



Smart Regions 2.0 Conference

Maximising Europe's innovation potential

1-2 June 2017 • Messukeskus Expo and Convention Centre, Helsinki, Finland

@EU_Regional #SmartRegions



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1-2 June 2017

DRAFT PROGRAMME

The second edition of the high-level Smart Regions event, due to take place this 1-2 June in Helsinki, will provide the opportunity to national and regional authorities to share experience of how smart specialisation has been implemented in their countries and regions. In 2014 smart specialisation strategies were introduced in the European Union's Cohesion Policy as the basis for research and innovation investment. As a result, over 120 strategies have been established to shape investments from 2014-20. It is now time to assess what has been achieved, exchange experience and reflect on how the impact of projects can be maximised on the ground and what lessons should be drawn for the future.

The event will provide the opportunity to share experience between projects supported by the European Structural Investment Funds and other EU programmes and policies in the areas of research, industrial policy, education and skills. It will enable project promoters to learn from experience in other regions and find cooperation partners across EU in areas such as energy, agri-food, industrial modernisation, cybersecurity, health, and the maritime industry.

As well as highlighting best practice and lessons learnt, there will be an opportunity to debate the future of innovation in the context of European regional development with senior representatives from the European institutions and national and regional governments. The conclusions of the discussion will be an important contribution to the discussion on the future of Cohesion Policy post-2020.

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Moderator: Karen Coleman

WEDNESDAY, 31 MAY 2017

18:30 – 20:30

Registration and evening welcome cocktail organised by Helsinki city

Venue: Helsinki City Hall (Pohjoisesplanadi 11-13, 00170 Helsinki)

THURSDAY, 01 JUNE 2017

08:00 – 09:00

Registration

09:00 – 10:00

Opening

- **Jyrki Katainen** – European Commission Vice-President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness
- **Corina Crețu** – European Commissioner for Regional and Urban Policy
- **Mika Lintilä** – Minister of Economic Affairs of Finland
- **Markku Markkula** – President of the Committee of the Regions

10:00 – 10:30

Coffee Break

10:30 – 11:00

Introduction

- **Rudolf Niessler** – Director, European Commission, Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy

Keynote address

- **Dominique Foray** – Professor, Chair of Economics and Management of Innovation, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
- **Kevin Morgan** – Professor of Governance and Development, Cardiff University
- **Slavo Radosevic** – Professor of Industry and Innovation Studies, University College London

11:00 – 12:30

Reforming national and regional innovation systems

Panel discussion and debate

Panelists:

- **Heli Antila** - Chief Technology Officer, Fortum
- **Patrizio Bianchi** – Professor of the University of Ferrara
- **Lambert van Nistelrooij** - Member of the European Parliament (tbc)
- **Elżbieta Polak** – Marshall of Lubuskie region (tbc)
- **Kurt Vandenberghe** – Director European Commission, Directorate-General Research and Innovation (tbc)
- **Lena Tsipouri** – Professor at the Department of Economic Sciences, University of Athens

Rapporteur: Peter Berkowitz – Head of Unit "Smart and Sustainable Growth", European Commission, Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy

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|---------------|---|--|---|--|
| 12:30 – 14:00 | Networking Lunch | | | |
| 14:00-15:30 | <p>Parallel sessions 1: Tailoring support for the needs of the regions</p> <p><i>This session will share experiences on how to develop research and innovation strategies on smart specialisation in different territorial contexts. It will discuss what policy instruments and governance models are best fit to the purpose of supporting economic development of regions.</i></p> <p>Rapporteur: Dr. Henning Kroll - Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research ISI</p> | | | |
| | <p>Parallel Session 1A: Industrial regions</p> <p>Examples</p> <p>Hard talk: business-academia-government</p> | <p>Parallel Session 1B: Urban/metropolitan regions</p> <p>Examples</p> <p>Hard talk: business-academia-government</p> | <p>Parallel Session 1C: Rural regions</p> <p>Examples</p> <p>Hard talk: business-academia-government</p> | <p>Parallel Session 1D: Peripheral and sparsely populated regions</p> <p>Examples</p> <p>Hard talk: business-academia-government</p> |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | Coffee break | | | |
| 16:00 – 17:30 | <p>Parallel sessions 2: Investing in innovation across EU regions</p> <p><i>This session will share experiences on how to build partnerships across Europe which lead to investments in innovation. It will discuss the bottlenecks and how to overcome them.</i></p> | | | |
| | <p>Parallel Session 2A: Investing in industrial modernisation</p> <p>Lead: DG GROW</p> <p>Presentation: sectoral expert</p> <p>Structured group discussion</p> | <p>Parallel Session 2B: Investing in energy</p> <p>Lead: DG ENER</p> <p>Presentation: sectoral expert</p> <p>Structured group discussion</p> | <p>Parallel Session 2C: Investing in agri-food</p> <p>Lead: DG AGRI</p> <p>Presentation: sectoral expert</p> <p>Structured group discussion</p> | <p>Parallel Session 2D: Investing in new sources of growth</p> <p>Lead: DG RTD</p> <p>Presentation: sectoral expert</p> <p>Structured group discussion</p> |
| 19:00 – 22:00 | <p>The tastes of Finland - networking dinner hosted by Finnish Regions Venue: Nosturi (Telakkakatu 8, 00150 Helsinki)</p> | | | |

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FRIDAY, 02 JUNE 2017

08:30 – 09:00

Registration and Welcome Coffee

09:00 – 10:30

Opening:

- **Markku Markkula** – President of the Committee of the Regions
- Representative of the European Parliament

Report from the 1st day

- **Reforming national and regional innovation systems**
- **Tailoring support to develop regional capacity building for regions**
- **Investing in innovation across borders**

10:30 – 12:00

Debate on challenges for research & innovation in the European regions

Chair: **Normunds Popenis** – Deputy Director General for Regional and Urban Policy

- **Robert-Jan Smits** – Director General, DG RTD (tbc)
- **Antti Peltomäki** – Deputy Director General, DG GROW
- **Vladimír Šucha** – Director General, DG JRC (tbc)

12:00-14:30

Networking

Matchmaking

Lunch

14:30-17:45

Continuous exhibition and networking

Study visits. Please click [here](#) to see a power point slideshow of the study visits.

Buses will depart from Messukeskus at 14:30 sharp. Maximum 50 participants per visit.

- **Kalatatama:** Smart City District in Helsinki (14:30-17:15)
- **Bioruukki:** Bio-based pilot facility in Espoo (14:30-17:30)
- **Urban Mill:** Co-working and co-creation platform at Aalto University campus in Espoo (14:30-17:15)
- **Knehtilä Farm:** Organic farm in Hyvinkää (14:30-17:45)

After the site visits, the buses will drop off the participants at the airport and Central Railway Station.