

Smart Satakunta: Encouraging community- Pure vitality -People-oriented solutions

In Satakunta Region we are preparing our long-term development plan by involving our inhabitants and the stakeholders as well as governmental authorities and local municipalities. The Plan for Satakunta Region 2050 gives us the guidelines and represents foresights of regional values and interests of *policy mix*. Preparing the handbook through place-based and bottom-up process follows the main themes of EU and national policies. Satakunta Region's *vision* includes smart, inclusive and sustainable growth through pure vitality and people-oriented solutions.

Region's smart specialisation strategy is based on the existing regional expertise and *process* of the Satakunta regional program is connected to the smart specialisation approach (RIS3). The priorities for development have been identified and *analysed* through regional planning process.

Strengthening the innovation process in selected regional *smart priorities* is one of the development entities and Satakunta Regional Council has created a network of strategic partnerships between key R&D organizations, universities, intermediary organizations, as well as business operators. Regarding RIS3 priorities (f.ex industrial modernisation, automation and robotics, blue growth, experience economy), we have prepared the competence profiles and growth programmes and we are currently working with details concerning for example KET's. This is one example in which S3 has been strengthening our regional process.

S3 -development activities are to be implemented through multiple funding sources; funding possibilities are raised in conjunction with the priorities. As a funding authority, Regional Council of Satakunta coordinates the implementation of S3 -themes and creates synergy between f.ex. ERDF and ESF projects.

Our task is also to make different kinds of actors collide in new and sudden ways, and by doing this create unseen cooperation and thus totally new kinds of solutions. The aim is to gather long-term regional cooperative forums, which are able to produce new applications and / or new value-added data recovery network.

In a Regional smart specialisation is essential to also review other European regions in relation to their own region, critical comparison and learning. The Regional Council of Satakunta is a member of the Smart Specialisation Platform (S3) in Europe and member of the CPMR and European innovation partnership ERIAFF (European Regions for Innovation in Agriculture, Food and Forestry). Cooperation with the Platform has been rewarding and the RIS3 -work has opened new perspectives on the development of Regional process for innovation. We are looking forward to successfully continue the RIS-work in the context of Platform.

The *monitoring and implementation* of the RIS3 priorities are served by regional foresight and RDI (research, development and innovation) co-operation. Satakunta's regional foresight annual clock consists of five regular events for monitoring and forecasting regional development by foresight and statistical methods. Monitoring data gathered also from other regional forums, such as rural, tourism, wellness forums for children and youth, the elderly, the Council, Regional Management Committee and Regional Planning Cooperation Group. Through the evaluation the development topics can be refocused if needed. To support the monitoring of smart specialisation Satakunta Region is preparing the statistical based resilience-instrument. (www.satamittari.fi)

The challenge of monitoring is how to make companies more engaged in the process and also how to identify potential needs for re-focusing the themes. An ongoing learning discussion process would provide an opportunity to improve the monitoring approach.