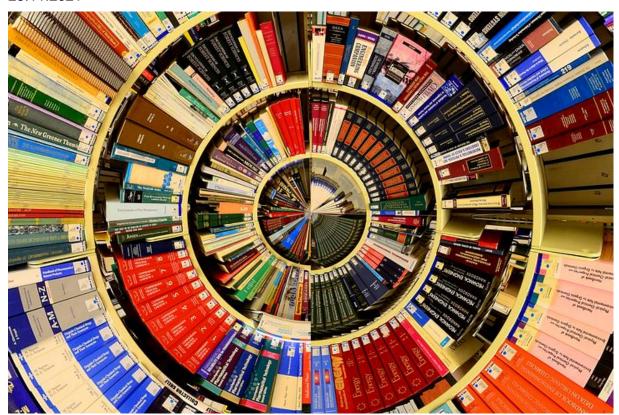






Action Plan Federal State of Bremen

23.11.2021





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Part I: General information

Project: TraCS3

Partner organisation: Institute Labour and Economy (iaw), University of Bremen

Country: Germany

NUTS2 region: DE5 Bremen

Contact person: Prof. Dr. Günter Warsewa

email address: gwarsewa@iaw.uni-bremen.de

phone number: +49 421 218 61700

Part II: Policy context

The Action Plan aims to impact: x Investment for Growth and Jobs programme

European Territorial Cooperation programme

Other regional development policy instrument

Name of the policy instrument addressed: The Operational Programme for the European Union Funds' Investments in 2014 – 2020, Priority Axis 1 – Strengthening Research and Development and Innovation

Policy owner is the Senator/Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Europe, Federal State of Bremen.

TraCS3-objective for the Federal State of Bremen: For the Federal State of Bremen, the general target of project activities is to mobilise and trigger innovation and research projects in the Federal State through the improvement and development of the performance of existing innovation infrastructures and through fostering the establishment of new innovation infrastructures.

Application-oriented public and semi-public research and innovation institutions represent an extraordinary strength of the Federal State of Bremen. For improvement of capacities for

sustainable economic and social development it is recommended to (1.) intensify the collaboration in international and interregional networks; to (2.) enhance the cooperation in regional cluster structures, especially in S3 key priority sectors; to (3.) pay higher attention to the involvement of SMEs in research and innovation structures.

Source: Adapted from https://www.interregeurope.eu/tracs3/

Part III: Action envisaged – Development and Implementation of an innovation monitoring and evaluation system for the Federal State of Bremen

III.1 Background

The Policy Instrument is the ERDF operational Program for the European Union Funds Investments in 2014-2020, Priority Axis 1 – Strengthening Research and Development. The enabling condition for the Priority Axis 1 is the Smart Specialization Strategy of the Region. The S3 has been updated in 2021 as the Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030. Based on that, the Action Plan involves the conceptualization and development of an innovation monitoring system for the Federal State of Bremen as well as the implementation process.

The Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030¹, published in June 2021, includes the goal of an innovation monitoring and evaluation system as a "broad up-to-date knowledge base" for strategy implementation, with the "analysis of innovation activities as a central element" (p. 63, own transl.). Through ongoing monitoring, trends in key enabling technologies and key branches, as well as transfer processes between science and economy are to be identified (p. 63). Also the Bremen RIS3-Strategy for 2014-2020 includes the monitoring of innovation and cluster activity (Cluster Strategy 2020, p. 32) as an instrument of innovation governance: "Innovation monitoring should be carried out at regular intervals in order to check the effects (Innovation Program 2020, p. 51, own transl.)².

¹ Please see https://www.bremen-innovativ.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Broschu%CC%88re_Schlu%CC%88ssel-zu-Innovationen-2030_Web.pdf

² "Clusterstrategie 2020 für nachhaltiges Wachstum und Beschäftigung", please see https://www.wirtschaft.bremen.de/sixcms/media.php/13/Clusterstrategie2020%20FINAL.pdf.; Innovationsprogramm 2020. Ein Beitrag zum Strukturkonzept 2015, please see https://www.wirtschaft.bremen.de/sixcms/media.php/13/Innovationsprogramm_2020___LOW.pdf

Lesson learnt from the ongoing process of interregional learning and exchange between TraCS3 partners is the relevance of regional monitoring systems for improved regional innovation governance. Regional monitoring systems support policy owners and actors within the innovation ecosystem in the supervision and moderation of regional innovation activities along selected categories. In addition, cooperation between innovators within the region fosters new R&D-cooperation. A representative of the council of the Tampere region (site visit 2019 in Tampere) presented practices of innovation monitoring in the Tampere region (please see annex IV.3). Their monitoring system contributed to the interreg Europe database as good practice³. Knowledge exchange on the potential and practical dimensions of innovation monitoring systems and visualization were continued in the following international TraCS3 partnership meetings as well as intensified via zoom and e-mail, especially with the project partners from Finland, Belgium, and the Netherlands. The results of the TraCS3 survey⁴, conducted in the Federal State of Bremen, underline positive effects of innovation monitoring, evaluation and visualization for the Bremen innovation system. The interviewed experts have strong interests to be integrated into the innovation strategies of the Federal State. However, transparent discussion and participation structures were highlighted as necessary. Hence, more knowledge of innovation-related actors and of the stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem are needed to intensify cooperation across sectors, branches, and clusters.

The regional stakeholder meeting in Bremen on April 28th in 2021 focussed on potentials and ideas regarding innovation monitoring and visualization. As a follow-up to the previous regional stakeholder discussions, the TraCS3-partners from Finland, Johanna Vannes (The Baltic Institute of Finland) and Marja-Riitta Mattila-Nurmi (Council of Tampere Region) were invited to present their good practice example to the nearly 30 participants (leaders of research and innovation infrastructures and employees of local political authorities). The Finnish approach is based on about 50 innovation-related indicators and a mapping of the local innovation ecosystem (please see annex IV.2). This is visualized as a network, structured by topics, content and actors and can be accessed online. The participants discussed potentials and possibilities of mapping, monitoring and visualizing the innovation infrastructures for Bremen. The Bremen TraCS3 team of the Institute Labour and Economy (iaw) provided an input on a visualization of an innovation ecosystem through geo-information systems such as ArcGIS

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³ Good Practice: "Situational picture of the entrepreneurial ecosystem of Tampere region". Please see Annex V.3 or https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/3249/situational-picture-of-the-entrepreneurial-ecosystem-of-tampere-region/

⁴ Please see the according policy brief: https://iaw.uni-bremen.de/f/18443c4518.pdf

(please see fig. 1). This approach is based on a spatial localization of the innovation infrastructures in the Federal State of Bremen on a digital map, linked with selectable items, e.g. accessibility of innovation infrastructure, user groups, supply and services, and technological specialization. Several participants of the workshop underlined the importance of mapping and visualization tools. Before the tool can function as a guide through the innovation infrastructure, further steps of usability check and user integration would be necessary.

As a result of the interregional learning process, the inputs and the experiences from the partner regions, the implementation of an innovation monitoring and evaluation system is highly recommended as a regional action for the Federal State of Bremen. This allows to gain detailed insights into the ongoing innovation, R&D and cooperation processes in the Federal State of Bremen and could be supportive in the implementation of the Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030, especially regarding the goal of fostering inner-regional cooperation across clusters, sectors, and technologies.

III.2 Details on the Action

The recommended action is the development of a concept for an innovation monitoring and evaluation system for the Federal State of Bremen. The addressed policy instrument is the Operational Programme for the European Union Funds' Investments in 2014 – 2020, Priority Axis 1 – Strengthening Research and Development and Innovation. Also, innovation governance and monitoring is formulated as a goal in the Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030 for the upcoming period of EFRE-funding in order to implement a tool for regional innovation governance and policy, and to support the regional authorities and administration in their implementation of the Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030. The overall goal is to gain a deeper knowledge on regional innovation processes and to identify trends, developments and interdependencies within the regional innovation ecosystem (pp. 62-63)⁵. This is expected to be supportive for the development of the Bremen regional innovation system according to the Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030 (pp. 62-63)⁶ and to foster inner-regional cooperation across technologies, clusters, sectors and branches. This holds especially for the strategic specialization on the identified key fields of innovation, sustainable business and resource

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⁵ Please see Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030: https://www.bremen-innovativ.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Broschu%CC%88re_Schlu%CC%88ssel-zu-Innovationen-2030_Web.pdf
⁶ Please see Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030: https://www.bremen-innovativ.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Broschu%CC%88re_Schlu%CC%88ssel-zu-Innovationen-2030_Web.pdf

efficiency, networked and adaptive industry, mobility of the future, intelligent services, and digital transformation $(p. 5)^7$.

The recommended action of developing and implementing an innovation monitoring includes the following sub-actions:

 7 Please see Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030: https://www.bremen-innovativ.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Broschu%CC%88re_Schlu%CC%88ssel-zu-Innovationen-2030_Web.pdf

Sub-Action 1: Conceptualization and development of an innovation monitoring system for the Federal State of Bremen

As a main action, we recommend the conceptualization and strategic development of an innovation monitoring system for the Federal State of Bremen. The collection and provision of data on regional innovation and R&D-activities and performance over time, and the provision of these datasets, categorized by a pre-defined set of indicators, would allow for a quick overview on Bremen's innovation performance and on the identity of relevant innovation cooperation, actors, and their respective background branches and key fields of technology. The dataset would need to be set up to best serve regional innovation governance, as well as it may support regional users from innovation infrastructures and potentially interested users and innovators from outside the region. R&D-input indicators could be selected that allow users to assess the regional funding landscape and financial flows and cooperation among regional innovation actors and organizations in the field of innovation and R&D. Hereby, a user-friendly visualization through an innovation dashboard is recommended. An example for an innovation dashboard on regional deal flows and a discussion of its possible regional value was presented at the international project meeting in Tampere on October 7th, 2019 by the Council of Tampere region (please see annex IV.1).

Categories could include key data and development timelines on dimensions of

- Key economic indicators
- R&D activities, projects and cooperations by branches, sectors, clusters, and key enabling technologies
- Recipients (actors/projects/organizations) and flows of innovation funding: EU/national/regional funding programmes
- Regional competitiveness
- Start-up and entrepreneurship activities
- Business growth
- Internationality
- ...

Sources of data could include

- German Federal Statistical Office
- Statistical Office of the Federal State of Bremen
- Funding Catalogue of the German Federal Government
- Data on regional funding programme/EFRE in the Federal State of Bremen
 Responsible: Senator/Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Europe,
 Federal State of Bremen; WFB Wirtschaftsförderung Bremen GmbH;
 BIS Bremerhavener Gesellschaft für Investitionsförderung und
 Stadtentwicklung mbH; BAB Bremer Aufbau-Bank; ...)
- External studies and benchmarks (e.G. European Regional Innovation Scoreboard)
- ..

The selected indicators would need to be updated regularly. In the Finnish good practice, for example, data is updated annually. Thus, a process of regular updates, as well as a continuous process of its further development would need to be planned and set up during the conceptualization and development process.

Visualizations of the innovation landscape in the Federal State of Bremen – based on national and regional funding and project data – are already included in the Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030 and may serve as a basis for the further development of the innovation dashboard (please see fig. 1-3). These allow for a quick overview on which key enabling technologies and fields of technologies function as drivers of innovation within the Federal State. Details on the contents, the framework, and the indicators as well as the degree of regionalization, the involved actors and the detailed planning of finance would need to be decided by the policy owner throughout the strategic development process.

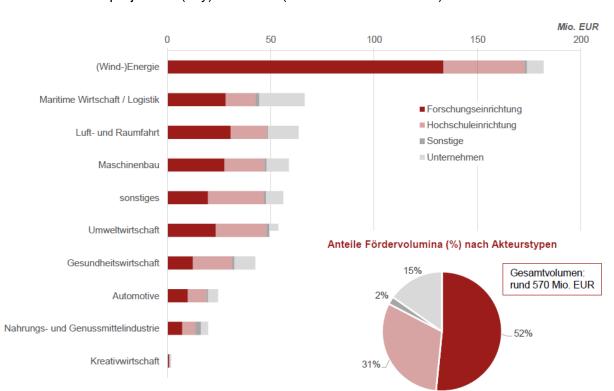
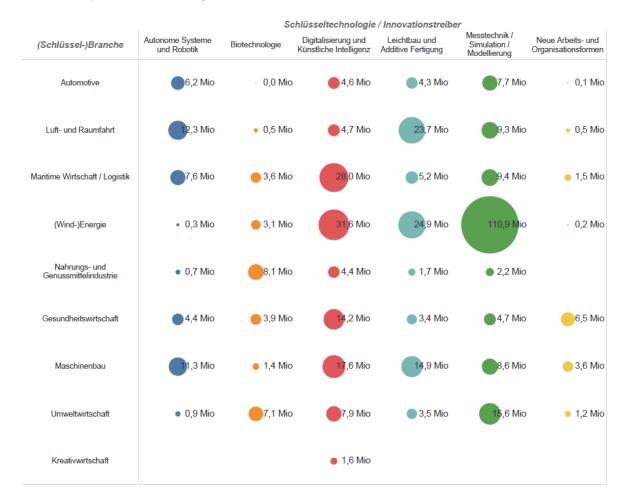


Fig. 1: Example for the visualization of R&D-activities in the Federal State of Bremen I: Publicly co-funded R&D-projects in (key) branches (01.01.2015-31.12.2019)

Source: Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030⁸, p. 18. Reprinted with permission.

⁸ Please see Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030: https://www.bremen-innovativ.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Broschu%CC%88re_Schlu%CC%88ssel-zu-Innovationen-2030_Web.pdf

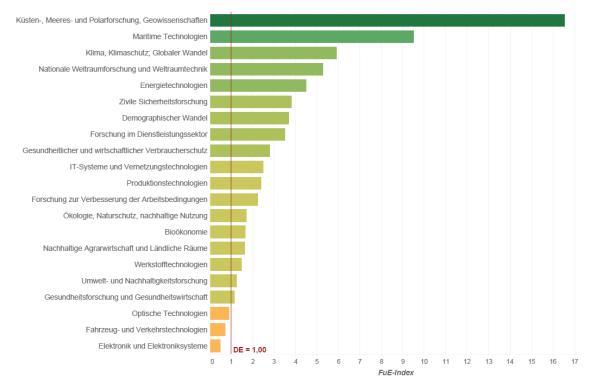
Fig. 2: Example for the visualization of R&D-activities in the Federal State of Bremen II: Relevance of key enabling technologies for R&D-Activities in key branches of the Federal State of Bremen by financial funding (01.01.2015-31.12.2019)



Source: Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030⁹, p. 19. Reprinted with permission.

 $^{^9}$ Please see Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030: https://www.bremen-innovativ.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Broschu%CC%88re_Schlu%CC%88ssel-zu-Innovationen-2030_Web.pdf

Fig. 3: Example for the visualization of R&D-activities III: R&D-Index for the Federal State of Bremen compared to the national level (01.01.2015-31.12.2019)



Source: Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030¹⁰, p. 20. Reprinted with permission.

A further, extended option of innovation monitoring could be a multidimensional visualization of the regional innovation infrastructure. During the TraCS3-project, examples for a geographical mapping and visualization have been conducted for Bremen using ArcGIS and including measurable input items (e.g. budget, resources), services of innovation infrastructure (e.g. networking, legal consultation, desktop/working space, laboratory, database), and output items (e.g. patents, publications, market entries, funding) (please see fig. 4) and for West Flanders using Google maps (please see fig. 5). Further, network-based forms of visualization were presented by the Finnish project partners that allow for enhanced perspectives on the interrelations and connections within a specific field of technology (please see fig. 6). Recurring on the information on funded R&D-cooperation, also the cooperation among innovation actors/infrastructures could be provided as a network visualization. This combined approach could include information on innovation actors and infrastructures, related technologies, and cooperation partners all well as a background database with further items and categories, connected to topographical/geographical information. The thus visualized data could further

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Please see Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030: https://www.bremen-innovativ.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Broschu%CC%88re_Schlu%CC%88ssel-zu-Innovationen-2030_Web.pdf

support the implementation of the Regional Innovation Strategy 2030 for Bremen, as well as it would be usable for regional marketing and for actors interested in regional and interregional cooperation. Hence, the instrument might support regional innovators to gain access to regional networks and to find cooperation and partners from the regional innovation ecosystem (please see annex 1.1, slide 3).

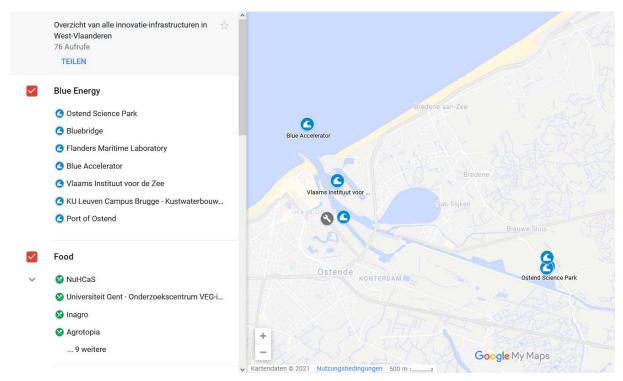
Innovations infrastrukture

Tournal Service Control of the Control

Fig. 4: Example of a topographical mapping of the innovation infrastructure in the Federal State of Bremen via ArcGis

Source: iaw 2020

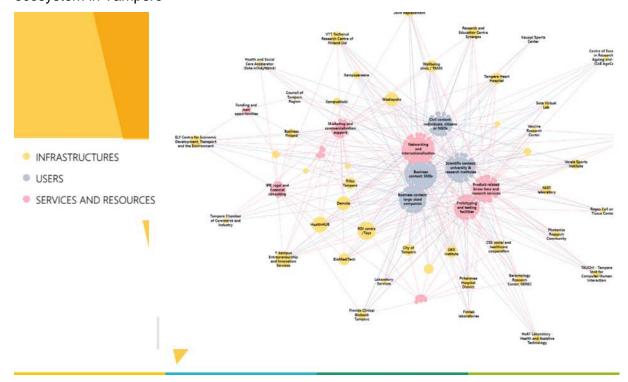
Fig. 5: Example of a topographical Mapping of innovation infrastructures in Westflanders via Google Maps



Source: Map created by POM Westflanders,

Link: https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1Qg9JOLz5JZeseS5j7oiMgwDlkj0PE9ic&usp=sharing

Fig. 6: Example of a network-based visualization of the Health and Well-being innovation ecosystem in Tampere



Source: Baltic Institute of Finland, Council of Tampere Region, presentation of 28.04.2021 (please see annex IV.2)

Sub-Action 2: Implementation process: regular updates, stakeholder involvement and steering committee

To support the development process and enhance the value for the users of the suggested monitoring and evaluation system, we recommend to involve regional experts and stakeholders into the strategic development process, as well as to seek exchange with other ministries related to the regional innovation system such as the Senator/Ministry for Science and Ports. Stakeholder involvement allows for a continuous reflection and further development of the tool and for a quick reaction to identified trends, needs, and development in innovation processes, in order to adapt to future challenges in innovation governance in the future. Approaches for implementation might be to establish an inter-ministerial steering-committee for innovation governance and monitoring, as it is planned in the Regional Innovation Strategy for Bremen 2030 (p. 62-63)¹¹, and an advising, inter-sectoral expert and stakeholder group with whom the policy owner regularly enters into exchange on the status. Also, the continuing review and further development of the instrument could be directly integrated into the continuous RIS3-entrepreneurial discovery process (p. 62-63)¹².

III.3 Players involved

- Policy owner: Senator/Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Europe, Federal State of Bremen
- External contractor(s), inter alia for the development of a monitoring concept, e.g.: Data analyst company/research institute
- Regional experts, actors and stakeholders from the Bremen innovation ecosystem
- Exchange and cooperation partners from further ministries and regional government departments (e.G. Senator for Science and Ports/WFB Wirtschaftsförderung Bremen GmbH/BIS Bremerhavener Gesellschaft für Investitionsförderung und Stadtentwicklung mbH/BAB Bremer Aufbau-Bank)
- Owners of relevant statistical data (please see sub-action 1)

III.4 Timeframe

2021-2022: conceptualization and development of a monitoring system

- o identification of indicators and set-up of a stakeholder involvement process and a steering committee
- development of dash board (not public, limited excess) until summer 2022

¹¹ Please see Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030: https://www.bremen-innovativ.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Broschu%CC%88re_Schlu%CC%88ssel-zu-Innovationen-2030_Web.pdf

¹² Please see Bremen Innovation Strategy 2030: https://www.bremen-innovativ.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Broschu%CC%88re_Schlu%CC%88ssel-zu-Innovationen-2030_Web.pdf

- from 2022: Implementation process:
 - regular updates of the innovation dashboard, the monitoring system and the included data
 - o regular meeting of the steering committee
 - o continuous process of stakeholder involvement

III.5 Costs

- ¼ or ½-time position at the Senator/Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Europe, Federal State of Bremen, for the coordination and development of the innovation monitoring system and for establishing a process of stakeholder involvement
- Costs for external contractors, approx. 60.000 Euro

III.6 Funding sources

 Internal resources, Senator/Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Europe, Federal State of Bremen

Part IV: Annex

IV.1 Presentation: Monitoring regional ecosystems and "deal flow", international TraCS3 partnership meeting in Tampere, Finland,

October 7th, 2019

Presenters:

Lari Jaakkola

Council of Tampere Region

Leena Nykänen

Council of Tampere Region



Ecosystems of Growth-project

- Ecosystems of Growth (2018-2020) is a joint project between the six largest cities in Finland: Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa, Turku, Oulu and Tampere. The goal of the project is to generate new business acitivites in the city regions and to support growth oriented companies to better access networks and innovation ecosystems that support their needs.
- As a part of the project the Council of Tampere region is developing a new digital tool (the Deal Flow tool) that will be used to monitor new company ideas, ecosystems, growth oriented companies, and their innovativeness in Tampere region (also called regional deal flow).

3 Lari Jaakkola

7.10.2019

The aim of the Deal Flow tool

- The tool will provide a continuously updated visual snapshot of the regional deal flow. This will help the regional business and ecosystem developers in decision making.
- The data used in the tool will be primarily gathered from open data sources. Application programming interfaces (API) will be used to automate the data collection and analysis.
- In addition to API's there will be an interface to feed data manually into the system.

6 Lari Jaakkola

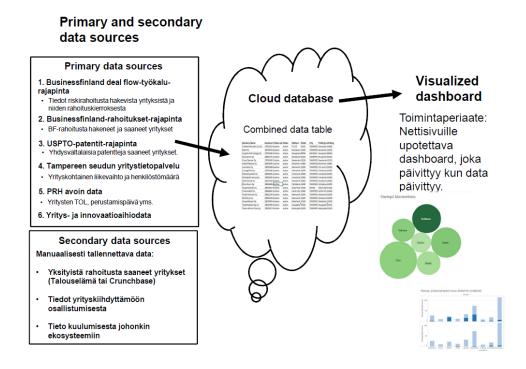
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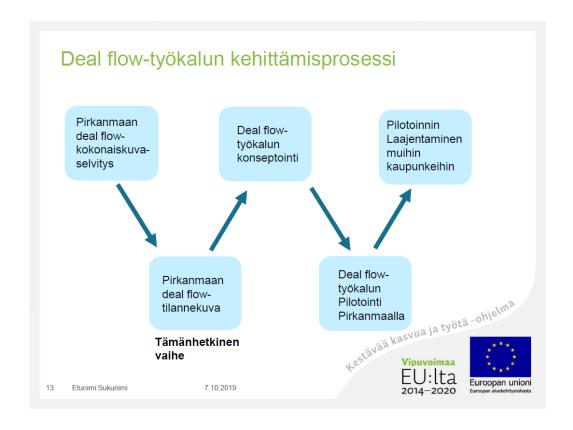
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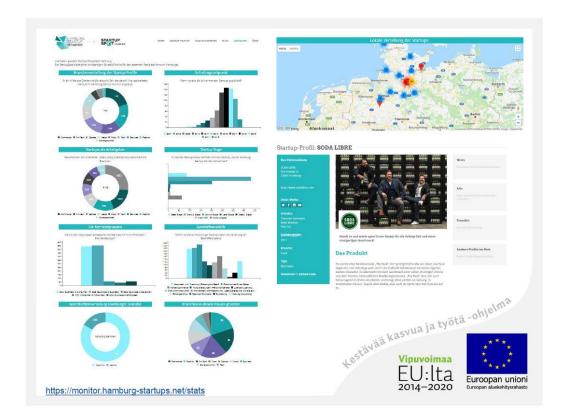
Deal Flow-tool draft 25.9.2019











IV.2 Presentation on the Good Practice from Finland during the 6th Bremen stakeholder meeting

April 28th 2021

Presenters:

Marja-Riitta Mattila-Nurmi

Johanna Vannes





Innovation Ecosystem Monitoring in Tampere Region

TraCS3 - Regional Stakeholder Group Bremen, 28 April 2021

Marja-Riitta Mattila-Nurmi, Council of Tampere Region & Johanna Vannes, The Baltic Institute of Finland





Tampere region

- Second largest population out of 19 Finnish regions
 - 518 703 inhabitants in July 2020
- 22 municipalities
- More than 9 % of Finns live in Tampere region
- Tampere region covers about 4 % of Finland's land area
- Tampere and the region easy going, dynamic, proper size, providing location and services, active student society
- The most attractive region in Finland
- Industrial region, manufacturing, strong IT concentration, smart technologies
 - → focus on services for post-industrial society
- Applying for European Capital of Culture 2026



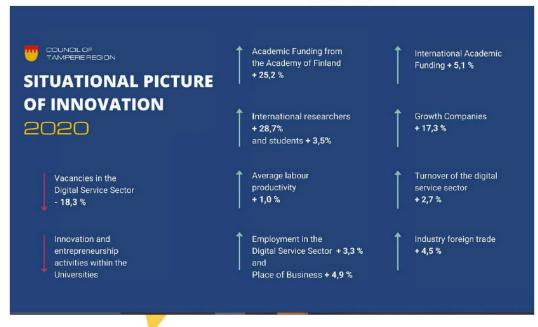


Situational Picture of Innovation in Tampere region

- Collects the latest data and interpretations every year
- Follows phenomena that we can influence on short or medium term
- Is part of the knowledge management process that impacts regional decision making
- A wide range of experts from regional government, HEIs, business and finance are involved in the work since 2013
- The knowledge base is updated annually from open data and data monitored by innovation actors
- Monitoring includes 50 indicators in six themes: Competitiveness, RDI funding, HEIs, Business Growth, Internationality and Digitalization
- New feature in 2020: visualizations of the data collected from RDI ecosystems (S3 development themes)











Background for RDI ecosystem data visualizations

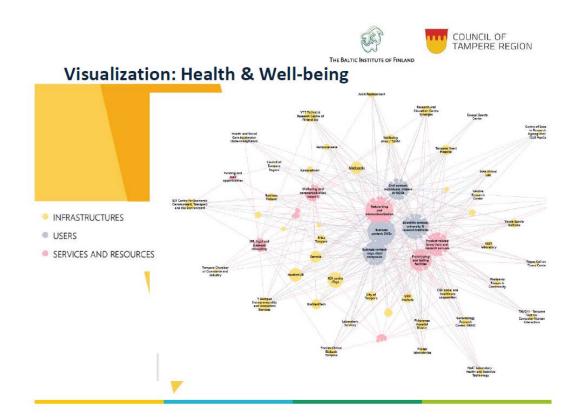
- 17 % of regional companies do active cooperation with the educational institutions, 36 % only occationally, 13 % are interested and 21 % of companies do not cooperate with the educational institutions
- Trends that affect the development of the company's business the most
 - Relevance of the work
 - Growing shortage of skilled labour
 - Growing importance of networking and digitalization of work and business
- Our region needs equal development opportunities as competitors –
 The challenge is modest investment in RDI activities
- Towards more strategic ecosystem development away from silos and short-term project work
- Ecosystem development important for our new university three universities merged into one in 2019, fragmented infrastructure

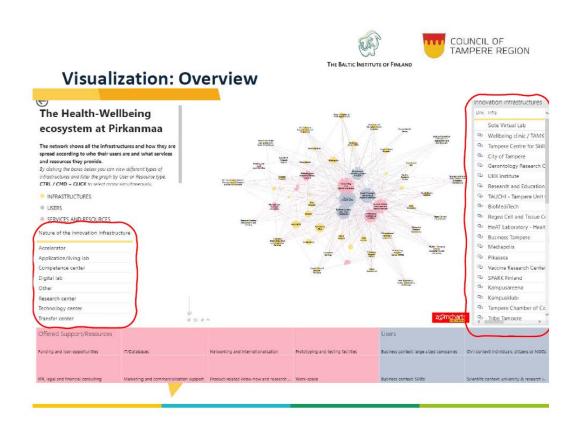


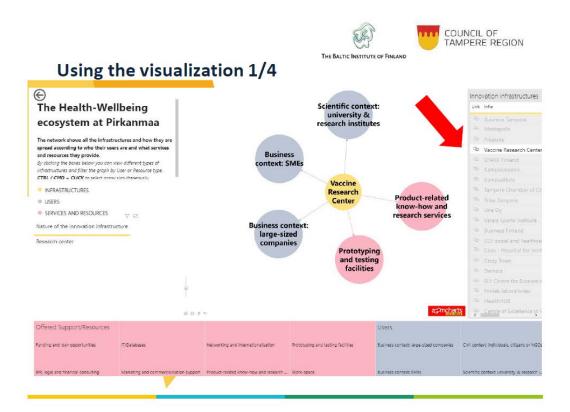


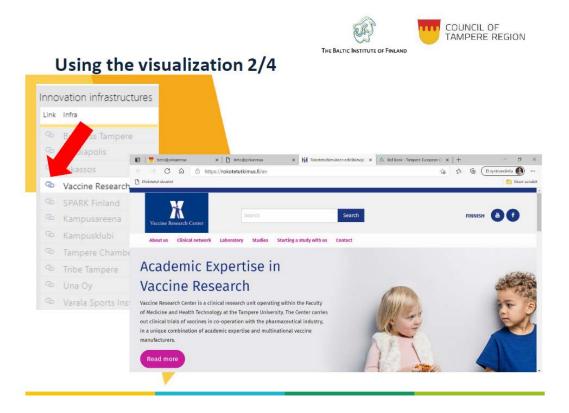
Support for the innovation ecosystem and benefits for the innovation actors

- Interactive online visualization with an ecosystem-like image of different RDI infrastructures and a few background variables as a filter provides opportunities to look at the region's multifunctional, diverse infrastructure and to identify its emphasis and shortcomings
- May raise thoughts on infrastructure practices and operating models (service development, identification of customer needs, discoverability, attractiveness, service professionalism, ...)
- Ideas for further development e.g. hybrid and virtual models, virtual visits, connections to larger international ecosystems, EU and other funding,
- Will be used in regional development, in communication and lobbying











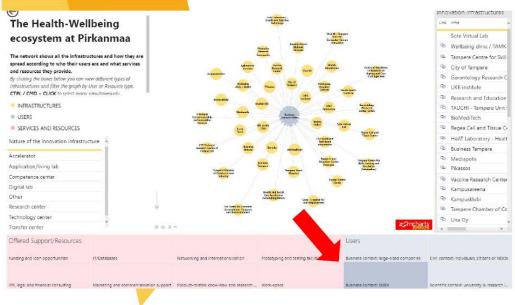


Using the visualization 3/4





Using the visualization 4/4







Links & contacts

Situational Picture of Innovation 2020 https://tieto.pirkanmaa.fi/inno

Visualizations of the data collected from Smart City, Health & Wellbeing and Manufacturing Industry RDI infrastructures https://tieto.pirkanmaa.fi/inno/pages/syventymat/pirkanmaan_ekosysteemi_vis ualisointi.html

Marja-Riitta Mattila-Nurmi marja-riitta.mattila-nurmi@pirkanmaa.fi

Johanna Vannes johanna.vannes@tampere.fi



IV.3 Good Practice from Tampere, Finland (Source: Interreg Europe, Policy Learning Platform)

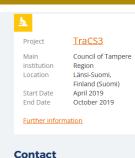
Situational picture of the entrepreneurial ecosystem of Tampere region

A situational picture of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Tampere region that intends to give a multifaceted snapshot about the ecosystem and its development.

The practice is a detailed data-based snapshot on the entrepreneurial ecosystem of Tampere region. The main focus is on startups and other growth-oriented companies. The situational picture is used to monitor the regional ecosystem. Public and private actors working with growth-oriented companies as well as regional developers may gain new insights into the development of the ecosystem, which helps them to prepare more apt policies and enhance their decision making. The practice can be used in other regions although there might be differences in the availability of data. The situational picture will be used as a template to develop an automated tool that will be used to monitor the entrepreneurial ecosystem of Tampere region.

The problem addressed is the lack of data on startups, other growth-oriented companies and their development. The shortage of relevant and timely data has been recognized by regional developers and other professionals. Higher quality data and visualizations are needed to get a better view of the development of the ecosystem. This will in turn make it easier to implement better policies and enhance decision making.

The practice will only reach its goals if the information produced is useful for the end users. To ensure that the data that is going to be used is relevant it is important to ask about the needs of the end users. When the situational picture is ready it is also important to communicate about the practice.

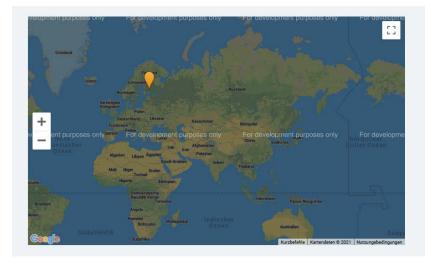


Contact

Follow ★



Johanna Vannes Please login to contact the author.



Resources needed

Personnel: 6 months of work done by a data analyst. Good skills in data analytics and visualizations. Basic knowledge about entrepreneurial ecosystems helpful.

Technical: The visualizations can be done with freeware such as Tableau Public. Statistics software such Microsoft Excel are useful.

Evidence of success

The situational picture has raised discussion about the development of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Tampere region. It has been viewed over 600 times in the first month. The situational picture will be used to develop an automated tool. The development of the tool will start in the beginning of the year 2020.

Difficulties encountered

The biggest challenge has been the availability of data. Some data that would be needed does not exist or cannot be used due to strict privacy policies. In Finland, adequate data about private funding of startup companies does not exist.

Potential for learning or transfer

This practice can also be interesting for other regions. Many regions across the EU are trying to implement policies aimed to develop startup ecosystems. Monitoring these systems is difficult and this practice may give ideas and tools that can be utilised to develop monitoring practices.

At the moment, only a Finnish version exists, but an English version will be available later on. For more information, please contact Mr Lari Jaakkola lari.jaakkola(@)pirkanmaa.fi.

Tags: Entrepreneurship Monitoring Startups Ecosystem