NEW IMPRESSIONS AND INNOVATIVE IDEAS
AT THE CONFERENCE OF THE BALTIC SEA REGION STATES
February 24-25, 2020

INNOVATION – POWER OF THE 21ST CENTURY

THE INTERREG PROJECT **"SMART-UP BALTIC SEA REGION"**
INNOVATION CAMP

BSR today is one of the most dynamic regions in Europe with great economic and political potential. The Baltic Sea region (BSR) consists of eight countries – Sweden, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, sharing common interest and challenge. There are 85 million inhabitants in the region composing 17 percent of the total EU population.

Cooperation between the EU Member States of the Baltic Sea region is seen as an important instrument for designing of the EU common policies, while cooperation at macro-regional level allows partners to take advantage of common development and complementarity in RIS3 areas. Such cooperation will increase critical mass and ensure technology transfer and innovation in companies.

The conference is combined with the BSR Interreg project activities. Smart-Up BSR is a community in Baltic Sea Region, which enables the regions to engage with partners and to apply research and innovation potential in practice. Smart-Up's network reaches out to EU RIS3 experts – EU Committee of the Regions & Joint Research Centre – to learn, get advised and enable orchestration of innovation hubs throughout Baltic Sea Region.   It is about fostering bottom-up regional innovation through **peer-to-peer learning** and **entrepreneurial discovery process** in a series of Innovation Camps. The Latvian Smart-up BSR project partners - University of Latvia, Ministry of Education and Science, Liepaja University together with the Latvian Academy of Science invite entrepreneurs, representatives of public authorities, scientific institutions and municipalities to participate in the event because the themes covered in the first day will be orientated on innovation implementation in the companies and scientific institutions. The second day of the conference will provide with the be possibility to look into the future and see the Baltic Sea region at the next level of technological development, how do we live, work, learn and travel. The exchange of ideas at the innovation workshop will add the value to common challenges giving the view from new angles.

The list of speakers   includes   representatives of European Commission, European Investment   bank,   Chairs of Academies of Science, policy   makers, scientists and researchers.

Note: The number of seats in the conference is limited, we encourage you not to delay the registration. When the maximum number of participants will be reached, the registration will be closed

Draft Agenda

February 24

Conference "Innovation – Power of the 21st century"
Venue: House of Science of the University of Latvia, Jelgavas street 3, Riga

10:00 Coffee, registration, networking

11.00 – 11.30 Opening of the conference, Introduction, Welcome speeches
Video about the Baltic Sea countries, RIS3 and the innovation investment platform.

11.30 – 15.00 Topic: **Development and specialisation of the 3S strategies of the Baltic Sea region. Cooperation in research, technological development and innovation. Major challenges for the region and common challenges.**

11.30 – 12.00 Dr Vaira Vīķe - Freiberga - President of the Republic of Latvia (1999-2007), patroness of the conference
Main challenges and common problems of the region. Questions and answers.

12.00 – 12.30 Marco Francini, Head of Office, Regional EIB Group Office for the Baltic States.
Regional innovation platforms: an instrument for technological development and innovation. Examples of platforms, governance, financing.
Questions and answers.

12.30 – 13.00 Prof. Andrejs Ērglis, Vice-President of the Latvian Academy of Science, Chair of the UL Strategy Council.
Creating an Innovation Partnership platform in the Baltic Sea region. Partners and Action Plan. Questions and answers.

13.00 – 13.30 Prof. Dr. Jerzy Duszyński, president of the Polish Academy of Sciences
Development programme of the Polish Academy of Sciences.
Questions and answers.

13.30 – 14.00 Prof. Juras Banys, President of Lithuanian Academy of Science

14.00 – 15.00 Lunch, media issues.

15.00 – 17.30 Topic - The objectives of the European Union in the field of research and innovation. Innovations in Lithuania. Questions and answers

15.00 – 15.30 Representative of the European Commission
The European Union's objectives for promoting innovations during the 2021-2027 programming period. EFSI as a driver of innovation. Achievements and challenges. Questions and answers

15.30 – 16.00 Prof. Risto Nieminen, president of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters
**How is it to be among the world leaders in the field of innovation.
Questions and Answers**

16.00 – 16.20 Evita Feldberga, Director of the Department of Industry Policy, Ministry of Economics
Smart specialisation as a platform for Latvia's growth. Future prospectives. Questions and answers.

16.20 – 16.40 Representative of the Ministry of Finance
Next planning period challenges in the research and innovation for Latvia, expected funding. Questions and answers.

16.40 – 17.00 Dmitry Stepanov, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Education and Science
**Development of human capital in the research and innovation
Questions and answers.**

February 25

Conference "Innovation - Driver of XXI century"
Venue: House of Science of the University of Latvia, Jelgavas street 3, Riga

10:00 – 10.30 Coffee, registration, networking

10.30 – 11.00 Prof. Taina Tukiainen, Aalto University
Smart-up BSR objectives and achievements, involvement of the project partners in the BSR Innovation Partnership Platform. Questions and answers.

11.00 – 14.00 The Baltic Sea region under the influence of the next wave of technological development.

11.30 – 12.00 Prof. Indriķis Muižnieks, University of Latvia
Development of technology and changes in the society, region, environment. The next wave of technological development and how to prepare for it. Questions and answers.

12.00 – 12.30 Prof. Ojārs Spārītis, president of the Latvian Academy of Sciences
The victory march of the technologies and their exponential rise. Jump in science, production, education and other areas of life. Questions and answers

Smart-up BSR Innovation Camp
Venue: House of Science of the University of Latvia, Jelgavas street 3, Riga.

9:00 – 9.15 Coffee, registration, networking

9.15 – 10.00 Introduction to innovation challenges
Moderator of the topic

10.00 – 10.30 Prof. Dr. Eugene Eteris, Expert of European Commission
Smart Specialisation Platform. The macro-regions of the European Union and their specialisation. Questions and answers

11.00-13.00 Work at innovation challenges.
Challenge 1. Promotion of the cooperation between science and business, *moderator - Evita Feldberga, Ministry of Economy*
Challenge 2. Promoting the communication between the holders and users of the science infrastructure.
Challenge 3. Organisation and financing of the innovation development and marketing.
Challenge 4. Human resources development, mobility and cooperation in the science *- moderator - Janis Volberts, Ministry of Education and Science*
Challenge 5. Use of the innovative digital approaches to educating the public in the circular economy.

12.30 – 13.00 Representative of EY Latvia/University of Latvia
House of Technology - the pilot project of innovation

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 15.00 Signing of the protocol of the intentions of the National Academy of Sciences of the Baltic Sea Region. Media conference.
Questions and answers

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 16.00 Work at innovation challenges

16.00 – 17.00 Summary of the work at the challenges, conclusions, recommendations

17.15 – 18.15 Tour of University of Latvia Academic Centre

19.00 – 21.00 Dinner

February 26

(Smart-up BSR partners only)

9.45 – 10.00 Coffee

10.00 – 12.30 Smart-up BSR partner meeting.

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 15.00 Excursion to the Botanical garden of the University of Latvia

15.10 – 17.00 Tour to an innovative company (to be confirmed)