

Smart-up BSR

#### Aalto University School of Business

# Smart-UP BSR: Baltic Sea Region

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## **Smart-Up BSR in a nutshell**

- Dynamic, entrepreneurial & engaging
- BSR RIS3 implementation four spearheads: healthy ageing, digitalisation in smart city, climate change and circular economy
- Allows regions to learn hands-on and build solutions to regional challenges via innovation camps
- Foster BSR bottom-up innovation process and experimentation
- Mobilizes existing knowledge, expertise, and showcases best practices in the area of smart specialisation
- Activates Baltic Sea region network around important societal challenges
- Regions in 9 countries of the Baltic Sea Area, 13 partners,
  26 associate partners, including DG JRC & DG REGIO









### Smart & Sustainable BSR 2040

Evidence informed policy & decision-making



United Nations Office for Partnerships

### **Objective: Smart Up BSR as a community for change**

- Smart Up as a community for RIS3 interregional engagement in Baltic Sea
- and activating cross-regional networks to solve grand societal challenges
- Innovation camps: a pilot of a 3-year long cross-regional engagement process with quadruple helix stakeholders
- Innovation camp method a capacity building for regional innovation and RIS3 implementation







### Smart-Up BSR Key Research Questions and Messages to the Politicians

- 1. Boost inclusive regional stakeholder engagement: How do we make the development of our regions inclusive? How do we engage diverse stakeholder in Baltic Sea Region?
- 2. Engage BSR Inter-regional collaboration: How to engage and collaborate across regional borders in Baltic Sea regions? How to create and develop the spearhead initiatives together in the macro-region?
- **3.** Boost Entrepreneurship & entrepreneurial discovery process: How to boost entrepreneurship and start-ups in BSR? How does the entrepreneurial discovery process create value in BSR?
- 4. Save Baltic Sea and tackle grand societal challenges: How to tackle grand societal challenges like climate change, circular economy, and healthy ageing via smart specialization in BSR? How to attract relevant businesses inclusively?





- Regions updated their RIS3 using Innovation Camp & JRC Peer Exchange Learning workshop: Helsinki-Uusimaa, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Pomorskie region (PL)
- Alternative scenarios of the future of BSR are developed as an instrument for crystallizing regional strengths & opportunities
- Successful innovation camps 4 (of 10):
  - Luosto (FIN): Learning the Innovation Camp Methodology
  - Aarhus (DK): A City-Driven Region
    - RIS3 regional collaboration & engagement toolbox and creating a "superhero hub" a network of forward-thinking local individuals and actions on regional level
  - Palanga-Klaipeda (LT): Sustainable Port
    - a collaborative maritime incubator in Gdansk (PL), to be launched as one of Smart-Up BSR pilots
  - Tallinn (EE): Smart Sustainable Cities in BSR
    - a citizen-led city neighborhood improvement digital platform winner solution recognized by Tallinn city government



### **In-the-Making Now**

1) "Quick Guide" for regional policy makers on how, why and whether to organize innovation camp to solve grand societal challenges

- a short guide of its own, referencing JRC Handbook for details
- concise: key lessons learned + short 1-2 paragraph explanations
- visually inspiring using photos from Smart-Up camps

#### 2) Short guidelines on pilot planning methodology

 accessible description of how to prepare, facilitate and document the pilots: vision, steps to be taken, lessons learned on place-based innovation ecosystems, and documenting of pilots



# **Implications and Discussion**

- 1. Boost inclusive regional stakeholder engagement and better sciencesociety dialogue.
- 2. Engage BSR Inter-regional collaboration and gain synergies between different projects and financial instruments.
- 3. Boost Entrepreneurship & entrepreneurial discovery process, attract more companies and co-create through public-private partnerships.
- 4. Save Baltic Sea and tackle grand societal challenges and encourage place-based ecosystem creation.



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