

INTERREG EUROPE POLICY LEARNING PLATFORM

Peer Review

To design an inclusive and continuous regional innovation governance around a common vision for the future

Beneficiary: The Regional Council of Päijät-Häme, Finland

Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 October 2023

Day 1: **Malski**, Meeting room "Sininen", Päijänteentkatu 9, Lahti

Day 2: Regional Council, Meeting room "Vellamo", Hämeenkatu 9, Lahti

Agenda	
Day 1: Tuesday 17 October 2023	
Malski, Meeting room "Sininen", Päijänteentkatu 9, Lahti	
<p>1. Welcome, briefing, and roundtable introduction (9:15 - 10:00)</p> <p>Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorsten Kohlisch, Project Manager • Arnault Morisson, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe • Laura Varisco, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome from the Thematic Experts and introduction of the 2-day agenda (5 minutes) • Welcome from the Regional Mayor / Development Director, Regional Council of Päijät-Häme (5 minutes) • Roundtable - Participants introduce themselves (25 minutes) • Interreg Europe and the concept of the peer review by Thorsten Kohlisch, Project Manager, Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform (5 minutes)
<p>2. Welcome and introduction to the policy challenges (10:00-10:45)</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Pekka Komu, Lahti Region Development 	<p>Presentation of the region's institutional context, existing policies and initiatives, and the main policy challenges regarding the design of an ecosystem-based governance, and host's expectations from the peer review by Harri Kuusela, Project Manager, Regional Council of Päijät-Häme, Finland.</p> <p><u>Objective of the session:</u> the peers gain a comprehensive understanding of the host region's policy setup and policy challenges.</p>
Break (10:45-11:15)	
<p>3. Stakeholder Mapping (11:15-12:30)</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Pekka Komu, Lahti Region Development 	<p>Welcome to stakeholders and short introduction to the session. Presentations from stakeholders (7 minutes/4 slides per stakeholders):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Cluster representatives from Lahti Region Development: Mr. Kimmo Seppänen & Mr. Pekka Komu: <i>Innovation, smart specialisation spearheads, clusters, and business development ecosystem</i> • Ms. Kaisa Vuorivirta, Lahti University Campus / Ms. Satu Rinkinen, LUT University / Ms. Susanna Vanhamäki, LAB University of Applied Sciences: <i>University- Business innovation cooperation: structures and actions</i> • Related regional innovation sectors: - Mr. Antti Kalliomaa & Ms. Tarja Parviainen: <i>Global meets local - international and municipal cooperation: goals, themes, and practices;</i>

	<p>- Ms. Johanna Snell & Ms. Maarit Virtanen: <i>Sustainability as a cross-cutting S3 spearhead - why and how?</i></p> <p>The stakeholders present their perspectives on regional innovation governance as well as on strengths, weaknesses, bottlenecks, and pitfalls of the current innovation governance arrangements.</p> <p><u>Objective of the session:</u> the peers gain an insight on the regional innovation ecosystem and governance.</p>
Group Photo	
Lunch (12:30-14:00) at Malskin Bistro, Päijänteekatu 9, Lahti	
<p>4. Peer Presentations (14:00-14:45)</p> <p>Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorsten Kohlisch, Project Manager • Arnault Morisson, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe • Laura Varisco, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe 	<p>The peers introduce themselves (three slides per peer): (1) the region, (2) the organisation, (3) an overview of their S3 governance (6 minutes per presentation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ainhoa Arrona • Artur Bobovnický • Esa Kokkonen • Juan Carlos Martinez Barrio • Luc Hulsman • Marta Martorell
<p>5. Working Session (14:45-15:45)</p> <p>Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorsten Kohlisch, Project Manager • Arnault Morisson, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe • Laura Varisco, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe 	<p>This session collects examples from peer regions for each of the questions formulated by the host region in a structured way, considering Päijät-Häme's institutional context and policy challenges. The peers are encouraged to share and discuss policy recommendations.</p> <p>The peers prepare a short presentation to highlight policy initiatives in their regions to design an inclusive and continuous regional innovation governance around a common vision for the future (max 8 min. presentations - 4 slides). The sessions aim to favour open and interactive discussion on each question.</p> <p>(1) Initiatives to empower regional stakeholders and bottom-up governance arrangements?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ainhoa Arrona • Artur Bobovnický • Esa Kokkonen • Juan Carlos Martinez Barrio • Luc Hulsman • Marta Martorell
Break (15:45-16:15)	
<p>6. Working Session (16:15-17:15)</p> <p>Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorsten Kohlisch, Project Manager • Arnault Morisson, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe • Laura Varisco, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe 	<p>(2) How to promote collaborative projects among regional stakeholders?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ainhoa Arrona • Artur Bobovnický • Esa Kokkonen • Juan Carlos Martinez Barrio • Luc Hulsman • Marta Martorell <p><u>End of the first day:</u> wrapping up of the day, short briefing on the next day (5 minutes)</p>
19:00 Dinner at Bistro Popot, Rautatienkatu 26, Lahti	

Day 2: Wednesday 18 October 2023

Regional Council, Meeting room “Vellamo”, Hämeenkatu 9, Lahti

7. Policy co-creation session

(9:00-12:30)

Moderators:

- **Thorsten Kohlisch**, Project Manager
- **Arnault Morisson**, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe
- **Laura Varisco**, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe

- Short briefing on the session (5 minutes)
- Policy co-creation session—peers, host region, and thematic experts—to provide tailored policy recommendations keeping in mind the “the more concrete, the better” principle. The recommendations must be actionable proposals for each of the question discussed while considering the specificities of the host’s regional institutional context; the recommendations must offer strategic guidance for each thematic block—regarding the design of an inclusive and continuous regional innovation governance around a common vision for the future.

The objective of the session is to prepare a draft PowerPoint presentation with relevant policy recommendations that will be presented to the decision-makers stakeholders in session 8.

Lunch (12:30 - 14:15) Restaurant Taivaanranta, Rautatienkatu 13, Lahti

8. Joint Peer Review Session

(14:15-15:30)

Moderators:

- **Thorsten Kohlisch**, Project Manager
- **Arnault Morisson**, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe
- **Laura Varisco**, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe

- Key decision-makers and stakeholders from the host region participate in the session (see lists of participants, regional and country stakeholders - TBC)
- Presentation of the drafted policy recommendations to the host region.
- Interactive discussion between the host, the peers and the local stakeholders on the presented policy recommendations and ways to further operationalise them (suitability, feasibility, preconditions).
- Concluding remarks – **Harri Kuusela**, Regional Council of Päijät-Häme, Finland.

Objective of the session: The host region and key stakeholders should reflect on the policy recommendations from the peers.

9. End and next steps

(15:30-15:45)

Moderators:

- **Thorsten Kohlisch**, Project Manager
- **Arnault Morisson**, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe
- **Laura Varisco**, Thematic Expert Smarter Europe

- Short concluding remarks and follow-up activities by **Thorsten Kohlisch**, Project Manager, Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform (5 minutes)
- Following the peer review meeting, the main conclusions must be translated into a proposal for concrete policy action (“to do-list” presenting the actions to be taken – document to be drafted after the peer review meeting).
- Moreover, the closing sessions should allow for an open and informal exchange between the host region and the peers about possible joint follow-up actions and opportunities for partnerships.
- Next joint actions and Goodbye.

End of Peer Review – 15:45

List of participants

Peers		
First and last name	Organisation	Position
Ainhoa Arrona	Orkestra, Basque Institute of Competitiveness, Spain	Researcher
Artur Bobovnický	Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency, Slovakia	Director of Innovations
Esa Kokkonen	The Baltic Institute of Finland	Director
Juan Carlos Martinez Barrio	CEEI-Burgos, Spain	Director of Projects Development Department/Project Manager
Luc Hulsman	Northern Netherlands Alliance, The Netherlands	Program manager
Marta Martorell	i2cat Foundation, Catalonia, Spain	Director of DST Research Area - Digital Society Technologies Head Digital Social Innovation

Beneficiary organisation and stakeholders		
First and last name	Organisation	Position
Mr. Harri Kuusela	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Project Manager
Mr. Pekka Komu	Lahti Region Development / City of Lahti	Business Developer / Chairman of Regional Board
Mr. Kimmo Seppänen	Lahti Region Development	Business Developer
Ms. Kaisa Vuorivirta	Lahti University Campus	Senior Adviser
Ms. Satu Rinkinen	LUT University	Researcher
Ms. Susanna Vanhamäki	LAB University of Applied Sciences	Chief Specialist, PhD
Mr. Juha Hertsi	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Development Director
Mr. Antti Kalliomaa	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Director for Public Relations and International Affairs
Ms. Riika Kivelä	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Development Manager
Ms. Johanna Snell	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Project Manager
Mr. Markku Lehikoinen	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Project Manager
Mr. Tarja Parvainen	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Municipality Coordination Manager
Ms. Maarit Virtanen	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Climate Specialist

Interreg Europe		
First and last name	Organisation	Position
Kristaps Ročāns	Interreg Europe	Policy Officer
Thorsten Kohlich	Policy Learning Platform	Project Manager
Arnault Morisson	Policy Learning Platform	Thematic Expert Smarter Europe
Laura Varisco	Policy Learning Platform	Thematic Expert Smarter Europe