic scope of funding coherent with the needs of BLUE entities. ✓ The level of project funding is rather sufficient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Difficult contact with the staff of the implementing institution. ✓ Larger enterprises and experienced applicants are better treated (favoured). ✓ There are signals that experts are not always disinterested.

Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The financing from this measure allows for implementing innovative projects without which most of them will not move at all. ✓ Increasing the level of innovation of the company and the region. ✓ Modernisation of local enterprises. ✓ Increase in the competitiveness of companies and the region. ✓ Revitalization of international cooperation of local businesses. ✓ Employment growth in the region; ✓ Speeding up the development of the company that received the subsidy and the companies that are employed as subcontractors in the implementation of the project. ✓ It allows the beneficiaries to carry out specialized research and innovative ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Threat of stopping enterprise development after project completion. ✓ Too high maintenance costs after the project is over because the equipment is not being used. ✓ Risk of reckless spending and wasting of funds.


(M3) General information	
	
Name of OP	Pomorskie Regional Operational Programme
No. of specific objective in OP	Action 1.1.1.
Name of measure	Expansion through innovation - Support Grant
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial
Detailed description	
Planned activities	<p>Main objective: Increased activity of research and development companies.</p> <p>It will be possible to obtain support for the entire design process from the research phase - through pilot lines and actions in the field of product validation - to the first phase of production. The call will also support the various phases of the design process, provided that the sole object of the project may not be the first stage of production.</p> <p>Support will be directed also to gain exclusive rights to proprietary technological solutions, including obtaining protection of industrial property in foreign markets, as well as the creation and development of the R&D, including the purchase of specialized equipment and laboratory equipment.</p> <p>Purchase and implementation by the company of the results of R&D in order to develop them and intellectual property rights (patents, licenses, know-how or other unpatented technical knowledge) may also be supported.</p> <p>It is expected that the support will be also given to new firms (seed companies) working in high-tech sectors.</p> <p>Support will also be directed at research and implementation projects aimed at the commercialization of the results, carried out by R&D institutions in cooperation with business.</p> <p>Advanced research services provided by R&D units to companies in accordance with the demand reported by these companies will also be supported.</p> <p>The preferred projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) partnerships (strengthening networking), 2) resulting from the Agreements for smart specialization of the region, 3) in the field of technologies contributing to the saving of raw materials and energy and reducing the emission of harmful substances into the environment, 4) in the case of large companies taken together with SMEs or providing for cooperation with SMEs, non-governmental organizations and research institutions, 5) related to the Pomeranian projects implemented under the Polish Roadmap for Research

	Infrastructures (PMDIB). In the case of intervention led directly to the EUSBSR objectives, projects in partnership with companies from the Baltic Sea Region will be preferred.	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	call for projects	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	total amount: PLN 83 217 222 [EUR 1 = PLN 4,3] per project: has not been established	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Pomorskie Marshal Office Department of Economic Development Implementing Authority – Pomeranian Development Agency	<p>a) for the types of projects 1), 2), 3) and 5) and 6) – business and entrepreneurs in possible partnerships with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other entrepreneurs, - Research units, - Universities, - Business Environment Institutions, - Chambers of commerce and business organizations, - Non-governmental organizations, - Other research institutions or work development. <p>b) type of projects 4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research institutions, including universities, in collaboration with entrepreneurs. <p>c) type of projects 7):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research units, - Universities, - Business Environment Institutions 	<p>1) entrepreneurs implementing innovative solutions and / or conducting R&D works and / or using the services of units of R&D;</p> <p>2) innovative start-ups, universities and R&D entities cooperating with companies in the enforcement and practical implementation of research results and the development and / or possessing their results.</p>
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	Indicators to be achieved:	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Number of enterprises receiving support; 2) Number of enterprises receiving grants; 3) Private investment complementary public support for enterprises (grants); 4) Number of enterprises cooperating with research centres; 5) Number of supported research laboratories.
Conformity to policy	
<p>Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism</p>	<p>Call is open to projects related to the smart specialization, thus to the development of blue growth fields too. Projects must contribute to the development of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Off-shore, port and logistics technologies → Sea Machinery and Technology; 2. Eco-effective technologies in the generation, transmission, distribution and consumption of energy and fuels, and in construction → Energy; 3. Medical technologies in the area of civilization and ageing-associated diseases → Life Science & Blue Medicine; 4. Interactive technologies in an information-saturated environment.
<p>Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy</p>	<p>Call is open to projects related to the Pomorskie smart specialization only. Pomorskie innovations are implemented by a small percentage of Pomeranian businesses, therefore the main task of intervention in Action 1.1.1 is spreading pro-innovation behaviour in the wider population of enterprises, in particular in relation to using specific potentials of the region and better linking of private spending and public intervention in this field.</p>

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Thematic scope of funding coherent with the needs of BLUE entities. ✓ Optimal time period for the submission of applications. ✓ Taking into account signals from applicants by the implementing authority, improvement of procedures in subsequent calls and selections of evaluation experts. ✓ Competent staff of an implementing authority, available and helpful. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Applicants receive information about the tool through their own searching (poorly developed distribution channels for information of new calls). ✓ Both the applicants and the implementing institution state that the rules specifying the conditions for applying for funds are incomprehensible and require further clarification. ✓ Too long waiting time for the financing decision. ✓ Experts evaluating the projects not always know the specifics of the industry - some of applicants underestimate/questioned their competencies. ✓ Too detailed documentation to submit with the application. ✓ Difficult to prepare material-financial schedule; ✓ Not enough information meetings for potential applicants. ✓ Public institutions, larger enterprises and experienced applicants are better treated (favoured).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The level of project funding is not always sufficient.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The financing from this measure allows for implementing innovative projects, without which most of them will not move at all. ✓ Speeding up the development of the company that received the subsidy and the companies that are employed as subcontractors in the implementation of the project. ✓ Increasing the level of innovation of the company and the region. ✓ Modernisation of local enterprises. ✓ Increase in the competitiveness of companies and the region. ✓ Revitalization of international cooperation of local businesses. ✓ Employment growth in the region. ✓ Promotion of a region as such that facilitates business innovation. ✓ Stimulation of seeking new innovative ideas for the region and companies. ✓ Increasing the competitiveness of the regional market against the European background. ✓ Increase in research. ✓ Affecting the growth of international trade (new products for which demand is abroad). ✓ Commercialisation and wide use of the effects of projects in the region - an increase in the number of implementations. ✓ The creation of local brands recognized internationally. ✓ Entities integration – cooperation. ✓ Acquisition of new customers and new markets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reducing employment in the region after project completion. ✓ Threat of stopping enterprise development after project completion. ✓ Additional financial resources on the market can distort its funding and hinder the development of companies that do not benefit from these funds.

(M4) General information		
		
Name of OP	OP ERDF in Schleswig-Holstein 2014-2020	
No. of specific objective in OP	1b	
Name of measure	Cluster development / funding	
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial	
Detailed description		
Planned activities	This measure focuses on the qualitative development and establishment of professional cluster structures. Cluster managements are central contact points of certain business sectors, giving advice and arranging contacts between cluster members. In addition the management supports the cooperation projects in their initial phase.	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Funding in form of grants	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	5,6 million Euro (total amount) Personnel and material costs including costs for marketing and events	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Ministry of Economic Affairs, Employment, Transport and Technology Schleswig-Holstein	Enterprises	(1) existing cluster managements (2) Cluster Development Unit of the Business Development and Technology Transfer Corporation of Schleswig-Holstein
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	number of new members in clusters: 60	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	1 Maritime Cluster Northern Germany (Machinery & Technology) 2 Life Science North (Life Science & Blue Medicine) 3 Renewable Energies (Energy) 4 Digital Economy (Energy, Machinery & Technology) 5 Food Region (Life Science & Blue Medicine)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate	The five themes of clusters are at the same time the five specialisation fields nominated in the	

how the measure helps implement strategy	RIS3 Schleswig-Holstein. The cluster structures are supposed to support SMEs with regard to knowledge and technology transfer and in establishing cooperation between members.
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Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Clusters reflect specialisation fields of Schleswig-Holstein and help them to get more visible. ✓ Clusters bring together actors from business, science and politics. ✓ Most enterprises in Schleswig-Holstein are SMEs → Cluster funding is oriented towards their needs; together with partners SME can realise ideas/ projects they could not do alone. ✓ Cluster manager know the right person to talk to and bring together suitable project partners. ✓ Some clusters also include other German “Länder” to get access to an even broader variety of actors. ✓ Within clusters, trust is built up, therefore long-term stability in staff and continuity of funding, in thinking and concerning cooperation is needed (one cluster benefits from structural funding). ✓ It is a good instrument for politics to cooperate closely with science and business and to get first-hand information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Most clusters only get project funding for a limited period, sustainability and long-term planning security are not given. ✓ Clusters with several “Länder” struggle in some cases with diverging interests. ✓ Politics could use clusters better for strategical decisions. ✓ Clusters in Schleswig-Holstein have different organisational forms. Some are more efficient than others. ✓ The positive effects of clusters cannot be shown in numbers (soft factors). ✓ The choice of topics for clusters is limited by RIS3 specialisation fields. ✓ Clusters depend on volunteers among members. Very small enterprises/ start-ups cannot afford to spend a lot of time for volunteering. ✓ Regional politics seem to support clusters because it is a current trend, not because they are convinced it is the right measure → this seems to change slowly.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ SME benefit most from clusters. ✓ Clusters develop innovative formats for events. ✓ Clusters are engaged in qualification/ education programs. ✓ Spin-offs from clusters exist. ✓ Permanent dialogue forum between politics, science and business. ✓ Clusters enhance technology transfer. ✓ Clusters enable joint projects that one single enterprise could never do alone. ✓ Clusters initiate surveys, books, research on clusters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Clusters are focused on developing the whole sector in Schleswig-Holstein. They do not help single enterprises. This has to be understood by members. ✓ Being member of a cluster does not automatically lead to benefits for the enterprise, cooperation and effort is needed. ✓ Whenever public money is spent, it has to be proven that it is spent for the right thing. ✓ Clusters compete with business associations having a longer tradition, higher fees and no public funding.

(M5) General information

Name of OP	OP ERDF in Schleswig-Holstein 2014-2020	
No. of specific objective in OP	1a	
Name of measure	Competence Centre	
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial	
Detailed description		
Planned activities	Competence Centres are thematically connected to one or several scientific institutions and regional enterprises. Within Competence Centres professional expertise is produced and later transferred to regional enterprises.	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Support is provided in form of grants	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	5,5 million Euro (total amount) Eligible costs are mainly material and personnel costs as well as investment costs	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Ministry of Economic Affairs, Employment, Transport and Technology Schleswig-Holstein	Enterprises and research institutes	(1) existing Competence Centres (2) research institutes, willing to build up a new Competence Centre
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	Increasing number of employees in the public sector in R&D	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	Competence Centres in Schleswig-Holstein linked to blue growth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Society for Marine Aquaculture (Life Science & Blue Medicine) - Fraunhofer Institution for Marine Biotechnology (Life Science & Blue Medicine) - GEOMAR Biotech (Life Science & Blue Medicine) - Centre for Industrial Biotechnology (Life Science & Blue Medicine) - Competence Centre Renewable Energies (Energy) - Competence Centre Power Electronics (Energy, Machinery & Technology) - Competence Centre Nano Systems Technologies (Energy, Machinery & Technology) 	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	Within the RIS3 Schleswig-Holstein the “expansion of business related R&D infrastructure using competence centres to further develop core competences” was defined as a smart	

specialisation topic.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Competences in an innovative technological field are concentrated within the centre and get more visible → regional reputation of this technology/ topic rises. ✓ Central contact point for enterprises. ✓ Funding for project management and public relations is provided. ✓ Structure improves communication between actors. ✓ Cooperation projects between universities and enterprises are developed and enhanced ✓ The establishment of competence centres goes along with detailed analyses of the technological field → those information are helpful for future development. ✓ Competence centres are attached to universities, research institutes or private enterprises → the double function allows using different funding sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Competence centres are project funded – 3x3 years, afterwards they are expected to be self-sustaining. ✓ Funding for project management is difficult to acquire from non-public sources. ✓ The more external financing is acquired the less public money is provided → this does not motivate to apply for external money. ✓ Projects have to be pre-financed but the financial background of competence centres is low. ✓ It is easier to apply for a competence centre than for other measures. Some “so called” competence centres in reality are consortia projects or something else. ✓ The success of competence centres depends highly on the sector and the business structure behind it.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The competence centres enable scientists and enterprises to build-up relationships of trust to do cooperative projects. ✓ Universities benefit from possibilities of application. ✓ Enterprises benefit from innovation/scientific results. ✓ Jobs for highly skilled people are created, even in peripheral regions. ✓ Excellent scientific conditions develop, high reputation, competitiveness of the regional research landscape rises. ✓ Cross topics with a variety of possible applications are in the focus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It is difficult to predict, which technology/ topic will be important in future. Sometimes wrong ones are chosen and supported for a while. ✓ Competence centres depend on political decisions and funding might end any time. ✓ Competition of competence centres → at the beginning 13 were funded, now only 7 are left.

(M6) General information

Name of OP	Sustainable growth and jobs 2014 - 2020 - Finland's structural funds programme
No. of specific objective in OP	3.2.
Name of measure	Developing renewable energy and energy-efficient solutions
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial
Detailed description	
Planned activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Supporting the development and commercialisation of low-carbon products, services and production methods and introduction of new technologies while taking a demand and user-centred approach and considering the environmental cost of the products' life cycle; – Supporting the prototypes, piloting and demonstrations of new low-carbon products, materials and production methods; – Supporting innovative solutions and reviews that are central to implementing low-carbon strategies; – Developing low-carbon transport systems and forms of travel; – Developing innovations and technologies that improve the energy-efficiency of living; – Creating regional networks and forms of cooperation that support making use of material and energy flows. <p>One of the aims of the measures is to promote increasing the share of renewable energy and local energy sources and encouraging energy- and material-efficiency. Improving energy- and material-efficiency aims to support R&D&I activities and business operations promoting production processes, practices and products that reduce negative climate effects. These measures will improve the PA1 objectives such as competitiveness of SMEs by, for example, enabling low-carbon and sustainable environmental business operations and the introduction of new, more energy-efficient technologies and innovations that produce a smaller environmental impact. Particular attention will be paid to increasing and diversifying the use</p>

	<p>of renewable energy sources and local energy, which will also lead to improved energy self-sufficiency. Regional solutions, pilots and new operational models to create these will be needed in order to improve energy- and material-efficiency and the production and use of renewable energy. Energy- and material-efficiency can be improved in, for example, industrial symbioses, which brings different operators together to make use of minor flows and develop models and solutions concerning circular economy.</p> <p>Measures support shared practices, terminology, tools and networks in order to improve the quality of innovation environments and developing new types of procurement tools, market dialogue methods and environmentally friendly tools to help solve problems faced by the public sector. Measures include pilot projects that are related to the challenges faced by towns and cities (traffic, health, local services, etc.). Measures will target the development of new operational models and innovations that promote sustainable acquisitions.</p>	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Projects	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	Total EU and state funding: 584 811 € Of which blue growth related projects: 416 114 €	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY (Blue projects)	TARGET GROUP
Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council	Turku University of Applied Sciences Project: <i>Solarleap</i>	Enterprises located in South-West Finland that are using solar power or that are planning to do so. Indirectly energy companies.
Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council	University of Turku (main), Turku University of Applied Sciences, Häme University of Applied Sciences Project: <i>Soiled Plastic Waste - collecting and recycling</i>	Farms, companies producing or recycling plastic waste, nature
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	In the long run, the aim is to speed up and intensify major structural changes that move towards low-carbon solutions required by the ambitious energy and climate targets in cities and urban areas.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure	Renewable energy, recycling.	

contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	On the basis of national and regional strategies of smart specialisation, investments are allocated for the development of the regions' strong sectors and identifying sectors facing change.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Chance to try new things. ✓ Carbon free innovations and sustainable solutions. ✓ University-business cooperation. ✓ Supports internationalization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Not possible to support SMEs directly. ✓ Conflict between goals and ways to achieve them.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The development of operational environment a possibility for enterprises. ✓ Growing of clean tech business. ✓ Supplementary financing from ESF. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Generic development projects that do not lead to any commercial applications in the field of clean tech business.



VARSINAIS-SUOMEN LIITTO
EGENTLIGA FINLANDS FÖRBUND
REGIONAL COUNCIL OF SOUTHWEST FINLAND

(M7) General information

Name of OP	Sustainable growth and jobs 2014 - 2020 - Finland's structural funds programme
No. of specific objective in OP	4.1
Name of measure	Developing research, competence and innovation clusters that draw from regional strengths
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial
Detailed description	
Planned activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Developing the research, development and innovation infrastructure that supports regional businesses by using piloting, testing and demonstration environments; – Creating and developing research, competence and innovation clusters by developing R&D&I environment and development platforms taking into consideration regional competence spearheads; – Increasing R&D&I cooperation between universities, other institutions of higher education, research institutions, vocational education institutions, public corporations and companies also at an international level and in the Baltic Sea region in particular. <p>Investments in innovative solutions and research and technological infrastructure and equipment (e.g. devices and equipment) will be promoted. In order to meet these objectives, national/regional research institutions and technology centres, competence clusters and science parks are also being supported and the ability to rapidly and extensively commercialise new solutions coming from research and innovations is being improved. The measures aim to intensify applied research through closer cooperation with companies and other interest groups in order to attract private investments in research and innovations.</p>
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Projects
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	Total EU and state funding: 15 988 400 € Of which blue growth related projects: 1 964 222 €

Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY (Blue projects)	TARGET GROUP
Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council	Turku Science Park (main), ÅboAkademi, Varsinais-Suomensairaanhoidopiiri, University of Turku, Turku University of Applied Sciences Project: <i>Life Science Accelerator</i>	Enterprises, research and educational organizations
Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council	Kotka Maritime Research Association (main), South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences, University of Turku (Brahea Centre) and Turku University of Applied Sciences. Project: <i>Low Carbon Port Operations</i>	Harbours in the area, port industry, shipping companies, alt. fuel companies, LNG-companies, people living in the area
Council of Tampere Region	University of Turku Project: <i>Possibilities of Blue Growth</i>	Regional Councils of the Area, cities, harbours, business life, MEPs and EU officers, officers in Finland, high education, research institutes, public sector
Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council	Novia (main), Turku University of Applied Sciences, University of Turku, Aalto University Project: <i>Smart Water Transport</i>	Enterprises in the maritime cluster and technology industry that can participate in development of smart water transport
Tekes – Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation	Turku University of Applied Sciences Project: <i>Smart Research</i>	Turku University of Applied Sciences
Tekes – Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation	ÅboAkademi Project: <i>Smart Research</i>	ÅboAkademi
Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council	Turku University of Applied Sciences (main), University of Turku, Demos ry, University of Helsinki Project: <i>TRY OUT! Circular economy and cleantech pilots</i>	Innovative companies in the field of circular economy and cleantech, especially start-ups. Also start-up accelerators, developmental organizations and research organizations.

	<i>with cities and companies – disclosing efficient business models</i>	
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	The objective is to see 15% growth in R&D expenditure during the programming period.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	The projects funded in South-West Finland were among other things in the field of life science, circular economy, bio economy, sea transport, marine ICT, environmentally sustainable ports and research on blue growth opportunities.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	On the basis of national and regional strategies of smart specialisation, investments are allocated for the development of the regions' strong sectors and identifying sectors facing change.	

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Possibility to connect with ESF, synergies between soft and hard values in innovation activities. ✓ Connecting educational institutions and enterprises. ✓ Establishment of innovation centres. ✓ Supports smart specialization. ✓ Connecting sustainable development and businesses. ✓ Decreasing negative effects towards nature. ✓ Possibility to consult external expertise when deciding for funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Same old actors, need of new actors. ✓ Small financing.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Education that supports smart specialization. ✓ Growing exports. ✓ New partnerships and clusters. ✓ Opportunity to sharpen the regional strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Project fatigue and lack of concrete results. ✓ Decreasing of financing. ✓ Uneven distribution of financing framework between different regions.



VARSAINAIS-SUOMEN LIITTO
EGENTLIGA FINLANDS FÖRBUND
REGIONAL COUNCIL OF SOUTHWEST FINLAND

(M8) General information

Name of OP	'Sustainable growth and jobs 2014 - 2020 - Finland's structural funds programme'	
No. of specific objective in OP	1.1	
Name of measure	Creating new business activities	
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial	
Detailed description		
Planned activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting the start-up and development of new businesses (incl. Enterprise Accelerator models); - Supporting the commercialisation and entry into the market of ideas, products and services produced by SMEs. <p>Many SMEs need support to recognise their need for improvement and develop their true growth potential and specialise. In addition, SMEs need support in networking and finding new forms of cooperation. New types of Enterprise Accelerator models will be created to support new business activities and growth companies. In order to activate competitive businesses, development projects of start-up companies with potential will be supported. Moreover, more investments will be allocated for the development of a new business service system that will support company growth processes and international expansion. Measures improving the conditions enabling companies to become established and invest can also be supported in order to diversify Finnish business structure and the range of companies.</p>	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Projects	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	Total EU and state support: 354 114€ Of which blue growth related projects: 40 000 €	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY (Blue projects)	TARGET GROUP
Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment Central Finland	Terco Engineering Oy: Project: <i>Flotaationkehittämishanke</i>	Terco Engineering Oy
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	Investment priority measures aim to diversify business structures and increase the number of growing, innovative and internationally expansive companies. The target is to have a 10% increase in the number of SME premises by the end of 2023 in line with the 2021–2023 average, which means that	

	the target level will be 18 437.
Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	One project dealing with waste water treatment.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	On the basis of national and regional strategies of smart specialisation, investments are allocated for the development of the regions' strong sectors and identifying sectors facing change.

(M9) General information

Name of OP	Growth and employment	
No. of specific objective in OP	1.2.1.1.	
Name of measure	Promote private sector investment in R&D (Support for new product and technology development within competence centres)	
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial	
Detailed description		
Planned activities	In line with the priorities of RIS3 private sector investment of in R&D will be increased, management of intellectual property in research institutions will be improved, commercialization of research results, as well as the transfer of creativity and development of non-technological innovation, protection of intellectual property and development and production of new products and technology will be facilitated. The main activities related to increase competitiveness, promoting R&D, cooperation between business and science for development of new products and technologies.	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Call for projects	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	Total allocation: 65 125 000 EUR Not more than 300 000 EUR per year per one competence centre.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Ministry of Economics	Competence centres	Micro, Medium and Large Enterprises specialising in RIS3
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	100 entrepreneurs received grants 100 entrepreneurs receiving grants 100 entrepreneurs receiving support to produce new products.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal	Pharmacy and Chemistry Competence Centre of Latvia http://www.pcccl.lv/ , Environment, Bioenergy and Biotechnology Competence Centres were established. http://www.vbbkc.lv/?par-mums	

tourism)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	All Competence centres are established in the RIS3 priorities.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Measure is developed to support development of new products and technologies in RIS3. ✓ Special attention is paid to support research institutions and commercialisation. ✓ The main activities are related to R&D and cooperation between business and science. ✓ Huge interest in research project in pharmaceutical and chemical priority. ✓ Biotechnology is a priority defined in National Bioeconomic Strategy. ✓ Close cooperation with industry. ✓ Researches from Environment, Biotechnology and Bioenergy Competence Centre can be used in Blue Growth in RPR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pharmacy and Chemistry Competence Centre of Latvia focuses on pharmaceuticals and cosmetics which do not have huge potential in RPR coastal area. ✓ Latvian pharmaceutical and chemical competence centre supported research projects will not give huge positive effect on Blue Growth in RPR. ✓ Biotechnology priority has not been so attractive for business so far. ✓ Partners of Environment, Biotechnology and Bioenergy Competence Centre (Involved companies are located in Riga (National wide business or in municipalities not located in RPR). ✓ Low level of communication with wider society and potential entrepreneurs. ✓ Focuses mainly on projects with Competitiveness and Employment not on territorial development aspect.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Municipalities/business sector could become proactive to influence practical implementation of the measure. ✓ Open space for complementary actions from other measures that can contribute to Blue Growth. ✓ Improve communication with Target audience- not only partners. ✓ Diversification of the work of competence centres- involving more stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The research results cannot give significant impulse for Blue Growth in RPR. ✓ Not sufficient funding for commercialisation.

(M10) General information

Name of OP	Growth and employment	
No. of specific objective in OP	3.1.1.	
Name of measure	Facilitate availability of funding for enterprises for the development of business in various stages of development and promote the formation of new enterprises (Regional business incubators)	
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial	
Detailed description		
Planned activities	Facilitate formation and development of SME's in particular in manufacturing and RIS3 priority industries. Incubator services within business incubators (pre-incubation support, loans, consultations, mentoring, seminars, development of prototypes etc.) including the development of material technical base, including for the enterprises of creative industries will be provided. In addition for development of existing SME's establishment and development of industrial premises and territories will be ensured with a condition that business activities in such premises will be primarily carried out in RIS3 areas,	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Call for projects (Limited)	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	Total allocation: 25 764 706 EUR 7 058 823 EUR per business incubator.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Ministry of Economics	Business incubators	Authors of new business ideas and SME.
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	200 entrepreneurs receiving support 148 newly established companies 200 new jobs in supported companies	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure	The measure is planned to support companies focused on RIS 3.	

contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	Jurmala business incubator and Sigulda business incubator are established in RPR (And Riga Creative industry incubator)
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	The measure is planned to support companies focused on RIS 3.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Measure is planned to promote the development of economic activity. ✓ Measure promotes development of new enterprises. ✓ Measure has regional focus under RIS3 priority industries. ✓ Great demand for incubator services in RPR. ✓ Measure is implemented with cooperation with Planning regions and Universities. ✓ Individual approach with target audience. ✓ Strong linkage with local municipalities. ✓ Can be complementary with other measures and support programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ RIS3 priority does not play significant role for supported projects. ✓ The main target is competitive project (Income and working place), but not economic transformation or RIS3. ✓ First approved businesses for incubation are not strongly related to RIS3 or Blue Growth. ✓ Sigulda Business Incubator that serves coastal municipalities is located far from coastal entrepreneurs. ✓ Limited amount of supported new businesses. ✓ No close links with science- universities, research institutes etc. ✓ Gap between interests of scientists and business. ✓ Low level of knowledge about RIS3 and Blue Growth concept. ✓ There is a Creative Incubator in Riga city, not a business incubator.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Possibility to develop variety of small businesses in different areas. ✓ Possibility to work on developing specific businesses. ✓ Possibility to cooperate with other stakeholders- municipalities, schools, etc. ✓ To develop businesses to latest marketing researches. ✓ Incubators would participate in the evaluation process of LEADER project to make closer holistic approach for business development. ✓ Wider communication with all municipalities in the working area. ✓ Specialisation opportunity to focus on local recourses (Including Blue Growth potential, if referable). ✓ Cooperation with education establishments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Developed businesses may not be related to Blue Growth and RIS3. ✓ Bad business plans and failures on incubated business. ✓ Weak support from other supportive instruments. ✓ Shortage of finances. ✓ Lack of instruments that could help work on Research projects if needed for development.

(M11) General information

Name of OP	Growth and employment
No. of specific objective in OP	5.5.1.
Name of measure	To promote regional development by promoting sustainable development of cultural and natural heritage of international importance and related services
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial
Detailed description	
Planned activities	<p>Long-term conservation and sustainable development of cultural and natural heritage of international importance and increasing of visitation rates in them will promote the development of services in different economic areas in the territory concerned, thus ensuring the development of local business promoting revenue increase in municipalities. The development of cultural and natural heritage sites will also promote increased number of tourists staying for several days, including on the coast of the Baltic Sea, where the flow of non-organised seasonal holidaymakers causes significant negative environmental influence. At the same time, environment quality will be developed and integration of the population will be improved in the respective territories which is important for reduction of depopulation trends.</p> <p>Investments will ensure not only preservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage, but also development of new functions in cultural and natural heritage sites, promote deeper integration of the sites into the local economic structure (cooperation with undertakings) for the purposes of promoting their financial independence and reduce the burden on national and municipal budgets.</p> <p>Initiative actions to be supported: restoration, conservation and construction of sites of cultural and natural heritage and related infrastructure based on integrated development programmes, with aim to improve services provided in the site of cultural and natural heritage, to create new services</p>
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Call for projects and strategies of municipalities
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	Total allocation: 41 400 654 EUR Two project calls are planned:
Identification/listing of groups:	

OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Ministry of Culture	Carnikava and Jurmala municipality	Providers of related services (SME), population, local and international tourists
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase of visitors in the objects of natural and historical heritage- not less than 140 000 persons (compared to 2015) - Supported at least 15 objects of cultural and historical heritage - At least 15 newly developed services. 	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	The indicative target territories are linked to Guidelines of Regional Development 2013.-2019 integrally marked places of concentration of cultural and historical areas and landscapes with perfect cultural and natural values and existing flows of visitors, including on the coast of the Baltic Sea which are integrally marked in Latvian Tourism Development Guidelines 2014–2020.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	No	

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Special project programme for coastal area (Different from other country) ✓ During the planning measure, the needs of Coastal are where taking in account ✓ The targeted result- development of local businesses ✓ The targeted result- incensement of tourists in coastal area ✓ Measure is planned to integrate natural and cultural recourses to be integrated in local economy ✓ The special purpose is to prolong touristic season – potential for SPA and coastal tourism ✓ Planning the measure was in respect with local development plans ✓ Close cooperation with municipalities and agents of touristic developers ✓ Great possibility to develop local business near the developed heritage infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The measure is planned with assumption that the local business will develop economically sustainable coastal tourism ✓ The measure has not been implemented yet. ✓ Municipalities are focusing on the development of infrastructure that is already existing to provide services that already exists (No new innovative and complex solutions) ✓ Limited number of projects and objects ✓ Approved projects will not significantly prolong touristic season.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Measure can be developed with synergy with other infrastructure and soft projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Investments in this measure may not be complementary to other investments (building SPA, hotels) and soft activities (Promotion, event organising).

<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Local stakeholders can be involved in development (local services) of the objects.✓ Real estate development near new projects.✓ Development of local services that are useful for residents, as well.✓ Development of catering services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Lack of maintenance of the objects.✓ Low possibility to develop industrial economics near recreation zones.✓ Not balances tourism flow.
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(M12) General information

Name of OP	Growth and employment	
No. of specific objective in OP	8.1.3.	
Name of measure	To upgrade VET institutions by ensuring compliance of the learning environment to the development of industries of national economy, and improve the availability of vocational education	
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial	
Detailed description		
Planned activities	<p>The plan is to ensure compliance of the learning environment to the development of industries of national economy, granting support to the implementation of such vocational education programmes, which did not receive support in 2007–2013 programming period of structural funds, to complete upgrading of such vocational educational establishments, which have a status of a vocational education competence centre and which were created through reorganisation of several vocational educational establishments, as well as to create new vocational education programmes based on economic needs of the region.</p> <p>This will result in the increase of the number of students, which have access to upgraded infrastructure of vocational educational establishments according to the development of industries of national economy.</p>	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Call for projects (Limited applicants) – based on school development strategy	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	Total allocation: 104 786 645 EUR 2 project calls are planned	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Ministry of Education and Science	Technical schools (In RPR Riga State Technical School Riga Tourism and Creative Industries School)	Students
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	70-80 percent of vocational education institutions are fully modernized.	
Conformity to policy		

Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	Supported actions and eligible costs are related to Blue Growth fields. For example: 20.1.2. Energetics, 20.1.4. Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology; 01.20.15. beauty services);
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	Supported actions and eligible costs are related to RIS 3 strategy national priorities. For example: 20.1.2. Energetics, 20.1.4. Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology; 01.20.15. beauty services); Digitalization of learning process is planned as one priority.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Significant improvement of infrastructure vocational education that can lead to quality improvement of preparation of new specialists. ✓ Quality environment improves prestige of vocational education. ✓ Quality infrastructure helps establish new to create new vocational education programs based on economic needs of the region. ✓ All vocational education competence centres have their development strategies that are coherent with the needs of industry associations and municipality needs. ✓ Supported new educational programs are eligible to Blue Growth fields-energetics, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology, beauty services. ✓ Measure is continuation of measure from previous planning period and related to its measure 3.3.1. ✓ Modernized infrastructure can be used for new educational programs in RIS3 or Blue Growth if needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Not focused on RIS3 or Blue Growth. ✓ Infrastructure development has weak correlation with development of new educational programs. ✓ Involved industries have weak correlation on territorial development concepts. ✓ In RPR vocational education is located in Riga- far from municipalities with high potential for Blue Growth ✓ Supported beneficiaries have low links with coastal municipalities. ✓ The measure has not been implemented yet. ✓ Low specialization of vocational educational establishments (No focus on RIS3 or Blue Growth).
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Municipalities/business sector can become proactive to influence development of new educational programs. ✓ Open space for complementary actions from other measures that can contribute to Blue Growth. ✓ All range of business activities is welcome to use developed infrastructure. ✓ With successful implementation of measure, there could be general raise of well-educated employees for any business. ✓ To develop another way of education- placements, education in working 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The success of measure is dependent from education programs more than developed infrastructure. ✓ Low level of result oriented cooperation with business (Business does not have recourse to participate for development of programmed- long term). ✓ The success of measure is dependent of other education levels and education system in general. ✓ Slow process of modernization of vocational programs.

<p>environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ The measure can be implemented with another measure implementation (e.g., Improvement of Management of Establishments, Improvement of competences for staff.✓ Big potential for development of different partnerships.	
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(M13) General information

Name of OP	Growth and employment	
No. of specific objective in OP	3.3.1.	
Name of measure	To promote competitiveness of SMEs and the development of new ideas in the manufacturing industry by ensuring the availability of industrial infrastructure	
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial	
Detailed description		
Planned activities	Provides complementary support to entrepreneurs by investing in public infrastructure, where there is a demand for private merchants, and which envisage private sector investments, directed to promotion of economic activities, and gives evidence of private investors readiness to make contributions (including, will support establishment of merchants or expand range of activities, increase of productivity and export volume, creation of new workplaces, multiple refund of made investments).	
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Call for projects – based on municipality strategies	
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	Total allocation: 75 552 108 EUR 3 project calls are planned. Minimal project: 50 000 EUR	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development	Beneficiary in RPR: Carnikava, Engure, Salacgriva, Saulkrasti municipality	SME
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 202 entrepreneurs who received benefits from investments in public infrastructure - At least 1053 new employees in SME who received benefits from investments in public infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of employees who works in companies producing or serving in territory out of Riga city- at least 446 300 - Non- financial investments of entrepreneurs in intangible assets: at least 2 125 	

	683 000 EUR
Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	The projects can play significant role for developing infrastructure in RPR municipalities to develop SME related to Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	The projects can play significant role for developing infrastructure in RPR municipalities to develop SMEs related to RIS3

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Supports entrepreneurs by investing in public infrastructure, where there is a demand for private merchants. ✓ Measure is planned to increase productivity and export volume, creation of new workplaces. ✓ Focus on development of infrastructure to attract private investments. ✓ Can be complementary to another measure. ✓ Supported projects are a part of Municipality development plans regarding development of entrepreneurship. ✓ Local companies focused on Blue Growth and RIS3 are welcomed from measure owner. ✓ Industrial parks are welcomed from measure owner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The measure is planned with assumption that the local business will develop their business using developed infrastructure. ✓ The measure has not been implemented yet. ✓ Municipalities are focusing on the development of infrastructure without confidence that business will be developed (Even it is rule from the measure owner). ✓ No focus on blue growth or RIS3. ✓ Limited number of supported projects. ✓ Municipalities are focusing on public infrastructure building/renovation, but not on needs of entrepreneurs. ✓ Business objects that could use results of measure, may not be supported by other measure (Exist some examples).
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Measure can be developed in synergy with other infrastructure and soft projects. ✓ Local stakeholders should be involved to develop business focused to Blue Growth and RIS 3 (It is time for this). ✓ Developers of infrastructure should develop direct communication with enterprisers. ✓ Whole range of business activities is welcome to use developed infrastructure. ✓ With successful implementation of measure, there could be general raise of business activity in municipality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The investments in this measure may not be complementary to other investments. ✓ The results related to business development around the developed infrastructure may not be reached- dependant on external factors.



(M14) General information

Name of OP	Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014-2020
No. of specific objective in OP	4.2 Increasing local socio-economic impact of the RD&I system and enhancing smart specialization to develop growth areas (ICT + health + resources)
Name of measure	R&D program for smart specialization in growth areas
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial
Detailed description	
Planned activities	Purpose: To finance 1) applied research projects, 2) product development projects in predefined national smart-specialization or growth-areas
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Annual open application rounds
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	<p>Total amount of this measure is 50 729 868 EUR, 68% of the total amount is financed from EU structural assistance.</p> <p>The maximum grant for one project is 2 000 000 EUR, the minimum amount is 20 000 EUR (the volume is designed considering the other complementing support measures provided by Enterprise Estonia – innovation and development “stakes” grant). Applications with total amount exceeding 200 000 EUR must be written in English for involving international evaluators. The maximum length of the project is 3 years.</p> <p>Eligible costs: The main principle in defining the eligibility of the costs is direct relatedness to applied research/product development project. The support can only be used for applied research/product development projects implemented together with public R&D institutions. Up to 10% of the support could be used for purchasing project-related infrastructure and equipment. Only those projects are funded where the applicant provides their own contribution (the share is dependent on the size of the company and whether it is applied research or product development project).</p> <p>Eligible costs include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) activities necessary to implement the project: applied research activities commissioned from public R&D institutions, technical knowledge and patents bought or licensed services costs;

	<p>2) costs of instruments and equipment to the extent and for the period in which they are being used for the project;</p> <p>3) other operating costs directly related to the project, such as costs of materials, supplies and similar products cost;</p> <p>4) staff costs for the applicant and partner involved in the project.</p> <p>At least 80 percent of the project budget must be the research ordered from the R&D institution, up to 20 percent of the amount is allowed to use for expenses to be made within the applicant/company. Compared to the first application round, for this year the circle of eligible costs has been enlarged, and the share of these cost have been increased.</p>	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Education and Research functions as the 1st level intermediate body that has developed the measure; Archimedes Foundation is the 2nd level intermediate body that organises assistance application and communicates directly with the recipients of the grant 	Business sector as a whole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business sector as a whole, research development institutions (researchers), higher education institutions (researchers)
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	<p>2 indicators have been set for the year 2023:</p> <p>1) The number of companies that have implemented joint applied research and product development projects with universities and research institutions in smart specialization areas. Goal: 200</p> <p>2) The volume of private investments (in compliance with public support) in research and development projects (mln €) Goal: 15</p>	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	<p>This measure is very well in compliance with the Blue Medicine sphere. Since one of the three smart specialisation areas in Estonia is healthcare and technology services, the measure is supporting applied research and product development in the area of blue medicine, SPA and coastal tourism.</p> <p>The measure has also a direct relatedness with energy sphere as the other of the tree smart specialisation areas in Estonia is “more efficient use of resources”. Thus innovative research and product development in the energy sector is also supported.</p> <p>What is important, the measure is designed to support creative discovery which is the key concept in Smart Specialisation as the entrepreneurs could provide their own ideas and find</p>	

	support in idea development. In addition, the measure serves as a link between industry partners and R&D institutions and should initiate the further collaboration.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	The measure has a strong linkage with RIS3 national strategy as it is specially designed for national Smart Specialisation implementation. The purpose of the national strategy for ensuring long term competitiveness of the economy requires a shift towards knowledge based economy. This shift however requires significant investments in R&D and innovation from our industry. The measure helps to initiate cooperation between industry and R&D partners, provide support for applied research and hence contribute to the process of creative discovery. The own contribution from the applicant in the project serves as the primary quality control and ensures the motivation to achieve practically applicable results. For product development, this is a platform for companies to test, polish and finish their prototypes and test them in a real world. Small disclaimer: due to the small size, Estonia forms a single region in terms of Smart Specialisation. Hence the predefined specialisation areas are unified across the country.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Projects funded under this measure are demand-driven. This is in-line with the key concept of smart specialization – concept of entrepreneurial discovery. Hence, the industry partners have a leading role in the process of systematically scanning for technological, political, and regulatory, social, and demographic changes to discover opportunities to produce new goods and services. ✓ The range of activities involves both applied research and product development, hence providing more flexible platform for industry-academia cooperation. The measure complements with other support grants - innovation and development “stakes” grant forming a holistic system which allows continuing industry-academia partnership from very early stages to nearly ready-to-market products and services. ✓ Own contribution rates are flexible and depending on the size of the applicant and the type of the activity. The own contribution from the applicant in the project also serves as the primary quality control and increases the success rate of the projects. ✓ The measure initiates synergies and long-term collaboration between research and industry partners. Hence, the potential positive impact to the regional economy could reach far beyond the project period. ✓ Maximum grant for one project 2 million EUR, allowing implementing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Stepping out of the research project is slightly difficult for the industry partners. In case of contingencies or if the cooperation is not fruitful it is difficult to discontinue the undergoing project. ✓ Companies face difficulties finding compatible research partners. It is partially due to relatively low awareness among the industry partners of the existing research institutions, but in some cases it is due to the deficiency of research groups in specific areas. ✓ The thematic scope of supported research areas is slightly limited as the projects should fit in the national smart specialization framework. However, as the thematic areas have been defined relatively broadly, the areas of blue economy are mostly eligible. ✓ During the application procedure a detailed business plan has to be submitted. Both industry partners and the owner of the measure have admitted that the requirements to business plans are too strict and during the early stages it is not possible to predict the outcome and market potential of the cooperation in detail. ✓ The general awareness of the measure is relatively low among the companies. The communication has not been very effective, especially before the launch and during the first year of implementation of the measure. ✓ Industry commentators are also showing discontentment with the rate of

relatively complex and large-scale research projects. The total amount of the measure is 50 million.	own contribution and claim that this reduces the attractiveness of the measure.
Opportunities	Threats
<p>✓ The results of the projects are likely to provide strong cross-sectoral spill-overs and the transfer of solutions and technological applications to new contexts. For example, resource-efficiency seeking technologies developed in projects could be also applied in other areas providing new break-through situations and innovations.</p> <p>✓ Improving and initiating academia-industry cooperation may create future demand for public research institutions and increase their capabilities. The lack of industry-academia collaboration has been a substantial issue in Estonia for the decades. Hence, any initiative targeting to bring together actors from both industry and research (e.g., matchmaking events for the projects) are very much appreciated.</p>	<p>✓ The ambition of the companies is somewhat low and this hinders the development of regional enterprises. Managers of the companies are working on-the-field and are not focused on development activities. Therefore, despite the attractive setup of the measure, the interest may stay low.</p> <p>✓ The research partners should better understand the requirements and properties of the industry partners. The lack of mutual understanding is sometimes hindering the cooperation.</p> <p>✓ Continuity of this measure is unclear without the assistance from EU structural funds. The owner of the measure is not very optimistic of the measure being backed from the state or municipalities' budget after the termination of EU structural assistance.</p>



(M15) General information

Name of OP	Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014-2020
No. of specific objective in OP	5.4 Strengthening regional competitiveness
Name of measure	Development of regional competence centres
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial
Detailed description	
Planned activities	<p>The general purpose of the measure is to initiate entrepreneurship and create jobs (preferably high value-added) in regions outside of the capital area. Competence centres will serve as an innovation hub for developing knowledge-base in specific economic areas, recruiting experts, increase networking between enterprises, initiate foreign cooperation etc. The expected impact of the measure is more competitive regions with better connected and strategically aligned enterprises.</p> <p>Eligible activities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) support-activities necessary to implement the project; 2) development of the physical infrastructure of the competence centre; 3) activities related to internationalization and international cooperation of the centre (participation of conferences etc.); 4) knowledge sharing with regional stakeholders (seminars, consulting, support services); 5) research activities and analysis in the thematic area.
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	<p>Support method: Open application rounds; for eligibility, the applicant for competence centre must involve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 1 local government/authority, 2) 1 regional R&D or educational institution, 3) 1 regional enterprise association or at least two regional enterprises active in current economic sector <p>Competence centres are hence thematically connected to one business sector.</p>
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	<p>Total amount of this measure is 16 500 000 EUR, 85% of the total amount is financed from EU structural assistance.</p> <p>The maximum grant for one project is 2 000 000 EUR, the minimum own contribution is 15% of the eligible costs.</p> <p>The applicant's own contribution rates depend on the whether the competence centre is</p>

	<p>already existing (30%) or whether it is a new initiative (15%).</p> <p>Eligible costs: Rather broad range of activities is supported. The fundamental idea is that costs have to relate directly to the activities of competence centre.</p> <p>Eligible costs include:</p> <p>For already existing competence centres:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) personnel costs, 2) the indirect costs of the project (including rental expenses), 3) support activities necessary for competence centre (procurement, creation and management of web-page, commissioning analysis etc.) 4) dissemination of knowledge in the field of competence centre (seminars, workshops, conferences etc.) 5) increasing awareness in the field of competence centre (including marketing costs) 6) costs of participation in international organizations, trade fairs or conferences. <p>For new competence centres, some additional costs are eligible:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) construction of utilities and buying real estate 2) purchasing equipment (including apparatus, scientific literature, costs of ensuring access to electronic databases etc.). <p>Personnel costs should not increase 10% of the total eligible costs.</p>	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Financial Affairs functions as the 1st level intermediate body that has developed the measure; • Enterprise Estonia is the 2nd level intermediate body that organises assistance application and communicates directly with the recipients of the grant 	Competence centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional business sector, • regional NGOs, • research development institutions, • higher education institutions, • local government.
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	<p>2 indicators have been set for the year 2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The number of enterprises receiving non-financial aid from competence centre Goal: 100 enterprises 2) New jobs in enterprises cooperating with competence centre Goal: 100 new jobs 	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure	Competence centres provide services for industry partners and serve as regional knowledge	

<p>contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)</p>	<p>partners. Regional competence centres serve as a technology development centres as well as clusters. The thematic areas of competence centres may have a connection with Blue Growth areas relevant for the project.</p>
<p>Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy</p>	<p>In Estonia 5 competence centres are currently funded. Three of them are functioning in areas directly related to Blue Growth areas - Small Craft Competence Centre, Competence Centre in Health Promotion and Rehabilitation and Oil Shell Competence Centre. The latter is located in Ida-Virumaa which is the area of interest in current project.</p> <p>Despite the small size of Estonia, regions are still different in terms of geographical location, nature, resources, culture and economic structure (path dependency) etc. Regional competence centres enable us to better utilize the specific conditions, regional knowledge base and know-how in specific niches. Regional competence centres supplement the other measures designed for smart specialisation and are in compliance with R&D measures.</p> <p>Being both beneficiaries and clients, competence centres conjoin regional enterprises in focus areas for facilitating cooperation between them, and initiating joint research. In a long run, it is expected that competence centres will become self-financing.</p>

<p>Strengths</p>	<p>Weaknesses</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enables to better utilize the specific conditions, regional knowledge base and existing know-how in specific niches. ✓ Regional competence centres have properties of both technology development centres as well as clusters, hence serve as a real knowledge-hub in a certain area. ✓ Industry partners have the possibility to receive necessary services (e-g laboratory, intellectual, business incubator) within the same county and the monetary rewards for the services will also remain in the county. ✓ Increasing awareness in the field of competence centre – important function of the competence centres is being an advocate for the sphere of activity. ✓ Regional competence centres supplement the other measures designed for smart specialisation and are in compliance with R&D measures. ✓ Competence centres are facilitating cooperation between regional as well as companies from other areas. Competence centres are also initiating international research collaboration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Current implementation setting creates somewhat unnecessary rivalry between and even within counties for acquiring the grant for competence centre. ✓ Competence centres are put under relatively high financial stress which might influence implementation of activities. ✓ Demand for services sometimes overestimated, the initial activity plan does apply.
<p>Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Competence centres will serve as an innovation hub institution and provide their services for diverse industry partners from various economic sectors. ✓ Promotes entrepreneurship in society. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In a long run, it is expected that competence centres will become self-financing which might be very difficult (need to change their business model) ✓ Potential partners overseas (in the Baltic Sea Region) are not interested in cooperation that hinders the possibilities for initiating international grants. ✓ Difficult to find and recruit top experts in some areas. ✓ Rapid technological change puts pressure for constant renewal of equipment and apparatus (sustainability issues)
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(M16) General information

Name of OP	Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014-2020
No. of specific objective in OP	5.1 Increasing the entrepreneurship, stimulating the growth of business, developing of business environment
Name of measure	Development of tourist attractions of international interest and their supporting infrastructure
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial
Detailed description	
Planned activities	<p>The designer of the measure has defined priority target markets for Estonian tourism sector. The general purpose of the measure is to increase the attractiveness of Estonia as the tourism destination, increase the number of overnight-stays and the number of visitors.</p> <p>Eligible activities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 development and construction of infrastructure; 2 purchase of goods and services necessary for providing the specified tourist attraction/service; 3 development of services related to the specified tourist attraction; 4 training of personnel needed to service visitors; 5 marketing activities in the priority target markets specified in tourism development plan. <p>Supported attraction must meet the following conditions: the attraction is located in Estonia, open for at least six months a year, capable of serving at least 60,000 visitors a year, contributes to the increase in demand in at least one of the priority target markets; the concept of attraction and its website provides information on tourism opportunities in Estonia; foreign visitors will be offered information and services, at least in English.</p>
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Open application rounds; two stages: pre-application, main application
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	<p>Total amount of this measure is 39 825 000 EUR, 50% of the total amount is financed from EU structural assistance.</p> <p>The minimum grant for one project is 1 000 000 EUR for creating new tourist attraction and 750 000 EUR for restructuring of existing tourist attraction</p>

	<p>Eligible costs include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) costs related to construction and infrastructure; 2) purchase of equipment and goods necessary for providing the service (furniture, equipment, tourist information boards and signposts etc.); 3) purchase of a technological solution necessary for providing the service; 4) support infrastructure; 5) conducting marketing activities in foreign markets; 	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICIARY	TARGET GROUP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Economic and Communication functions as the 1st level intermediate body that has developed the measure; • Enterprise Estonia is the 2nd level intermediate body that organises assistance application and communicates directly with the recipients of the grant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State institution, • local government • enterprise registered in Estonia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International tourists, • domestic tourists
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	<p>1 indicator has been set for the year 2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The number tourism-related services created for attracting new target groups. <p>Goal: 5</p>	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	<p>The connection with Blue Growth is pronounced in the area of SPA and coastal tourism. The measure contributes to the creation of tourism attractions that increase the regional potential as a coastal tourism destination.</p>	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	<p>The measure contributes to the creation of tourism attractions that increase the Ida-Virumaa potential as a coastal tourism destination. The measure contributes to the second focus area of national RIS3 strategy (healthcare services) as it aims to create more attractive environment for visiting tourists. The measure is targeting Estonian regions to be more attractive destination for SPA and coastal tourists as well as for Blue Medicine clients in general. Ida-Virumaa has been active in applying support from this measure. Several projects have been funded</p>	

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wide range of cost items are eligible that makes the measure rather flexible for the applicants. ✓ Possible complementarities with other support measures, for example with the support grants from Leader programme. ✓ Enables to reduce common barriers for this kind of infrastructure investments: long payoff period, social externalities/public goods, high risk profile. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We cannot identify significant negative effects of the measure. For some cases, finding the co-finance has been difficult, especially for projects with high level of uncertainties.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increased number of tourists offers clear benefits and business perspectives for the whole region and its economic actors. ✓ Increased cooperation between local actors (shared tickets etc.), possible synergies and spill-overs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The unstable framework conditions (e.g. visa rules, economic conditions) may have a great effect upon the initial projections regarding the number of foreign visitors.




(M17) General information

Name of OP	Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014-2020
No. of specific objective in OP	9.2 Sustainable urban development in Ida-Viru county
Name of measure	Activities for physical, economic and social recovery of under-utilized urban sites
Type of measure (financial, non-financial or other)	Financial
Detailed description	
Planned activities	<p>All activities to be funded must contribute to the general goal of revitalising underused urban areas of Ida-Virumaa. The development of urban areas in Ida-Virumaa has been unequal. For creating more sustainable, attractive and competitive urban environment, some areas need revitalising and reconstruction.</p> <p>Eligible activities include:</p> <p>Redevelopment of under-utilized urban areas, including the development of infrastructure (such as street design, the construction and reconstruction of public buildings, demolition of unnecessary buildings) and the necessary support actions (such as creating the concept, engagement on local stakeholders, marketing).</p>
Support method (call for projects, grants, strategies or other)	Open application round, final deadline for applicants is 31.12.2018
Information about finance (total amount, per project, etc.)	<p>Total amount of this measure is 8 335 294 EUR, 85% of the total amount is financed from EU structural assistance.</p> <p>Eligible costs: The main principle in defining the eligibility of the costs is direct relatedness to the general purpose of the measure.</p> <p>A prerequisite for the applicant is the existence of the city's regional strategy for the period 2014-2020. The applicant must be one of the following entities stated in city's regional strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local governments; • foundations and non-profit organizations; • companies. <p>Eligible costs include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Costs related to engineering and building; 2) Landscape planning and geological research;

	3) purchase of real estate; 4) organising design contest; 5) special activities related to heritage protection together with the necessary research; 6) purchase of street furniture, including the purchase and installation of street lighting; 7) costs related to creating the concept and marketing; 8) costs related to demolition of buildings necessary for the transformation of existing public space Costs related to the purchase of real estate cannot exceed 10% of the total eligible costs	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Interior functions as the 1st level intermediate body that has developed the measure; Enterprise Estonia is the 2nd level intermediate body that organises assistance application and communicates directly with the recipients of the grant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> local governments; foundations and non-profit organizations; companies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizens, business sector
Results		
Planned results in OP (indicators to be achieved)	2 indicators have been set for the year 2023: 1) Restored or re-created urban area (m ²). Goal: 100 000 2) Public buildings or commercial premises renovated or built in urban areas (m ²) Goal: 100	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how the measure contributes to the development of blue growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	The connection with Blue Growth is not very well pronounced. The measure contributes to the overall atmosphere of the urban areas and hence increases the regional potential as a tourism destination. Hence the connection is mostly with tourism.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the measure helps implement strategy	The unequal development of urban areas has become a serious issue in Ida-Virumaa. Hence the specific measure has been designed by the Ministry of Interior to improve the urban space in Ida-Virumaa and increase its potential as a tourism destination. The connection with national RIS3 strategy is revealed by the purpose of the Ida-Virumaa being more attractive destination for SPA and coastal tourists as well as for Blue Medicine clients in general.	

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enables to reduce common barriers for this kind of infrastructure investments: long payoff period, social externalities/public goods, high risk profile. ✓ Regional cities were involved in the development process of the measure, hence it was possible for them to steer and adjust the requirements and conditions according to the local environment. ✓ Relatively large-scale projects are funded which ensures that they have significant impact in improving the overall milieu. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Potential financial burden for applicants due to the expected project size. ✓ Application and evaluation procedure long for some cases. ✓ Engagement of citizens for elaborating the project ideas has not been very effective.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increased number of tourists offers clear benefits and business perspectives for the whole region and its economic actors. ✓ Increased cooperation between local actors (shared tickets etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The unstable framework conditions (e.g. visa rules, economic conditions) may have a great effect upon the initial projections. ✓ Hence, the effectiveness of the measure is very much affected from the environment.

Annex 2 - Attachments on best practice analyses

		
(P1) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Competence Academy Tourism (CAT)	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Education for competence development	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	www.tourisminskane.com	
Contact persons	Lars Braedstrup Holm Lars.braedstrup-holm@skane.se +46 725 87 25 10	
Detailed description		
Case description	Competence Academy Tourism is a collaboration between Tourism in Skåne and Region Blekinge. The project is financed by ESF and its purpose is to offer education and increased competence in small companies within tourism. An IT-based model for analysing gaps between required versus actual level of necessary competences within each company is developed within the project. Courses are offered to the companies based on these knowledge-gaps. Focus is on internationalisation, digitalisation, sustainability	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Tourist sector, but the model for analysing gaps in required versus actual level of competences that has been identified by the company as necessary, can be used in any sector, where the level of competences generally is to low, and where there is a need for courses that are adapted to the companies within the particular sector.	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	By European Social Fund, Tourism in Skåne and Region Blekinge	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	The interest from the companies has been high. The IT-based model has worked well. Companies have overall done their job, and has identified required and actual levels of competences that they have identified as important for the development of the company. The coming step is to offer corresponding courses. Education.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Tourism in Skåne/Region Blekinge	Tourism sector	Small companies

		within tourism
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Overview of competence needs for each participating company is achieved. Offering relevant education is planned. A higher level of knowledge in necessary competences is a planned result.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	Developed tourism by increased knowledge. Coastal tourism is very important for regional growth in Skåne.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Increased competence within tourism sector and thereby increased growth	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.		



(P2) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	WISA (Water Innovation System Amplifier)	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Test environment for water innovation, and research lab for waterworks and molecular analysis	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	www.krinova.se	
Contact persons	Johan Ljungquist, project leader Tel. +46 7023 076959, johan@krinova.se	
Detailed description		
Case description	Test environment in Kristianstad in collaboration with surrounding municipalities for experiment and testing, together with platform and lab for molecular analysis, diagnostics and research related to waterworks.	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Municipalities, waterworks, treatment plants, harbours	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	The test environment is financed by OP funds and Kristianstad university, Kristianstad municipality, Krinova Incubator and Science Park and Chamber of Commerce then complemented by a test environment together with surrounding municipalities.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Involvement of companies and municipalities, research success	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Kristianstad university, Kristianstad municipality, Krinova Incubator and Science Park and Chamber of Commerce	Municipalities, companies	Municipalities, waterworks, treatment plants, harbours, and related companies harbours
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	To build an attractive cluster within environment and water related topics, to attract companies and researchers	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of	Related to Blue growth by focusing on sustainable marine environment and water quality	


Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Related to RIS3 ambitions of regional Growth, especially the goal of smart sustainable cities.
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	



(P3) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Seafarm	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Research project	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	www.seafarm.se	
Contact persons	Project manager: Associate Professor Fredrik Gröndahl Industrial Ecology, KTH Royal Institute of Technology Phone: +46 (0)8 790 61 58 E-mail: fgro@kth.se	
Detailed description		
Case description	Interdisciplinary research project which grows and uses macroalgae for many different purposes in a closed loop system	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Energy, food, life science, chemistry	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	The Seafarm project is part of the Swedish Research Council Formas’ targeted investment in the development of a bio-based economy. The project is being undertaken with industrial collaborators.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	To find efficient and effective techniques, so that the market can take over.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Swedish Research Council Formas	KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Chalmers University of Technology, University of Gothenburg, Linnaeus University and Lund University.	Resarchers and Industrial collaborators
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Each participating university has its own focus areas, such as algae farming, storage and	

	preservation areas, purification to produce animal feed, bioethanol, biogas, medicine etc.
Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	This project contributes highly to the development of Blue Growth field, especially energy, life science, blue medicine, food, plastic industry
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Seafarm is an interdisciplinary research project which grows and uses macroalgae for many different purposes in a closed loop system that produces zero waste. The goal is to use the full potential of the algae. The project is one step towards finding ways to create a global economy based on sustainable and renewable methods of production.
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	

		(P4) General information	
Name of “Best practice” case	Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)		
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach/Method to support Smart Specialisation implementation		
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://drg.pomorskie.eu/porozumienia-isp		
Contact persons	Karolina Lipińska, Marshal Office of the Pomeranian Voivodeship Department of Economic Development, K.Lipinska@pomorskie.eu		
Detailed description			
Case description	PSSs Boards operates based on the agreement between the PSS’s partnership and the Marshal. Article 10 of the above mentioned agreement states that the board consist of 10 representatives (4 from research and support organisations, 6 from business) is elected by the partnership. The Board operates based on the rules of procedure established by the partnership and accepted by the Marshal of the Pomeranian Province. The major role of the Board is to coordinate partner activities aiming at successful implementation of the PSS as well as to ensure effective communication with the Marshall and potential newcomers.		
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Business related to offshore and port-logistic technologies (PSS1) Business related to informatics (PSS2) Business related to eco-effective technologies in energy, fuels distribution and constructions (PSS3) Business related to medical technologies for civilizational diseases and aging society (PSS4)		
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	Based on the concept of the Pomorskie self-government on how to select and implement regional smart specialisations. No direct funding for the Boards, indirect funding for thematic activities supporting the partnership competences and knowledge.		
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Sharing responsibility of PSSs with beneficiaries, building competitive advantage by involving target groups, working together based on shared agreement		
Identification/listing of groups:			
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP	
Marshal Office of the Pomeranian Voivodeship	R&D, business, business support organisations related to PSS	R&D, business, business support organisations related to PSS	
Results			
Results planned and achieved (if available)	The practice has a “process” nature so it is still on-going. Identification of PSS horizontal projects		

	Successful applications for regional funds Consolidation of actors active under each PSS scope
Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	See above
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	It is a direct measure supporting implementation of Regional Strategic Programme “Port of Creativity”
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	n/a

(P5) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	„Provision of advisory services, including the development of recommendations for the management of the process of entrepreneurial discovery and development of Smart Specialisation of Pomerania” - Deloitte
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	analysis, recommendations
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	Pomorskie region Public Information Bulletin: http://bip.pomorskie.eu/a,55995,w-sprawie-wyboru-trybu-zamowienia-publicznego-na-swiadczenie-uslug-doradczych-w-tym-wypracowanie-rek.html
Contact persons	Ms. Karolina Lipińska, Deputy Director of the Department of Economic Development in Pomorskie Marshal's Office (k.lipinska@pomorskie.eu, 0048 58 302 68 308); Ms. Martyna Rompa (m.rompa@pomorskie.eu, 0048 58 302 68 311)
Detailed description	
Case description	<p>The aim of the project is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness in the management of the regional entrepreneurial discovery process and further development of the SSP through professional consulting and on the basis of recommendations based on achieved results and conclusions. The report provides a summary of the first stage of the project consisting of diagnosis and development of the strategy of action concerning further Smart Specialization progress. Solutions developed in the first stage of the project will be used in the further work which concerns managing the process of entrepreneurial discovery.</p> <p>In order to diagnose the situation in the first stage of the process Deloitte used the following research tools: desk research based on research papers obtained from various sources, in depth interviews (IDIs) conducted with representatives of all 4 specializations and coming from various institutions and circles (entrepreneurial, business environment institutions, academic and public sector), direct observation (participation in the SSP councils' meetings), survey and brainstorming.</p>
Business sectors that are positively affected	<p>Sectors directly related to the four ISPs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) ISP 1 – Offshore, port and logistics technologies; 2) ISP 2 – Interactive technologies in an information-saturated environment 3) ISP 3 - Eco-effective technologies in the generation, transmission, distribution and consumption of energy and fuels, and in construction

	4) ISP 4 - Medical technologies in the area of civilization and ageing-associated diseases;	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	<p>The external service (analysis) prepared by Deloitte is based on the recommendation of the European Commission. They recommended establishment of the professional management method to manage the four ISP.</p> <p>Additionally, the Commission suggests for the future adopting a sustainable and structured approach to involve experts and regional stakeholders in order to facilitate the discussion on the smart specialization in the region.</p> <p>Consultancy was implemented within the framework of the “Technical Assistance Project for 2015-2017”, from task 3 Expert and legal support financed under the Regional Operational Program for the Pomeranian Region 2014 - 2020. The project is co-financed by the European Social Fund under the Regional Operational Program for Pomorskie 2014-2020.</p>	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Advisory services, including the development of recommendations, in the field of managing the development of smart specialisation in the Pomorskie Region will allow effective assessing of functioning of PSS and structures related with it.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
The Pomerania Voivodeship Marshall’s Office	Pomorskie smart specialization boards and stakeholders engaged in the ISPs (agreements signatories)	Pomorskie smart specialization boards and stakeholders engaged in the ISPs (agreements signatories)
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Actions that were taken during the first stage of the project allowed to determine which risks of those identified prior to the beginning of the project, have materialized. Also, the report presents barriers in the development of each ISP board and each specialization.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – please indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism	Deloitte analysis will allow to foster the development of the stakeholders who joined the ISP1 (“blue specialization”) agreement and plan to undertake joint actions and implement new R&D projects. Enhancement of the “blue” specialization will strengthen international competitiveness and accelerate the growth rate of maritime economy sector enterprises in Pomorskie Voivodeship by carrying out R&D works and developing innovative products, services and technologies in the field	

	of environmentally sound exploration and exploitation of marine resources.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – please indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	The principle of intelligent specialization (RIS3) and its importance for regional development policy are set out in Chapter III, point A, point 8 of the Pomeranian Development Strategy 2020 (SRWP2020). The identification of the Intelligent Specializations of Pomorskie region (ISP) is relevant for the implementation of SRWP 2020 and is related to the implementation of all Regional Strategic Programs (RPSs). It is also an important element in the implementation of the Regional Operational Program of the Pomeranian Voivodeship for the years 2014-2020.
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	n/a

(P6) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Expansion through innovation – Support Grant
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Financial instrument
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.ncbr.gov.pl/fundusze-europejskie/poir/aktualnosci/
Contact persons	<p>Narodowe Centrum Badań Rozwoju Instytucja Pośrednicząca I i IV Priorytetu PO IR ul. Nowogrodzka 47a 00-695 Warszawa tel.: +48 22 39 07 401 tel.: +48 22 39 07 301 fax: +48 22 20 13 408 NCBR.gov.pl LISTA KONTAKTÓW</p>
Detailed description	
Case description	<p>Action aimed at supporting R&D projects implemented by the company. Support is addressed to both large enterprises and SMEs, where it is possible to organize calls for dedicated solely one of the above groups of companies.</p> <p>R&D projects should include industrial research and development work or only development.</p> <p>In order to receive funding there is the commercialization of the results of R&D, understood as selling the results to other business entity. Support is directed to projects linked to the National Intelligent Specialization, including new specializations resulting from the process of entrepreneurial discovery.</p> <p>1.1.1 - Funding is provided for projects that include industrial research and development work or development (projects that do not provide development cannot obtain financing).</p> <p>The beneficiary may delegate the implementation of part of the R & D project to a subcontractor. The value of the work carried out on the basis of subcontracting cannot exceed the thresholds set out in the regulations of competitions (usually 50% of the project value).</p>
Business sectors, that are positively affected	The instrument is open to any business
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	Governmental decision (Ministry of Economic Development)
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Fast decision making process as time is money for MSP.
Identification/listing of groups:	

OWNER	BENEFICIARY	TARGET GROUP
Ministry of Economic Development Implementing Authority: National Research and Development Centre	entrepreneurs	entrepreneurs
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	<p>The list of direct results indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The increase in employment in the supported enterprises O / K / M [EPC] (CI 8) The number of patent applications filed Number of implemented results of R & D Revenue from implemented the results of R & D <p>List of output indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of enterprises receiving support The number of small and medium-sized enterprises receiving support Number of enterprises receiving grants Private investment complementary public support for enterprises (grants) Number of enterprises cooperating with research centres The number of ongoing R&D work Number of enterprises supported 	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	See above	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	It is an indirect measure supporting implementation of Regional Strategic Programme “Port of Creativity”	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	n/a	

(P7) General information

Name of "Best practice" case	Scale UP instrument of the "Start In Poland" program
Type of "Best practice" (method, approach, etc.)	Financial instrument run by the Center for analysis and piloting of new instruments - INNO_LAB, financed by the Operational Program Smart Growth for 2014-2020.
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	https://poir.parp.gov.pl/scaleup/scaleup
Contact persons	<p>Person responsible for the project "Space3ac intermodal transportation" financed from the ScaleUP instrument:</p> <p>Mateusz Maksymiuk m.maksymiuk@strefa.gda.pl mobile.: 0048 695 80 00 50 0048 58 739 61 54 Pomeranian Special Economic Zone Ltd. ul. Władysława IV 9 81-703 Sopot</p>
Detailed description	
Case description	<p>ScaleUP is the first competition opened under the government's programme 'Start In Poland'. The aim of the activity is to bring together the potential of novice, creative entrepreneurs with the infrastructure, experience and resources of large corporations, including state-owned companies.</p> <p>The first stage of piloting was a selection of ScaleUP Accelerators - entities with experience in the implementation of acceleration measures. Then, in cooperation with large companies (state-owned companies will be preferred), corporate accelerators, such as seed / venture capital or scientific units, are expected to implement comprehensive accelerated programs. Each program will support at least 20 startups.</p> <p>Young companies will receive financial support (up to 80 000 EUR), the resources they need to develop and test their own solutions, access to mentors, and the opportunity to gain experience and build networking, business partners and potential investors. Scale Up for startups also has the opportunity to increase credibility and promote your brand among a wide range of corporate clients. The pilot effect will be the commercialization of innovative solutions proposed by startups, including products and services, which will respond to the identified needs of large enterprises in the program.</p> <p>The grant amount for a single accelerator project is a maximum of PLN 6 million (1,5million EUR). The duration of the project will be 15 months and the duration of a single accelerator program 3-6</p>

	months. Solutions developed by the project participants will fit in the National Smart Specializations (NSS). The budget of the competition was increased by PLN 60 million. In January 2017 ten accelerators have been selected for financing, one of them is “The Space3ac intermodal transportation” project (MIG involved as mentor).	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	SMEs from all possible sectors that are covered by NSSs	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	Governmental decision (Ministry of Economic Development)	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Based on real needs from the large enterprises and based on close cooperation between starter and enterprise while inventing the solution.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Ministry of Economic Development	ScaleUP Accelerators SMEs from all possible sectors that are covered by NSSs	SMEs from all possible sectors that are covered by NSSs
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Not yet achieved but it is expected that 1-5 start-ups will be commercialised out of 20 supported by each accelerator/project.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	See above	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	It is an indirect measure supporting implementation of Regional Strategic Programme “Port of Creativity”	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	n/a	

(P8) General information

Name of "Best practice" case	The Association of Polish Maritime Industries FORUM OKRĘTOWE
Type of "Best practice" (method, approach, etc.)	Association
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://en.forumokretowe.org.pl/
Contact persons	Krystyna Jacobsen – Operational Manager forum@forumokretowe.org.pl

Detailed description

Case description	<p>The Association of Polish Maritime Industries FORUM OKRĘTOWE is an employers' union set in Poland in accordance with the Union Act.</p> <p>FORUM OKRĘTOWE was established in 1993 as a result of the efforts undertaken to create a platform for multilateral business contacts among shipyards, their supply chain and other institutions experience their business in the shipbuilding sector. The initiator of the Association of Polish Maritime Industry FORUM OKRĘTOWE was Nestor of the Polish shipbuilding industry Professor Jerzy Wojciech Doerffer the first President of the Association.</p> <p>FORUM OKRĘTOWE is a member of the SEA Europe (formerly CESA) an organization grouping the shipyards and ship equipment manufacturers from Europe and from Turkey. FORUM OKRĘTOWE is also a member of the Polish Confederation of Private Employers LEWIATAN.</p> <p>The aim for FORUM OKRĘTOWE set in By-Laws lies in lobbying for suitable conditions enabling further development of the Polish shipbuilding industry, creating co-operation platforms for members of the Association and also protecting their common interests as well as representing them home and abroad.</p> <p>The companies, members of FORUM OKRĘTOWE always maintain outstandingly high professional level and as a group gather an enormous intellectual potential. The members of FORUM OKRĘTOWE are newbuilding and repair shipyards, service suppliers, ship equipment manufacturers, cooperating companies and other enterprises and/or institutions active in the shipbuilding industry. Among them there are universities, research and development centres, design offices, classification societies, banks and lawyers offices.</p> <p>FORUM OKRĘTOWE is united by the hope and conviction that standing together we can more, that acting together we achieve mutual business successes, which results in securing stable,</p>
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	interesting and satisfying jobs for thousands of people.	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<p>Field of activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protection of members rights and representation of their interest • creation of an environment for development of ship newbuilding and ship repairing industries, co-operating supply chain and research institutions • promotion of co-operation and exchange of services between members • participation in establishment of new legislation • representation of Polish shipbuilding industry in international organizations and associations 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	Practise is not financed from EU funds and was not chosen for implementation based on RIS3. The association was formed on the initiative of industrial enterprises. It is an initiative created in response to market demand.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Forum Okrętowe is the only institution of that kind in the whole country. It unites the biggest number of members. Those are the most significant institutions in maritime economy.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Office of The Association of Polish Maritime Industries FORUM OKRĘTOWE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • newbuilding and repair shipyards, • service suppliers, • ship equipment manufacturers, • cooperating companies • other enterprises and/or institutions active in the shipbuilding industry. <p>Among them there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • universities, • research and development centres, • design offices, • classification societies, • banks and lawyers offices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • newbuilding and repair shipyards, • service suppliers, • ship equipment manufacturers, • cooperating companies • other enterprises and/or institutions active in the shipbuilding industry. <p>Among them there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • universities, • research and development centres, • design offices, • classification societies, • banks and lawyers offices.

Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	The main success of FORUM OKRĘTOWE is lobbying for suitable conditions enabling further development of the Polish shipbuilding industry, creating co-operation platforms for members of the Association and also protecting their common interests as well as representing them home and abroad.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	See above	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Practise is not financed from EU funds and was not chosen for implementation based on RIS3. However it is a very good example of initiative/activity that helps to increase and strength blue growth and may be used in other regions/countries	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	See above	

(P9) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Life Science Nord (cluster management for life sciences)
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Financing modus
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.lifesciencenord.de/en/start/
Contact persons	Dr Hinrich Habeck (habeck@lifesciencenord.de) Tel: +49 40 471 96 400
Detailed description	
Case description	<p>With a complete value chain – from basic and applied research, to clinical tests, to the market-ready end product – the Life Science Nord cluster offers a unique infrastructure: practically oriented researchers and clinical staff cooperate closely with partners in the industry to help innovative products and technologies make the breakthrough.</p> <p>This engagement for the region is actively supported by Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein; both states are involved in the Life Science Nord Management GmbH with a 40% share each. This cluster agency coordinates a variety of activities, organises and participates in events, informs about news within the cluster, offers advice and initiates strategic projects for the development of innovative medicine. Furthermore, it brings together economy, research and politics in the north, activating expert knowledge from universities and research institutions as well as their close contacts with companies.</p> <p>In addition, about 200 companies and organisations in biomedicine and related industries have organised themselves into the research and industry association Life Science Nord e.V. The association retains a 20% share in the cluster management and pools the interests of its members. In cooperation with the cluster management, the association offers its members additional advantages by means of a partner programme.</p>
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Biotechnology, Pharmaceuticals, Medical Technology
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	All clusters are based on important sectors that have been developing in Schleswig-Holstein for a long time. The implementation as “cluster”, with a cluster management and other related features is due to the recent trend of cluster policy. There was no call, it was rather a strategical decision to develop a cluster strategy in SH and to implement a cluster policy.

Nomination of the success factors for the case	<p>Life Science Nord is the only cluster in Schleswig-Holstein that gets institutional support instead of project funding. This allows for more continuity, better planning and strategic processes. The management staff can gain knowledge over a long period of time without constant danger of an end of funding. Long-term contacts can be built up, as well as trust.</p> <p>In opposite to this financing model other cluster managements are only funded for up to 9 years. After that time the intention is to find other sources to finance the cluster management. This seems to be difficult as members are not willing and probably cannot afford to finance structures like cluster managements.</p>	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICIARY	TARGET GROUP
For Schleswig-Holstein: Ministry of Economic Affairs, Employment, Transport and Technology Schleswig-Holstein	Enterprises in the respective sectors in Schleswig-Holstein and Hamburg, universities, university hospitals and research institutes	Life Science Nord Management GmbH
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	To attract as many enterprises and actors in the field of live science as possible as cluster members. To connect actors, to enhance cooperation projects to support life science in Schleswig-Holstein and Hamburg.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism).	Blue biotechnology is a side topic within this cluster.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy.	Life Science is one of five specialisation fields nominated in the RIS3 Schleswig-Holstein. The cluster structures are supposed to support SMEs with regard to knowledge and technology transfer and in establishing cooperation between members. Those topics are seen as priority themes according to the RIS3.	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.		

(P10) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	MCN (Maritime Cluster Northern Germany)
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Organisation: Supra-regional institution
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://maritimes-cluster.de/Home?lang=en-US
Contact persons	Heino Schadwald (schadwald@maritimes-cluster.de) Tel. +49 431 66666 868

Detailed description

Case description	Five Northern German countries – one maritime cluster! The Maritimes Cluster Norddeutschland (MCN) promotes and develops cooperation in the Northern German maritime industry. It gives the maritime industry a voice, creates platforms so that stakeholders are able to interact with one and other and it also promotes interfaces with other industries – innovative, technology-oriented and forward-looking.
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Marine engineering, hydrography, maritime service providers, offshore technology, port economy, shipbuilding suppliers, shipping companies, shipyards and related sectors...
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	All clusters are based on important sectors that have been developing in Schleswig-Holstein for a long time. The implementation as “cluster”, with a cluster management and other related features is due to the recent trend of cluster policy. There was no call, it was rather a strategical decision to develop a cluster strategy in SH and to implement a cluster policy.
Nomination of the success factors for the case	The Maritime Cluster Northern Germany is the only cluster in Schleswig-Holstein that includes all five northern German states in one cluster. It is oriented towards the economic region of maritime economy rather than on political borders. This enables opportunities: it is easier to reach a critical mass for specific topics and matchmaking between companies and research institutes. On the other side, this supra-regional organisation also leads to challenges: interests between the included states differ, legal and financial difficulties appear, different cultures in regional politics and administration bodies have to be bridged

Identification/listing of groups:

OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
For Schleswig-Holstein: Ministry of Economic Affairs, Employment, Transport and Technology Schleswig-Holstein	Enterprises in maritime sectors, universities and research centres	For Schleswig-Holstein: WTSH (Business Development and Technology Transfer Corporation of Schleswig-Holstein)

Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	The cluster aims to cover as many actors in the maritime sector in Northern Germany as possible. It is a networking body to match actors for projects and cooperation.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	The MCN is a very “blue” cluster, dealing mainly with the field of machinery and technology and in parts with (offshore) energy.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Maritime Economy is one of five specialisation fields nominated in the RIS3 Schleswig-Holstein. The cluster structures are supposed to support SMEs with regard to knowledge and technology transfer and in establishing cooperation between members. Those topics are seen as priority themes according to the RIS3.	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.		

(P11) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Cluster (in general)	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach: visibility, central contact point	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Themen/C/cluster.html (pdf with English brochure on cluster policy in Schleswig-Holstein available on this website)	
Contact persons	Rebecca Wiemker (Rebecca.wiemker@wimi.landsh.de)	
Detailed description		
Case description	The primary aim of Schleswig-Holstein’s cluster policy is to bring together actors from business, research and politics so that they can work hand in hand. Cluster managements are established as a measure to foster the transfer of knowledge and skills, promote common goals and shared ideas, and harness the potential for innovation across sectors and technologies.	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Maritime economy, Life Science, Energy, Digital Economy, food economy, (tourism)	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	All clusters are based on important sectors that have been developing in Schleswig-Holstein for a long time. The implementation as “cluster”, with a cluster management and other related features is due to the recent trend of cluster policy. There was no call, it was rather a strategical decision to develop a cluster strategy in SH and to implement a cluster policy.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	The establishment of clusters and especially cluster managements make important sectors more visible. The cluster management becomes a central contact point for enterprises as well as for politics, science and administration. Especially in regions like Schleswig-Holstein with a lot of small and medium sized companies, this central management improves communication and cooperation a lot. Members of the cluster develop a feeling of “belonging together”, trust is built up and cooperation between members becomes more likely and easier.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
For Schleswig-Holstein: Ministry of Economic Affairs, Employment, Transport and Technology Schleswig-Holstein	Enterprises, universities, research institutes, politics	(1) existing cluster managements (2) Cluster Development Unit of the Business Development and Technology Transfer Corporation of Schleswig-Holstein

Results	
Results planned and achieved (if available)	To reach as many members as possible, to enhance cooperation between local enterprises and exchange between research institutes, universities and enterprises.
Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	Depending on the topic of the respective cluster: The clusters in Schleswig-Holstein cover all blue growth fields defined for the Smart Blue Regions Project.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	The five themes of clusters are at the same time the five specialisation fields nominated in the RIS3 Schleswig-Holstein. The cluster structures are supposed to support SMEs with regard to knowledge and technology transfer and in establishing cooperation between members.
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	

(P12) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Competence Centre Nanosystems Technology
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach: pooling & coordination
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	https://www.kompetenzzentrum-nanosystemtechnik.uni-kiel.de/de?set_language=de&set_language=en
Contact persons	Prof. Eckhard Quandt (eq@tf.uni-kiel.de) Tel. +49 431 880 6200

Detailed description

Case description	The Competence Centre Nanosystems Technology was established in November 2013 at the Technical Faculty of the Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel, funded by ERDF. The competence centre uses the infrastructure of the nano laboratory Kiel, to allow users from industry access to most modern processes in nanosystems technology. Strong cooperation exists with spin-offs. Employees of the competence centre advise users of the laboratory during their work. University projects conducted in the laboratory are prepared for technological transfer in an early phase to ensure an efficient use of the results.
Business sectors, that are positively affected	All sectors related to nanosystems technologies/ material sciences...
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	There was no open call for competence centres in general. Institutions applied for single projects. Out of this activity the establishment of several thematic competence centres evolved. Some of them have been ceased after the first funding period because of insufficient results. All competence centres that still exist have proven in the first period that they are worth being funded.
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Competence centres can be understood as showcases for certain (innovative) technologies. Competence centres are pooling and coordinating actors and information. They are focused on scientific institutions but technology transfer towards enterprises is part of the approach. Similar to cluster managements, competence centres serve as intermediary between science, enterprises, politics and administration. But in contrast to cluster managements, competence centres do their own applied research and have their own research equipment available.

Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
For Schleswig-Holstein: Ministry of Economic Affairs, Employment, Transport and Technology Schleswig-Holstein	Universities, research institutes, enterprises	Universities, research institutes
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Within Competence Centres professional expertise is produced and later transferred to regional enterprises.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism).	Nanosystems technology can be seen as a cross- technology that might be useful for several blue growth fields like machinery and technology or energy.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy.	Within the RIS3 Schleswig-Holstein the “expansion of business related R&D infrastructure using competence centres to further develop core competences” was defined as a smart specialisation topic.	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.		

(P13) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	GEOMAR Biotech, National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture, Centre Industrial Biotechnology, Fraunhofer EMB (Society for Marine Biotechnology and Cell Technology)
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach: measure “competence centre” is most suitable for young research-intensive technology fields, with first applications in industry (like most blue growth sectors)
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.geomar.de/en/research/fb3/fb3-mn/geomar-biotech/ http://www.gma-buesum.de/projekte/aktuelle-projekte/nationales-kompetenzzentrum-marine-aquakultur-phase-iii.html http://www.cib-fhl.de/ http://www.emb.fraunhofer.de/en.html
Contact persons	Prof. Deniz Tasdemir (dtasdemir@geomar.de) Tel. +49 431-6004430 Prof. Carsten Schulz (cschulz@tierzucht.uni-kiel.de) Tel. +49 4834-96539912 Drs. Ferdinand Rietman (ferdinand.rietman@fh-luebeck.de) Tel. +49 451-3005553 Prof. Charli Kruse (charli.kruse@emb.fraunhofer.de) Tel. +49 451 384448 - 10

Detailed description

Case description	<p>Competence Centres are thematically connected to one or several scientific institutions and regional enterprises. Within Competence Centres professional expertise is produced and later transferred to regional enterprises.</p> <p>As part of GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel (Germany), GEOMAR-Biotech (GEOMAR Centre for Marine Biotechnology) is a unique, state-of-the-art centre dedicated to outstanding research in marine biotechnology and biodiscovery and the transfer of research results to application.</p> <p>The National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture is attached to the Gesellschaft für Marine Aquakultur (GMA) in Büsum. The objective of the GMA is to attend to and support the development of aquaculture, especially with respect to applied research in the field of marine aquaculture. This research facility was built in 2009 and is equipped according to the latest scientific and technical specifications.</p> <p>The Centrum Industrial Biotechnology is an interdisciplinary research and technology platform at the University of Applied Sciences Lübeck. The Centre is pooling existing expert knowledge in the field of industrial biotechnology. In combining different competences, new research projects and services for innovations in business are developed.</p>
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	The Fraunhofer Institution for Marine Biotechnology and Cell Technology is a member of the Fraunhofer Group for Life Sciences of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft and addresses the development of new technologies in the fields of cell technology and aquatic biotechnology. The biotechnological use of cells is the focus of the research and development projects which they advance in collaboration with industrial companies and clinics. Especially in the fields of therapy, diagnosis and prevention, new lab-devices are developed and possible cell-based applications for the hospitals are tested. With the scope on marine biotechnology and the application of molecular and cytological methods for aquaculture EMB works on topics regarding the future field bio-economy.	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Aquaculture, Blue Biotechnology	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	There was no open call for competence centres in general. Institutions applied for single projects. Out of this activity the establishment of several thematic competence centres evolved. Some of them have been ceased after the first funding period because of insufficient results. All competence centres that still exist have proven in the first period that they are worth being funded.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	The measure of competence centres is best suitable for young and innovative topics/ fields like most blue growth sectors are. They are focused on cooperation and coordination of research projects, providing research infrastructure and enables first contacts to enterprises for application of those new technologies. In Schleswig-Holstein, Blue Growth fields of aquaculture and blue biotechnology are represented by several competence centres, demonstrating that this measure is meeting best the needs of those young innovative sectors.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
For Schleswig-Holstein: Ministry of Economic Affairs, Employment, Transport and Technology Schleswig-Holstein	Universities, research institutes, enterprises	Universities, research institutes
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Within Competence Centres professional expertise is produced and later transferred to regional enterprises.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal	Life Science (especially blue biotechnology and aquaculture)	

tourism)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Within the RIS3 Schleswig-Holstein the “expansion of business related R&D infrastructure using competence centres to further develop core competences” was defined as a smart specialisation topic.
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	

(P14) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Bastu accelerating concept	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Start-up and innovation service	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	https://bastuturku.wordpress.com/in-english/	
Contact persons	Keijo Koskinen keijo.koskinen@utu.fi	
Detailed description		
Case description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion and generation of 6th wave entrepreneurship in South-West Finland - Focus on scarcity of natural resources and how to use them in new and innovative ways: value creation with digital, material or intangible assets or various combinations of these - Achievement of solutions that support the idea of circular- and 6th wave economy, new business innovations and the redirection of the operations of existing companies and also development of further existing structures and processes. - Creation of new methods of resource wise value creation through the use of core competences of the participating companies - Increase of business in global markets - Enhancing the image of South-West Finland as an innovative region 	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marine industry - Technology industry - IT industry - Start-up companies - All other fields of industries that want to work on principles of 6th wave entrepreneurship 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	- Financed by city of Turku, University of Turku	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on core competences of participating companies - Cost effective way to boost innovations and enterprises - Creates new business opportunities by forcing the entrepreneurs to think in innovative ways using the principles of circular economy 	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
City of Turku, University of Turku	Bastu	Local entrepreneurs
Results		

Results planned and achieved (if available)	-
Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	- Focus on marine industry: a specific blue growth themed development period starting in autumn.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	- Focus on region’s strong fields of business - Focus on circular economy - Enhancing the image of South-West Finland as an innovative region
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P15) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Turku Future Technologies	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Turku Future Technologies is a research, development and innovation network for technology industry and enterprises.	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.turkufuturetechnologies.fi/ (only in Finnish)	
Contact persons	Karri Mikkonen karri.mikkonen@turkusciencepark.com	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>TFT is an accessible and agile co-operational network that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tailors a broad-based research excellence to improve competitiveness and growth in technology companies in South-West Finland • Supports a strategic development project of a company by speeding up know-how development – a product, production, business related – as well as market entries. • Provides a seamless model of co-operation for researchers and companies which leads to company-driven, multidisciplinary and profitable innovation collaboration. 	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technology industry - Marine industry 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?		
Nomination of the success factors for the case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Easy and flexible - Supports development of enterprises by helping them in R&D, management and it also helps the enterprises to enter the markets faster than without any help - Increases cooperation among enterprises and educational institutes which helps in commercializing of innovations - Gives enterprises an access to high level research - Main point of focus support on enterprise’s strategical growth and competitiveness - Competitive pricing - Connects young professionals with enterprises 	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
City of Turku, Turku Science Park, City of Rauma	Turku Future Technologies	Enterprises, technology and marine industry

Results	
Results planned and achieved (if available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing the amount of engineers and master level engineer education in the area - Making technology industry seem more attractive in the area - Bettering the image of South-West Finland as an area with a high level of technological know-how - Increasing cooperation among higher education institutes, enterprises and technology industry as a whole - Improving competitiveness and growth of the enterprises
Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marine industry a point of focus - The aim is to increase the amount of engineers in the area - More high-tech know-how in the area
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enterprises in South-West Finland are the main priority - Promotes innovations - Focus on marine industry - Focus on engineering, engineer education and technological development
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P16) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Lounaistieto	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Lounaistieto is a regional information service operating in Southwest Finland.	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.lounaistieto.fi/	
Contact persons	antti.vasanen@varsinais-suomi.fi	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>Lounaistieto is an info sharing portal based on openness and co-operation. Lounaistieto can be described as regional open data center. Its aims are to increase democracy and public participation and to make public administration more efficient. Lounaistieto helps regional actors to show public information as open data, which is key to applications, business ideas and jobs. Lounaistieto shares open information from statistics to geographic data and spreads knowledge about regional actors and development, the environment and events. The members as well as municipalities and the third sector are the ones producing the content to the portal.</p> <p>In the future, Lounaistieto wants to enhance joint marketing, promote partnership and offer platform for cooperation even more than today. Lounaistieto could act as a window to regional success stories and it could be also used to spread information about available EU-financing, for example.</p>	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	All kinds of enterprises, Lounaistieto is a very flexible service.	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	In South-West Finnish regional strategy 2014, it was decided that Southwest Finnish regional information service would be founded. Lounaistieto was officially launched in October 2015 and is being developed constantly. Lounaistieto is funded by the city of Turku, three higher education institutes in Turku, Regional Council of South-West Finland and Regional Council of Satakunta, all which also acts as members in open data network of the region.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Openness, adaptability to different circumstances, positive and cooperative attitude. Very positive feedback from users. Freeing civil servants from having to answer to requests for information. Has created more cooperation among regional actors. In accordance with implementation of the EU PSI (Public Sector Information) directive.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Regional Council of Southwest Finland	Enterprises, civil society, governmental organizations	Enterprises, civil society, governmental organizations, common people

Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The web site www.lounaistieto.fi that was launched in October 2015 and that is constantly being updated - Very positive user feedback 	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It could serve as a platform to share the collected data e.g. in GoA 4.1. - Blue Growth themed online map where the user could identify blue companies easily in one place. Could increase cooperation among actors of the region. - Presenting actors with up-to-date information and making their decisions more educated - Better measurement tools for Blue Growth - Linking individual projects into larger entities 	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An opportunity to showcase regional expertise 	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.		

(P17) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	(Kolkasrags) Cape Kolkas - Sea, Land, Creativity of a human being	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.kolkasrags.lv/en	
Contact persons	Jānis Dambītis, +371 26486622	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>Cape Kolka is a meeting point, granted by the Nature. Here come together the seas and nations, the Human and the Nature. Thanks to public and private funding that went together here in Cape Kolka, this place is alive all year round. The vision of Kolkas is to develop ecotourism based of values- ages, environment, nature and humans.</p> <p>Cape Kolka today provides jobs for local people, internship opportunities for students, support for local craftsman, space for creative souls and recreation for families.</p> <p>By contributing a fee for parking, locals and tourists are contributing for development of environmentally-friendly infrastructure – resting places, information stands, walking trails, signposts, litter bins, toilets etc. and high-quality jobs for local people</p>	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Tourism, Crafts,	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	The initiative from local entrepreneur with cooperation with municipality	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Synergy between finance- Public and private. Practice based on values and it development. First initiatives to use sustainable energy (Solar)	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Different	SIA “Kolkas rags”, Municipality	Local people, Tourists
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Ecotourism attraction that is recognized both nationally	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of	Coastal tourism, partly energy.	

Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	As this practice is not implemented in the framework of RIS3 strategy, it could help implement RIS3 in future prospects. As the goal is to work with biotechnologies to provide services, it can be involved in Bioeconomy priority implementation.
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	This practice can contribute to Blue Growth. This project could benefit from for OP 5.5.1. Promote regional development stimulating sustainable development of internationally significant cultural and natural heritage and the related services as there could be an increase in number of visitors due to the improved infrastructure.

(P18) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	“Saviļņojoša Vidzeme” (Wavy Vidzeme) – Tourism cluster. Platform of Municipalities and entrepreneurs to promote tourism development in Coastal area	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.vidzeme.com/lv/par-vidzemes-turisma-asociaciju/savilnojosa-vidzeme/savilnojosa-vidzeme.html https://www.facebook.com/VidzemeCoast/	
Contact persons	info@vidzeme.com , +371 641 22011	
Detailed description		
Case description	Vidzeme coastal tourism cluster “Growing Vidzeme” was created to promote recognition of coastal region worldwide, to prolong time of stay in the area, Reduce seasonal impact, To promote the growth of supply quality and promote cooperation between stakeholders. Five coastal municipalities are involved- Aloja, Carnikava, Limbaži, Salacgrīva and Saulkrasti, Association of tourism and entrepreneurs. The main task is to promote visibility of region, give possibilities to develop tourism business, get new experience and knowledges.	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Tourism, Local Food industry	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	One of the well-recognised clusters in Latvia for tourism development. Cluster	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Sustainability of initiative, since 2009. Integration with new technologies. Business	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
	Vidzeme Tourism Association	Entrepreneurs
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Increased recognition or fermion. Common touristic offer for domestic and international tourism. Reduce seasonal impact for touristic industry. IT application has been developed.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	Coastal tourism, IT technology	

Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	As this practice is not implemented in the framework of RIS3 strategy, it could help implement RIS3 in future prospects.
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	This practice can contribute to Blue Growth. This project could be a contribution for OP 5.5.1. Promote regional development stimulating sustainable development of internationally significant cultural and natural heritage and the related services

(P19) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Initiating full scale mussel farming in the Baltic Sea	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Research project	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	https://www.submariner-network.eu/projects/balticbluegrowth/about-baltic-blue-growth	
Contact persons	Anda Ikauniece , E-mail: anda.ikauniece@lhei.lv	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>Six farms in different parts of the Baltic Sea form the basis for the project. In Latvia, the farm will be established near western coast of Baltic Sea. The aim is to advance mussel farming in the Baltic Sea from experimental to full scale.</p> <p>To build up a commercially viable mussel farming value chain, it is not only necessary to develop suitable farming techniques for Baltic Sea conditions, but also to develop accepted mechanisms to compensate the ecosystem services provided by mussel farming.</p> <p>the project’s main outputs will include: (1) Models and functional decision support tools on suitable farming sites and their production potential (2) Business plans and farming manuals for large scale mussel farms (3) A demonstration line for processing mussels into fish and poultry feed (4) A guide on licensing processes for mussel farming in the Baltic Sea Region, (5) Recommendations on harmonised maritime spatial planning and ecosystem service compensation measures.</p>	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Tourism, Sea farming	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	The project is implemented by project partner: Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology. Project is financed by European Regional Development fund. Interreg Baltic Sea Region.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Positive effect for environment to provide new opportunities for Bioeconomics.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
	Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology	Citizens, Farmers
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	<p>-recognition of blue mussels as an efficient way of counteracting eutrophication, complementing legally required source-related measures</p> <p>-acceptance of a compensation scheme for the ecosystem service provided by the mussels</p>	

	-the establishment of mussel farming as an attractive market for entrepreneurs the production of mussel meal as an ingredient in animal feed.
Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	Project contributes to the area of Resources of Life Science. Secondarily for Coastal tourism as it provides better quality of sea water.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Project contributes to the National RIS strategy as this is area of Bioeconomy.
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P20) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Development through development of internationally significant cultural and natural heritage and related services
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	https://www.km.gov.lv/lv/fondi-un-es-politika/eiropas-regionalas-attistibas-fonds/2014-2020/5-5-1-sam
Contact persons	Zanda Saulīte, Zanda.Saulite@km.gov.lv

Detailed description

Case description	<p>The case is based on approach how Latvian ministry of culture is implementing one of the EU Structural funds measure: Promote regional development stimulating sustainable development of internationally significant cultural and natural heritage and the related services. The key idea is to develop significant culture and natural heritage objects to develop services around it. In the framework of this measure, the special programme for coastal area is established.</p> <p>The approach is developed with the close cooperation of Ministry of Regional development and National Heritage Inspection.</p> <p>The applicant to receive was municipalities who made a concept note for the main concept, but project could be developed with the closes cooperation with other municipalities, planning regions, owners of cultural and natural heritage (NGOs, religious organizations, Legal entities, private companies and national authorities.</p> <p>The proposed concepts had to be based on existing development plans of involved municipalities. Supported concepts are cases of cooperation between many municipality’s that lead to situation of complex ideas of coastal development</p>
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Tourism, retail trade, other services
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	This is only analysed measure, that can directly contribute (Is planned to) contribute to Blue Growth
Nomination of the success factors for the case	The approach has not been implemented yet.

Identification/listing of groups:

OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP

Results

Results planned and achieved (if available)	- Increase of visitors in the objects of natural and historical heritage- not less than 140 000 persons (comparing to 2015)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supported at least 15 objects of cultural and historical heritage - At least 15 newly developed services.
Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	The indicative target territories are linked to Guidelines of Regional Development 2013.-2019 integrally marked places of concentration of cultural and historical areas and landscapes with perfect cultural and natural values and existing flows of visitors, including on the coast of the Baltic Sea which are integrally marked in Latvian Tourism Development Guidelines 2014–2020.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	No
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P21) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Integrated Territorial Investments in Jurmala city	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	https://www.jurmala.lv/docs/j17/l/j170223.htm	
Contact persons	Baiba Birzniece: baiba.birzniece@jurmala.lv	
Detailed description		
Case description	Integrated Territories Investments means, that city choose a Degraded territory and revitalize territory as a whole using different positions from Structural funds. In Jurmala, one of the area to revitalize is Kemeris where famous Sanatoria is located. With the investments, municipality improves infrastructure and provide are for business activities	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	Water tourism, Shipping, Healthcare, Tourism.	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	Practice was based on proposals, that came from Working Groups in Jurmala city as an example, that can contribute to Blue Growth and RIS3 strategy in Jurmala city, as territory with potential to develop recreation and healthcare business related to Therapeutic sludge usage.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	As this is running approach, the success is expected to come.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Operation programme owners	Municipality	Municipal authorities, Educational institutions, Entrepreneurs
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Jurmala city will invest 25 424 567 euro integrating 6 OP from EU Structural funds in all Degraded areas.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism).	As one of the area to revitalize is rich with Therapeutic sludge and there is plans to use it in Medical purposes, than it closely related to Blue Growth and Latvian RIS3 strategy (Biomedicine and Bioeconomy is one of the priorities).	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Potentially biomedicine and recreation services can be provides in revitalised areas of the Jurmala city.	

<p>If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.</p>	<p>-</p>
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(P22) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Centre of excellence in health promotion and rehabilitation	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Centre for promoting and advancing research and development, as well as implementation, dissemination and mediation of information in the fields of curative mud treatment and human mobility and operational capacity.	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	www.terekk.ee	
Contact persons	Eva Makienko , Director, Manager of Health Promotion and Curative Mud Unit E-mail: eva.makienko@tlu.ee	
Detailed description		
Case description	The mission of the centre is preserving and restoring the working capacity of the (working-age) population and promoting regional development. The work of the Centre of Excellence in Health Promotion and Rehabilitation focuses on to main fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - •The field of curative mud treatment - •The field of mobility and operational capacity 	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	- Technology industry	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	- By European regional development Fund, self-financing (University + partners), providing a variety of services	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	- They are doing collaboration with many experts to develop different prototypes. As a result of the Centre’s research and development, different prototypes of products and services (methods) have been developed. They are doing therapeutic mud-sed sectoral activities and researches (created curative mud database etc.).	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Tallinn University Haapsalu college competence centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Producers of natural products - Sludge treatment providers - Sludge treatment processors, manufactures, 	Enterprises from the western region as well as other regions of Estonia and abroad in the following fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • miners, sellers and processors of curative mud • miners, sellers and processors of peat used in the mixtures • producers and renters of support equipment such as orthoses • other producers and mediators of health and medical products

	exporters	(furniture, other specific products) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drug manufacturers • cosmetics manufacturers • spa companies • other providers of health and welfare services (e.g. massage, physiotherapy) • software developers (competence in functionality)
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	The following of them are registered and patent-protected: Electrical mud therapy device for limbs; Therapeutic mud mixture and a method for its manufacture. Also they are developed novel method – mud massage.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	Related to Blue growth by focusing on health treatments and its development in Estonia.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Society is aging and the need of different rehabilitation centres are growing. We need to develop more rehabilitation centres that have ability to deliver variety of services (including researches). Use the nature as one of the major sources of healing and maintaining health.	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.		



(P23) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Port of Sillamäe
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Port of Sillamäe provides all port services. The biggest private harbour in the Baltic Sea region. Port of Sillamäe is the second biggest port in Estonia playing increasingly bigger role in the transport system and economy of Estonia and Northeast Estonia.
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	www.silport.ee
Contact persons	Karri Mikkonen karri.mikkonen@turkusciencepark.com
Detailed description	
Case description	<p>Multifunctional port infrastructure allows handling almost all types of cargo, including liquid, bulk, general cargo, ro-ro and container cargo. Port is open all year round; the depth along the piers reaches 16.5 meters, allowing accommodating all vessels which are able to enter the Baltic Sea through the Danish straits.</p> <p>Port of Sillamäe is a port type landlord, which owns private land in 750 hectares, invests in infrastructure and leases land for the independent operators wishing to establish their own terminal, distribution centre or manufacturing.</p> <p>All the specific services related to the carriage of goods and passengers (stevedoring, loading and discharge of bulk, general, ro-ro, project cargo and containers transported by sea, road and railway transport; storage of cargo; customs and shipping documentation services; forwarding services; cargo packing, sorting, marking and other additional services) provides in the port the multifunctional terminal Silsteve</p>
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technology industry - Marine industry - Logistics and Transportation industry
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	100% privately owned
Nomination of the success factors for the case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As a multifunctional port, SILPORT has an infra- and superstructure capable to handle all cargo groups from oil-products and dry bulk to containerised cargo. - Supports development of enterprises by helping them in R&D, management and it also helps the enterprises to enter the markets faster than without any help

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Location, the only natural deep sea port in Baltic 25KM from Russia - Shareholders are well connected with EU, Russian & CIS businesses (owners of international companies with 50% Russian Shareholding) - 0% corporate income tax –on retained earnings - •Common legislative area –with EU 	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Private property	Enterprises in maritime sector, Municipality, region	Enterprises, marine industry, transport firms
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	- Good example of trade-economic cooperation between the EU and Russia.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	- Marine industry a point of focus	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	- Focus on marine industry	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-	



(P24) General information

Name of “Best practice” case	Small craft competence centre
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Small craft specialized research institution of Tallinn University of Technology.
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	www.scc.ee
Contact persons	Anni Hartikainen Anni.hartikainen@ttu.ee
Detailed description	
Case description	The main function of the Competence Centre is attracting and accumulating professional know-how in small craft engineering. Next to the small craft design and optimisation, these measures also include application of electronic systems and material technologies, training engineers, encouraging inter-sectoral and international cooperation and implementing a variety of soft development activities. For companies, the Competence Centre provides product development and trial manufacturing opportunities in cooperation with the Competence Centre and local companies
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technology industry - Marine industry - Transportation industry - Material technology
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	The establishment of the Centre is co-funded from the European Regional Development Fund and involves several partners who work closely together with College: Kuressaare Regional Training Centre, Association of Estonian Boatyards, Estonian Maritime Academy, Kuressaare City Government, Association of Saaremaa Municipalities, and Saaremaa Business Developing Foundation
Nomination of the success factors for the case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saaremaa boat builders and subcontractors have formed a Small Craft cluster which represents the core of the Association of Estonian Shipyards, a member of European Boating Industry. - Connects small craft builders with each other - The Small Craft Competence Centre in Saaremaa has been established to involve modern knowledge and attract top professionals into the development of a competitive small craft

	cluster.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Tallinn University of Technology	Small craft builders	small craft builders and maritime industry, producers and consumers of materials used in the maritime climate, educational and research institutions
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	The performance of the Small Craft Building Excellence Centre is primarily assessed by the success of small craft building enterprises: growth in the value added, emergence of new enterprises and jobs and investments in the small craft building sector.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	- Marine industry a point of focus. Competence centre mainly deals with the field of machinery and technology	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	- Focus on marine industry - a promotor of the Estonian small craft building and maritime industry; - a provider of sector-specific R&D and testing services	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.		

(P25) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Swedish Algae Factory	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Business- Sustainable Productions Systems	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://swedishalgaefactory.com/	
Contact persons	e- mail: sofie@swedishalgaefactory.com	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>Swedish Algae Factory is a Gothenburg start-up that is developing algae-based wastewater treatment systems with the goal to process algae biomass into bio crude oil.</p> <p>Their solution is based on a new strain of algae growing in the polar ice. The algae have a high lipid content making it usable for fuel production. It grows well in low temperature and low light conditions, which enables Nordic countries to produce algae biomass at a large scale all year around.</p> <p>By using the algae, algae biomass production can be achieved in a much more energy efficient way since it does not need warming and artificial light during winter season.</p>	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biotechnology - Energy sector - Circular economy 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	This start-up is a finalist in the 2016 edition of Climate-KIC’s Venture Competition.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Example of using circular economic mind-set, where carbon dioxide, nitrogen and phosphorus emissions are converted into valuable products.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Swedish Algae Factory	Fuel consumers	-
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	By the end of 2030, company want to open 100 Algae factories in all Sweden.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields:	This start- up contributes to blue energy sector, using new technologies.	

Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	<p>Related to RIS3 ambitions of regional Growth, especially in development of bioeconomy and circular economy</p> <p>Seafarm is an interdisciplinary research project which grows and uses macroalgae for many different purposes in a closed loop system that produces zero waste.</p>
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P26) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Fishing gear diversification	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Financial- support of SME	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://stonefish.ee/	
Contact persons	e- mail: kalaari@hotmail.ee	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>The description is explaining case which is important for many inhabitants in Coastal areas related to seasonal characteristics of SME. Small company by Diversifying its activities outside of the fishing season into the production of fishing gear and multi-purpose nets. The renovation and equipping of an old shed to create a modern facility, powered with renewable energy was financed. Besides a wide range of trap nets, gillnets, trawls, seines, creels, aquaculture equipment and signage flags, the company also produces other net products such as playground climbing nets, football net gates and tow ropes. All products are custom-made and meet the highest technical standards required for fishing gear.</p>	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fishing industry - Start- up companies 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	<p>Diversification of businesses in coastal area is urgent in all coastal area. People are suffering of seasonal business in coastal areas. This case can be an inspiration for other entrepreneurs doing simple phishing as the core business.</p> <p>The project was implemented during the previous planning period with EU assistance.</p>	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	<p>This project is an example of how a fisherman can successfully develop an innovative business making use of his existing skills to tap into a new activity linked to fishing.</p> <p>This sort of project could be interesting for fishermen in search of an alternative income outside of the fishing season.</p>	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
Stonefish company	Local people from Hiiuma	
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	<p>Investment has led to the development of a new year-round activity with products sold both on the national market, and in Finland which accounts for approximately 20% of the total production. Four full-time jobs were created for local women on the island and a half-time job for Mr Kivi himself.</p>	

Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	This investment is related to new technologies using for new business Niche.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	The case is related to promotes innovations and new technological development
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P27) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	The pathway to eco-certification	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach- IT platform	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.fiskonline.se/hem.html	
Contact persons	e- mail: patrik.stjerna@fiskonline.se	
Detailed description		
Case description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FiskOnline has established a pathway for local fishermen to gain certification for the sustainability for their fishing activities. - FiskOnline helps fishermen navigate this process, achieve accreditation and sell their catch online through e-platform. - Through the direct support of an experienced project coordinator, fishermen are given a clear understanding of what is required to achieve accreditation. They receive advice on improving the environmental sustainability of their fishing activities, handling practices and sales, and assistance in preparing applications to have local fish certified. 	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food economy - Digitalisation 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	The success of the project is based on cooperation and partnership between fishermen, scientists, local authorities. Project is financed by EU funds	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	With FiskOnline local fishermen, have managed to improve profitability, not only by investing in better equipment, but also by developing new ways of thinking, by fishing more sustainably and by getting closer to the consumer through direct sales.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
	Fisk Online	Fisherman’s
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	The project has already helped one fisherman to achieve KRAV certification for cod. Work on KRAV accreditation for pike and perch is ongoing. The benefits of the cod certification are significant, with an increase in profitability of 20-25% for KRAV certified catch.	

Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	This project contributed to the area of preserving natural resources to use modern technologies in traditional business area.
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Increased competence within traditional sector and thereby increased growth for the coastal area.
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P28) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Proteins - The Green Gold of Baltic Sea Region Bioeconomy	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Project “Cooperation- mapping the potential for developing”	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.agropark.dk/index.php	
Contact persons	Knud Tybirk, e- mail: kt@agropark.dk	
Detailed description		
Case description	The project identifies alternative and sustainable protein sources such beans, peas, green grass proteins, marine invertebrates, algae, insects etc. and identifies opportunities for developing new bioeconomy value chains based on such locally produced green proteins.	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bioeconomy - Agriculture 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	With the strong cooperation between scientists (University) and Local Action Groups and Business for mapping of regional potentials. It can contribute to smarter Local Development initiatives and cooperation in Cross sectoral way to contribute for Blue Growth	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Nordic Sustainable Protein Production Initiative was idea of mapping the regional potential of proteins from agriculture, marine culture and forestry during 2015 and further development steps was made. Contacts have been established with several groups and coordination of the larger consortia was made.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
University, Local Action Groups	Industrial park	New businesses
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	Map of alternative and sustainable protein sources to develop coastal are potential	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal	The case strongly contributes to bio economic development in Coastal area.	

tourism)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Bioeconomic as a part of RIS3
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P29) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Integrated Blue Biotechnology Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Financial- Strategy development	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://bsrbioeconomy.net/resources/integrated_blue_biotechnology.pdf	
Contact persons	Angela Schultz Zehdenasz@submariner-network.eu	
Detailed description		
Case description	The case is related to the project that aims at supporting pan Baltic cooperation in the blue bioeconomy to foster blue growth and to develop sustainable bio-based value chains. It contributes to developing an integrated Blue Biotechnology strategy in the Baltic Sea Region for research and commercialisation of marine bio -based products and ecosystem services delivered by marine resources	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bioeconomics - Marine industry - Technology industry - Start-up companies - Pharmaceuticals, - Medical Technology 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	The project has contributed to further activities for supporting Blue Growth activities in regions around the Baltic sea and have been financed from EU funds	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Continuation of further development of topic have been implemented in further projects and activities. In many countries bioeconomic strategies have been developed Yet. Many of countries are still on the development process.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
EU	SUBMARINER Network for Blue Growth EEIG	22 project partners
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	As a result of these project development activities, two concept notes have already been submitted to the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014 – 2020 , covering the first two of the above - mentioned topics.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields:	It contributes to developing an integrated Blue Biotechnology strategy in the Baltic Sea Region for research and commercialisation of marine bio -based products and ecosystem services delivered by	

Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, (incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	marine resources
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	It contributes to EU RIS3 strategy
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P30) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Fish skin- new trend!	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	New business, approach	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	https://www.houdinisportswear.com/en/sustainability	
Contact persons	Geir Oddsson, geod@norden.org	
Detailed description		
Case description	The case is related to new approaches of business development. The key idea is to integrate parts of everything company do. One of the products company have introduced is fish skin clothes. In line with the objectives of a more circular economy, Nordic fashion designers are starting to take notice of the unique qualities of fish skin.	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closing - Fashion - Fishery - Circular economy 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	Unique business based on clothes industry- introducing not just sustainable business, but making new fabrics as trend. The fashion as a rolling element for developing circular economy. Introducing new trends is financed from private investments.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Fish skin as a trend for new fashion industry. This idea can be multiplied in other countries as fashion has its global characteristics. As new trends can be solution for waste challenges, that kind of approach can be implemented in wider development programmes for coastal development.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
	Fashion industry companies	
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	The fishing industry generates over 40 billion kilos of fish waste every year – part of this valuable recourse can be used for new business	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	This practice shows the way, how with the new technologies, the actions can contribute to Circular economy that is stimulating Blue Growth	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate	Promotes innovations and integrated approach of company daily operations	

how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P31) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Production of edible seaweed species in Danish waters: the beginning of a new profession	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach- Cooperation project	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://kernegaarden.dk/	
Contact persons	e- mail: detailskai@kernegaarden.dk	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>The case is related to project that involves cooperation between stakeholders from two Danish Fishery local action groups, one on the island of Bornholm and the other covering smaller islands, in commercially exploiting seaweed, an overlooked resource in Danish waters.</p> <p>By promoting the sustainable cultivation, harvesting and processing of seaweed, the project assisted in diversifying the local economies of the islands, thereby helping to maintain strong local populations and vibrant communities.</p> <p>The project involves eight islands, five of which are members of the “Danish Small Islands Food Network”. Bornholm, one of the biggest Danish islands, was the founder and is an active member of the European Culinary Heritage Network.</p>	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food industry - Tourism 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	This project is an example of mixing different funds for Blue Growth and certain targets to achieve Project was financed by EU Fisheries fund via FLAGS. The contribution from other funds was made private donors, governmental support, and voluntary work.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Cooperation with definite target: Solving the problem of depopulation for remote areas. Providing new job opportunities. Positive impact for social problems as an outcome from initiative	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
EU Fishery fund	FLAGS	Fisherman’s
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Creation of new jobs by the end of the project, - Initiation the cultivation of seaweed species - Development of new products - Launching information and marketing campaigns 	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of	Project contributes to coastal tourism and life science by developing Maritime economy.	

Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	-
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P32) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Fish feed from wood	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Business- Bioeconomy	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.processum.se/en/	
Contact persons	Jonna Almqvist, jonna.almqvist@processum.se	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>The case is related to new initiatives in developing new products in the bioeconomic. Case is built on private company case- Processum.</p> <p>Processum started in 2003 and has developed into a leading biorefinery initiative, both on national and international level. The major part of the activities concern support and initiation of research and development regarding biotechniques, energy techniques, inorganic and organic chemistry and sustainable raw materials.</p> <p>Together with other biorefinery initiatives along the northern coast of Sweden, Processum and the universities form an important hub for the development of new products- Single Cell protein (SCP) is one of them.</p> <p>Production of single cell Proteins is based on using biomass as raw material. SCP are dried cells of microorganisms which can be used as dietary protein supplement. They can be used as animal feed and humans as well.</p> <p>Production of SCP is not a new product- several companies are doing this worldwide.</p>	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food industry - Agriculture, 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	Practice was announced as a good practice in conference “EU Research and Innovation Strategy in support to Blue Bioeconomy” in 31. May, 2016 (Helsinki)	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	Case is chosen as a success within the context of big wood recourses around the Baltic states	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
	RISE - Research Institutes of Sweden	Food Industry
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	More efficient use of biomass- wood	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of	Cases in contributing to development regarding biotechniques, energy techniques, inorganic and organic chemistry.	

Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	Conforms to EU Research and Innovation Strategy
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P33) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Sea food production - Circular production	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Business- Circular	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	http://www.fifax.ax/en/om-oss/	
Contact persons	Kimmo Jalo kimmo.jalo@fifax.ax	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>The case is based on private company experience related to improvement of their production process to make it more eco-friendly. The company is growing trout in seawater. Their approach is to introduce recirculation of water to be used in production process to avoid negative affect on the environment.</p> <p>Company has an innovative approach to water treatment. The sea water uses, both inside and outside the plant, can basically be entirely re-used in production. This minimizes emissions back into the sea. The latest technology provides the best quality. The basis of the RAS technology that is used is that the water in the round tanks circulates.</p> <p>RAS is a collective name for the recirculation technology that is used in world-wide, modern, land-based aquaculture.</p>	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fishery - Biogas 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	New technology that can contribute to business. but also provide opportunities to reduce pollution	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	The fish innards, sludge and the bloody water are recycled in the plant’s biogas production facility. The digestate which remains is used in local agriculture as bio-fertilizer and soil conditioner on Ålandic fields.	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
	Private company	Citizens- environmental benefits
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	The new technology has been already introduced.	
Conformity to policy		
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	New technology as a contribution to Blue Growth. With the mitigation of negative affect of trout farming, the new initiatives of coastal tourism can be developed in the area.	
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate	Case is Promotes innovations and environmental challenges to be solved.	

how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

(P34) General information		
Name of “Best practice” case	Development of tourism and education route	
Type of “Best practice” (method, approach, etc.)	Approach- Cooperation project between Local territories	
Where can I find more detailed information (web page, etc.)?	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/cms/farnet/pl/northern-fisheries-trail	
Contact persons	Gabriela Nosinska biuro@rllgd-pb.pl	
Detailed description		
Case description	<p>The case is based on cooperation project involving nine Polish Fishery Local Action groups and spanning three regions in the north of Poland: Western Pomerania, Pomerania, and Warmia and Mazury to develop a tourist trail – a tourism and education product which links and promotes attractions related to the fisheries heritage of three coastal regions in Poland.</p> <p>The main objectives for the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To develop the tourism potential of the fisheries areas by focusing on their fishing heritage; - To bring together people, businesses and organisations involved in developing fisheries tourism; - To facilitate an exchange of knowledge and experience between the participating FLAGs. 	
Business sectors, that are positively affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coastal tourism - Food business 	
How practice was chosen for implementation and financed?	The project was proposed from EU Fisheries support Unit Farnet as a case for multiplication in other regions.	
Nomination of the success factors for the case	<p>The project responded to the need to engage inhabitants of the participating areas in promoting their fisheries heritage and strengthening their local identity. It also aimed to improve the attractiveness of the FLAG areas, especially in the context of the growing interest in culture-related tourism.</p> <p>The main lesson learned and experience to share- “It became apparent how important it is to have a good analysis of the context and the issues to be addressed, and to clearly identify the specific part(s) of the FLAG area where tourism development is desirable”.</p>	
Identification/listing of groups:		
OWNER	BENEFICARY	TARGET GROUP
<i>Ministerstwo Gospodarki Morskiej i Żeglugi Śródlądowej</i>	FLAGs	Fishermen’s, Children, Tourists.
Results		
Results planned and achieved (if available)	The nine Education and Promotion Centres were established and continued to operate after the end of the funding period, carrying out a wide range of educational and other activities. The centres are also being used as a stepping stone to other FLAG activities, enabling them to draw on other funding sources. Dozens of small businesses have been involved in each FLAG area. The inhabitants’ sense of identity and willingness to cooperate has also been strengthened, and new actors are still joining the trail.	

Conformity to policy	
Conformity to project scope – indicate how “best practice” contributes to the development of Blue Growth fields: Energy, Sea Machinery and Technology and Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, incl. SPA and coastal tourism)	This project contributes to Coastal Tourism as an example for cooperation and potential to develop businesses related to Bioeconomy, Blue Medicine and SPA
Conformity to RIS3 regional/national strategy – indicate how the “best practice” helps to implement strategy	-
If “best practice” does not have conformity to RIS3 or Blue Growth – please give analysis (opinion) why concrete “best practice” can make a contribution to existing OP implementation process at your region.	-

Annex 3 - Attachments on relevance and feasibility analyses



No.	Implementation measure or “best practice” name	Is implementation measure or “best practice” case relevant for concrete PP region? (yes/no)	Feasibility for implementation		
			Legal	Operational	Economic
P15	Turku Future Technologies	Yes	No obvious legal problems.	Turku Future Technologies is an interesting best practice for Skåne where technology industry would benefit from technological development.	This could be an important initiative for future economic development and growth
P14	Bastu accelerating concept	Yes	No obvious legal problems.	Bastu is a tool, a platform and a network for a circular development. This is in line with Skåne’s goals and suitable for the support system in the region.	The investment in this initiative should lead to positive socio economic return
P32	Fish feed from wood	Yes	No obvious legal problem	Cluster, networks, platforms of development projects in cooperation with companies, connecting business and academy, is an important topic for Skåne’s ambitions in RIS3.	Promoting innovation through cooperation between research and business for a sustainable economic growth.

No.	Implementation measure or “best practice” name	Is implementation measure or “best practice” case relevant for concrete PP region? (yes/no)	Feasibility for implementation		
			Legal	Operational	Economic
P9 and P10	Life Science Nord (cluster management for life sciences) COMBINED with MCN (Maritime Cluster Northern Germany)	yes	<p>There are no legal obstacles to constitute formal structure dedicated to cluster management serving blue sector in Pomorskie. The main challenge would be to institutionalise the new structure so it would ensure support for clusters also from other regions.</p> <p>Recommendations for legalisation:</p> <p>i) establishment of the structure should be based on a contract among above mentioned parties (or other) detailing the scope of work and location, plus funding details</p> <p>ii) there should be a permanent office with at</p>	<p>The new structure would address following threats/weaknesses identified in Pomorskie Regional Development Strategy: low effectiveness of an offer for external investors, unused scientific potential, low efficiency of R & D cooperation with the economy and poorly exploited institutional and infrastructural potential of BSO. It would also address weaknesses identified in the “Pomorskie Creativity Port”: Low efficiency of science and business cooperation, unsatisfactory level of commercialization and transfer of knowledge to economy, lack of effective system of dissemination and promotion of R & D & I offer, unsatisfactory level of BSO cooperation, lack of comprehensive, consistent, integrated support for entrepreneurs, insufficient cooperation in development initiatives. Additionally it will address the identified weakness of the blue PSS:</p>	<p>It is impossible to determine economic benefits without detailed business plan of such structure.</p> <p>Perhaps SH could help in that respect by sharing their data on economic performance of the cluster management structure. Recommendations for financial settlements:</p> <p>i) The new structure could be partly financed by administrations of coastal regions (25% each: Pomorskie, West Pomerania and Warmia-Mazury), 25% could be from the Ministry of Maritime Economy ensuring benefits for other PL regions</p>

				<p>Lack of support instruments tailored to the needs and specificity of the industry. Recommendations for operationalisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Develop a vision and business plan ii) Discuss with potential parties identified in the business plan iii) Allocate and secure the funding 	
P13	<p>GEOMAR Biotech, National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture, Centre Industrial Biotechnology, Fraunhofer EMB</p>	yes	<p>In 2016 a consortium agreement was signed between several regional scientific institutions, to establish National Baltic Research Center (NBRC). NBRC Is included in the territorial contract of the Pomeranian Voivodeship (regional level) and the Polish Road Map of the Research Infrastructure (national level). Thanks to this the consortium is entitled to apply for funds in specific calls.</p>	<p>Competence centre acting similar to GEOMAR (connected to one or several scientific institutions and regional enterprises, centre were professional expertise/innovative solutions are produced and transferred to regional enterprises) could first of all help to overcome regional weakness - Unused scientific potential, low efficiency of R&D cooperation with the economy and poorly used institutional and infrastructural support of entrepreneurship support. Unsatisfactory level of commercialization and transfer of knowledge to the economy, lack of effective dissemination system and promotion of the R & D & I offer It could also help overcome other weaknesses such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of pro-market approach to education programs at all levels of education, flexibly responding to the needs of the Pomeranian economy 2. Low activity and conservatism of SMEs in implementing innovations 	<p>It could help overcome economic weakness: 1. subcontracting model of functioning of a large part of enterprises limiting the possibility of implementing (commercializing) innovative solutions. It can result in: 1. Increase activity of external investors, especially in sectors with the highest development potential in the region. 2. Intensifying trade links in the Baltic Sea Region and increasing its importance in the global economy 3. Intensification of economic connections of the Baltic States and increase of the potential of the Baltic economy; The Baltic Sea Region is seen as dynamic, innovative and politically stable 4. Good investment climate, increasing investment attractiveness of the Pomeranian region 5. Strengthening of economic potential through systemic</p>

				<p>and realization of pro-development investments 3. The lack of promotion of deployment in the career path of a researcher 4. Lack of effective and flexible orientation of scientific work for implementation and cooperation with the economy</p> <p>Competence Centre can take advantage of regional strengths such as: 1.The Tri-City Metropolitan Area as one of the development centers of Poland and the Baltic Sea Region and an internationally important transport and logistics hub. 2. Location on the pan-European transport corridors, enabling the development of key seaports for the national economy, as well as the development of transport infrastructure and innovative logistics technologies 3. Large economic activity of the inhabitants and pro-export oriented Pomeranian companies, well-developed SME sector 4. Well-developed BSO including Science and technology parks, industry and technology parks, entrepreneurship incubators, SME development agencies, employers' organizations 5. Significant potential of Pomeranian R & D & I institutions, extensive infrastructural facilities, academic potential</p> <p>Competence Centre can also take advantage of regional strengths connected with Pomeranian Intelligent</p>	<p>solutions in the economy and investor interest in R & D & I activities</p>
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				<p>Specialization 1 - Offshore and port-logistic technologies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. International competitiveness of the maritime industry confirmed by a significant share of export sales (especially in the area of construction and repair of vessels, including yachts, and offshore structures). 2. Existing maritime traditions in the region (shipbuilding and port industries), including infrastructure, scientific background, skilled labour market. 3. Existing academic background (providing qualified human resources) and research in the form of universities and R&D units. 4. Recognizable and associated with good quality brand of regional shipbuilding companies and manufacturers of marine equipment. 5. Well-developed and competitive design companies in the area of vessels, specialized vessels and offshore structures and their equipment. 6. Numerous ports in the Baltic with high dynamics of development. 7. The presence in the region of both strong domestic and foreign investors. <p>Competence Centre can take advantage of regional opportunities such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Good investment climate, 2. Development of partnership in realization of pro-development 	
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				<p>projects of the region, As part of cluster initiatives, and a growing number of networking links in the area of the economy</p> <p>3. Development of the dual education system</p> <p>4. Dynamic development of port-logistic and transport activity - both in the country (including possible development of inland waterway transport) as well as in other European countries</p> <p>5. Environmental regulations that encourage the growth of demand for new innovative solutions (e.g.: eco-friendly watercraft, offshore structures for renewable energy generation) and stimulating the development of water transport (including inland waterways).</p> <p>6. Collaboration with ICT stakeholders can result in increased efficiency of transport and logistics functions and the creation of new products and services.</p> <p>7. More efficient use of marine resources.</p> <p>8. Investments in naval development and security systems, including: development of dual use technology.</p>	
P18	“Saviļņojoša Vidzeme” (Wavy Vidzeme)	yes	<p>Cluster needs to be registered in form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consortium (Law of 23 April 1964, Civil Code); • association (Law of 7 April 1989 r.); • 	<p>The need for regional medical/health/marine-based cluster: Complex tourist cluster offer may support the regional development, prolongs the tourist-season (especially the demand created by older people</p>	<p>According to SWOT: Strengths supporting the development of complex tourist cluster:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - high entrepreneurship rates and population’s economic activity;

			<p>foundation (Law of 6 April 1984 r.); • cooperative (Law of 16 September 1982 r.); • entrepreneurs association (Law of 22 March 1989 r.); • commercial law entities such as limited liability companies and joint-stock companies. The activities, rights and obligations of the unit, as well as relations with the Association need to be regulated by the structural unit's regulations and statute, which is approved by the Association's members' meeting.</p> <p>The legal aspects of potential touristic cluster are based on: The Pomorskie Regional Development Strategy 2020.</p> <p>The tourism and cultural attractiveness Programme "Pomorskie Journey" – it includes activities like: image creation, development of coherent touristic brand of the region; construction of network;</p>	<p>significantly extends the tourist season – "silver economy") and favour a better spread of domestic and inbound visitors.</p> <p>Thanks to the complex cluster offer Pomorskie (and in the future – Baltic Sea Region) SPA resorts should be developed along with the comprehensive medical tourist offer. Especially wealthy international clients (from Germany or Scandinavian countries) are one of the targets for complex SPA and medical offer.</p> <p>Based on the location there is an identified potential for a maritime and business tourism in Pomorskie (conferences, congresses) à clustering enables complex offer for all types of tourists visiting the region. Entities that should be engaged in common medical/health/marine-based cluster value chain: tour operators, insurance companies, carriers, hotels, restaurant, tourism attraction operators, transport operators, local authorities etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wide cluster experience in other sectors; - strong identity of local communities; - region's cultural diversity; - relatively young population and stable inward migration. <p>Weaknesses which may be seen as problematic when establishing new medical/health tourist cluster:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lack of common, significant and well-known brand for Pomorskie region; - development disproportions between the Tricity area and the region peripheries; - environmental issues (environment degradation) <p>It is often mentioned in regional SWOT analysis that there is still insufficiently diversified tourist offer with poor regional marketing involved – comprehensive tourist cluster would be the answer to this problem.</p> <p>Opportunities for the new cluster experience in Pomorskie region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - growing number of intra-regional connections, projects and joint activities opening the region to the tourists from BSR and other parts of Europe; - Increase of the significance of silver economy sector
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		<p>introduction of the supra-regional tourist products. Its main objective is the development using natural and cultural heritage according to the principles of sustainable development. Selected specific strategies targets may affect the implementation of activities related to the Blue Growth. Objectives, i.e. ..:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable use of natural heritage, • Modern infrastructure solutions. <p>Developing tourism cluster networks is one of the main activities important for the implementation of the national Programme for Tourism Development until 2020. It is possible to integrate these types of complex cluster initiatives in the existing support framework i.e. to the amended “Pomorskie Journey” programme or Pomorskie Regional Development Strategy</p>		<p>(considering that the new cluster should specialise in medical/health/SPA treatments based on the maritime location and marine heritage).</p>
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		beyond 2020.		
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No.	Implementation measure or “best practice” name	Is implementation measure or “best practice” case relevant for concrete PP region? (yes/no)	Feasibility for implementation		
			Legal	Operational	Economic
P4	Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)	Yes	Has to be proven case by case. Generally no obvious legal problems. State aid law has to be considered.	RIS3 is not very well known among enterprises and actors in Schleswig-Holstein. Thematic Boards (e.g.in form of cluster managements) for each specialization field could bring RIS3 process closer to enterprises.	More innovation, more participation of enterprises in the RIS3 process.
P7	Scale UP instrument of the “Start In Poland” program	Yes	Has to be proven case by case. Generally no obvious legal problems. State aid law has to be considered.	Start-ups have been recognised to be an important topic in Schleswig-Holstein, recently. Building up a start-up ecosystem is still in its beginning.	Promoting successful start-ups, to generate innovation, economic development and jobs in Schleswig-Holstein.
P1	Competence Academy Tourism (CAT)	Yes	Has to be proven case by case. Generally no obvious legal problems. State aid law has to be considered.	Tourism is an important economic sector in Schleswig-Holstein, but not yet a specialisation field in our RIS3. This might change in near future. Making tourism an innovative sector is a prerequisite for this	Supporting tourism as one of the most important economic sectors in Schleswig-Holstein.

				change.	
P2	WISA (Water Innovation System Amplifier)	Yes	Has to be proven case by case. Generally no obvious legal problems. State aid law has to be considered.	We do have similar institutions in Schleswig-Holstein. Additionally, a feasibility study for a new test environment has just been launched. Therefore, exchange with other institutions would be interesting and helpful.	Supporting technology transfer. Providing enterprises with research infrastructure for communal use.
P14	Bastu accelerating concept	Yes	Has to be proven case by case. Generally no obvious legal problems. State aid law has to be considered.	Start-ups have been recognised to be an important topic in Schleswig-Holstein, recently. Building up a start-up ecosystem is still in its beginning.	Promoting successful start-ups, to generate innovation, economic development and jobs in Schleswig-Holstein.

No.	Implementation measure or “best practice” name	Is implementation measure or “best practice” case relevant for concrete PP region? (yes/no)	Feasibility for implementation		
			Legal	Operational	Economic
P4	Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)	yes	no legal obstacles	Boards could act as information hubs and cooperation nodes to spread knowledge and build network on specific smart specialisation theme	Could strengthen region’s capabilities to attract external (EU) funding
P2	WISA (Water Innovation System Amplifier)	yes	no legal obstacles	LOURA water cluster could act as an operational platform and has planned to start this type of co-operation model with regional stakeholders	Strengthens co-operation between universities and business, especially for SME’s new way to improve research.
P9	Life Science Nord (cluster management for life sciences)	yes	no legal obstacles	Life Science cluster is strong in SWF. Co-operation in international level is needed	Could improve international co-operation with different stakeholders
P10	MCN (Maritime Cluster Northern Germany)	yes	no legal obstacles	SWF could use MCN as an example for wider regional co-operation.	Promotes contacts to other relevant industries and networks
P13	GEOMAR Biotech, National Competence Centre Marine Aquaculture, Centre Industrial Biotechnology, Fraunhofer EMB (Society for Marine Biotechnology and Cell Technology)	yes	no legal obstacles	Blue biotech is scattered both in universities and companies and more active collaboration is needed	Cooperation between universities and companies (especially start-ups) is needed to commercialize blue biotech innovations.

Riga Planning region

No.	Implementation measure or “best practice” name	Is implementation measure or “best practice” case relevant for concrete PP region? (yes/no)	Feasibility for implementation		
			Legal	Operational	Economic
P16	Lounaistieto - regional information service operating in Southwest Finland	Yes	Chosen practice fully corresponds to existing OP measures implementation process, as it can be used as a tool for pooling and identifying the recourses. As RPR OP and good practices need more effective usage of recourses and knowledge of the external environment, the Launaiesto practice can be practice to take over in RPR	The chosen practice solves several challenges that are mentioned in Guidelines for Coastal spatial development ³ . With the open data platform, where statistics, maps, open data (including population, building inventories, eco challenges, etc.) is gathered and updated for all region, fragmented planning and access to information can be solved. As Launaistieto is identifying also eco challenges (Can be uses also for monitoring them) main Environmental RPR coastal challenges can be positively affected.	As Lounaistieto regional service is gathering mainly recourses that could or should be used to encourage economic activities, that platform would make positive economic result. Adding more data and statistics for more RIS3 or/and Blue Growth initiatives, the good practice could be a tool to achieve good result for project areas.
P22	Centre of excellence in health promotion and	Yes	Even if rehabilitation is not the main economic driving force in	The Centre of excellence in health promotion and	By developing centre of excellence in health

³As Riga Planning Region does not have SWOT analysis, the Guidelines for Coastal spatial development <http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/3634> are used for Operational analysis.

	rehabilitation		RPR, the coastal are Blue Growth potential and all related measures, is mainly dedicated to development of coastal tourism. With the investments in tourism (also in rehabilitation and health) the centre of excellence as a good example from Haapsalu can be developed in RPR and it corresponds to the existing legal requirements.	rehabilitation could be significant stakeholder to develop coastal area of RPR and solve one the main challenge-short season for coastal tourism. There is potential for the centre of excellence in Health Promotion and Rehabilitation, because of interested organisations and entrepreneurs who could be involved in that are business development.	promotion and rehabilitation with the prolongation of touristic/area visiting time (All Year long) the development of the appropriate business sectors will develop, but also other SME. With the incensement of visitors in non-touristic season, any economic activity will increase- services, catering, fishing etc.
P4	Pomorskie Smart Specialisation's (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)	Yes	Pomorskie Smart Specialisation's boards could correspond to need of closer intersectoral cooperation between different OP stakeholders and implementers in Riga Planning region. With the adaptation of the practice, it could not be copy pasted in RPR, because of some important elements that make Pomorskie region different from Riga region, but there is no reason to resist of using elements or concept from the case.	There are no obvious strategies of development of RIS3 Blue Growth in RPR or Coastal areas of Latvia. Anyway, the good practice from Pomorskie region could lead to reorientation of development of RPR from traditional economic sectors to more Innovative, Recourse oriented.	During the analyse of existing OP and other support systems for Development of Riga Planning region economics, the huge potential for Blue Growth was identified, but not used so far, because of low knowledge of the concepts. The same is relevant to RIS3. If Smart Specialisation boards, would be established in RPR, there would be a body, that would work on informative support, awareness raising and making links between municipalities, business sector and science to positively affect economic growth in field of RIS3
P1	Competence Academy Tourism (CAT)		The best practice corresponds to several OP and other coastal development strategies existing to encourage Blue Growth in	As traditionally one of the driving forces for Riga Planning regions coastal area economics is Tourism and it is still having	With the increase of competence, especially digital, the good practice would open new business

			<p>RPR. As coastal area is quite long, the profile of touristic business is different in different municipalities of RPR. As there is a possibility to improve competences by the choice of companies, the approach would fit to development needs of different municipalities. As the academy also focus on fulfilling the gaps of competence, this approach would fulfil needs of knowledge of companies that cannot be satisfied by other educational programmes.</p>	<p>potential to grow, an increase of small company's competence is significant. As the good practice in focusing on digital knowledge, the lack of that knowledge, is obvious among entrepreneurs. With the digitalization of new economic, the implementation of this practice could open potential for new product development in the touristic business of the coastal are.</p>	<p>possibilities for existing offers, as well as developing new touristic products that can add additional value or be as the significant incensement of quality and availability for potential customers. As new trend for economic development is digitalisation and linking of existing recourses, the good practice could contribute to open data platform solution for better information, offers and recourse usage and sharing.</p>
P27	The pathway to eco-certification		<p>Eco certification and digital solution can be implemented separately to other planning documents. This practice corresponds to strategies that relates to environmental protection and municipality lever development programmes that recognise small fishery business as significant element for sustainable development of local territory.</p> <p>The approaches like eco-certifications can contribute to challenge of reduction of fish stocks</p>	<p>Most of the challenges of Coastal are of Riga Planning region is related to Climate change and environmental issues. These aspects can seriously affect traditional and potential new trends of economic development. Eco certification and different solution for preserving environment corresponds to solve challenges to for coastal areas. The practice directly affects positive development of small scale fishery business, as it gives opportunity to get certificate that potentially helps sell fish for better price.</p>	<p>Although, small scale fishery business has tendency to reduce, demand for fishery products for increasing value of Latvian residents consumer basket and develop coastal tourism has tendency to grow. With the digital platform that help to get eco- certification for fisheries, have possibility to recognise valuable products in the market, that can contribute to higher income for business that operates sustainable way. With that contribution, the potential for coastal tourism will increase significantly.</p>



Ida-Viru region

No	Implementation measure or “best practice” name	Is implementation measure or “best practice” case relevant for concrete PP region? (yes/no)	Feasibility for implementation		
			Legal	Operational	Economic
P4	Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)	yes	Corresponds existing legal requirements	It will significantly strengthen the regional and international competitiveness and accelerate the growth of enterprises in the blue economy field; build network on specific smart specialisation theme	External (EU) funding, strategic, thought-out activities will help make the region (blue economy field) much more visible.
P15	Turku Future technologies	yes	Corresponds existing legal requirements	Supports regional enterprises and cluster members to plan and adapt technology innovation	Cooperation between universities and business. Result is more innovative and extensive idea implementations
P7	Scale UP instrument of the “Start In Poland” program	yes	Corresponds existing legal requirements	It is difficult to find and recruit top experts in some areas, such a programme helps to find innovative ideas and top experts.	New innovative ideas. It will promote synergy of science and economy innovation support. Also improve international co-operation with different stakeholders
P1	Competence Academy Tourism (CAT)	yes	Corresponds existing legal requirements	Industry, cluster partners have the possibility to receive necessary services within the same county	Increase international attractiveness

Annex 4 - Attachments on relevance of blue growth for other sectors analyses

Eligible “best practice” case	Other positively affected business sectors
Project sector: Energy	
Swedish Algae Factory	Biotechnology Circular economy
Project sector: Sea Machinery and Technology	
Port of Sillamäe	Technology Marine Logistics and Transportation
The Association of Polish Maritime Industries FORUM OKREŹOWE	Ship- newbuilding Ship-repairing industries Research institutions
WISA (Water Innovation System Amplifier)	Waterworks Treatment-plants Harbours
MCN (Maritime Cluster Northern Germany)	Marine Hydrography Offshore-technology Port Shipping-companies Shipyards
Turku Future Technologies	Technology Marine
Project sector: Resources of Life Science & Blue Medicine, including SPA and coastal tourism	
Small craft competence centre	Technology Marine Transportation Material
Pomorskie Smart Specialisation’s (PSSs) Boards (4 boards, one per PSS)	Offshore Port Logistics Technologies Information-saturated Eco-effective technologies Energy Fuels Construction Medical technologies
Competence Academy Tourism (CAT)	Tourist
Life Science Nord (cluster management for life sciences)	Biotechnology Pharmaceuticals Medical
Kolkasrags) Cape Kolkas - Sea, Land, Creativity of a human being	Tourism Crafts
“Saviļņojoša Vidzeme” (Wavy Vidzeme) – Tourism cluster. Platform of Municipalities and entrepreneurs to promote tourism development in Coastal area	Tourism Local-Food
Initiating full scale mussel farming in the Baltic Sea	Tourism Sea-farming
Development through development of internationally significant	Tourism Retail-trade

cultural and natural heritage and related services	
Integrated Territorial Investments in Jurmala city	Water-tourism Shipping Healthcare
Fishing gear diversification	Fishing Start- up
The pathway to eco-certification	Food Digitalisation
Proteins - The Green Gold of Baltic Sea Regions Bioeconomy	Bioeconomy Agriculture
Fish skin- new trend!	Closing Fashion Fishery Circular-economy
Production of edible seaweed species in Danish waters: the beginning of a new profession	Food Tourism
Fish feed from wood	Food Agriculture
Sea food production - Circular production	Fishery Biogas
Development of tourism and education route	Coastal-tourism Food
Other sectors from best practice cases	
Expansion through innovation – Support Grant	Any business
Scale UP instrument of the “Start In Poland” program	All possible sectors
Seafarm	Energy Food Life science Chemistry
Cluster (in general)	Maritime Life science Energy Digital-Economy Food Tourism
Bastu accelerating concept	Marine Technology IT industry Start-up All other fields
Integrated Blue Biotechnology Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region	Bioeconomy Marine Technology Start-up Pharmaceutics Medical
Lounaistieto	All kinds of enterprises

Annex 5 - Relevant sources of information

1. EUROPE 2020 strategy

<http://ec.europa.eu/eu2020/pdf/COMPLET%20EN%20BARROSO%20%20%20007%20-%20Europe%202020%20-%20EN%20version.pdf>

2. Guide on Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3 Guide)

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/documents/20182/84453/RIS3+Guide.pdf/fceb8c58-73a9-4863-8107-752aef77e7b4>

3. Blue Growth and Smart Specialisation: How to catch maritime growth through 'Value Nets'

<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/blue-growth-and-smart-specialisation-how-to-catch-maritime-growth-through-value-nets-?inheritRedirect=true&redirect=%2Fblue-growth>

4. A Sustainable Blue Growth Agenda for the Baltic Sea Region

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/sea_basins/baltic_sea/documents/swd-2014-167_en.pdf.pdf

5. Strategic Guidelines for the sustainable development of EU aquaculture

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/aquaculture/official_documents/com_2013_229_en.pdf

6. Aquaculture in the EU - Tapping into Blue Growth

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