



SmartPilots Interregional Seminar on Direct Support Mechanisms for Shared Pilot Facilities

Invitation and Program

We invite all stakeholders (managing authorities, intermediate bodies, regional funding authorities and applicants, funding beneficiaries, innovation organisations, cluster organisation, users of SPF...) with an interest in shared pilot facilities (SPF) and innovation **to be actively involved in the SmartPilots study visits and interregional seminars.** Next SmartPilots Interregional Seminar:

WHEN: October 12th, 2016

WHERE: Fraunhofer-Zentrum für Chemisch-Biotechnologische Prozesse CBP, Am Haupttor (Tor 12, Bau 1251), 06237 Leuna, Germany

WHO: SmartPilots Project Partners and Stakeholders of Shared Pilot Facilities

What is SMARTPILOTS?

SmartPilots: Improving policies in support of shared pilot facilities to increase their impact on the Key Enabling Technology Industrial Biotech and the European Bioeconomy

Shared pilot facilities are open access test sites that bring bioeconomy innovations from the laboratory into industrial practice. They are open to all companies and research institutes, and can thus be seen as shared investments in innovation equipment. They have proven to be successful in helping innovators, especially SMEs, to bridge the so called Valley of Death, i.e. the innovation phase between laboratory and successful market introduction that comes with a high technological and financial risk. Typically, initial funding from governments is available to build a Shared Pilot Facility, but it is a challenge to safeguard their long-term existence, especially since bioeconomy is relatively new and dedicated policies are currently lacking in many regions.

SmartPilots aims to improve regional policies to provide support in a cost-effective and impact oriented manner. This will be done by:

- Optimizing direct support for shared pilot facilities
- Optimizing indirect support i.e. direct support for users of shared pilot facilities
- Facilitating interregional cooperation regarding Shared Pilot Facilities.

Phase 1 (2016-2018): The project partners, regions that locate a SPF or have a high interest and SPFs, each make a thorough regional analysis of availability and use of funding mechanisms for SPF and their users (through study visits and questionnaires to relevant stakeholders). During three

interregional seminars, the results of these regional analyses will be compared and discussed and best-practices will be exchanged. The findings of the seminars will be summarized in Regional Factsheets, used to draw up regional action plans.

Phase 2 (2018-2020): Regional implementation of the action plans and monitoring of the results of the implementation.

The Shared Pilot Facilities and regions involved are **Bio Base Europe Pilot Plant** (lead partner) and the **department of Economy, Science and Innovation** from Flanders (Belgium), **Centre for Process Innovation** from Tees Valley (UK), **VTT** from Helsinki Uusimaa (Finland), **Bioprocess Pilot Facility** and **Provincie Zuid-Holland** (the Netherlands), **Innovhub SSI** from Lombardy (Italy) and **ARD** (France) and **CBP Fraunhofer** (Germany) as Case Studies.

REGISTRATION:

Interested stakeholders can register by sending an email to: Katrien.Molders@bbeu.org.

PROGRAM

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| 8:30-9:00 | Arrival and coffee |
| 9:00-9:15 | Welcome and introduction to the SmartPilots project: Ambition, Approach, Consortium
Mr. Brecht Vanlerberghe, SmartPilots project coordinator |
| 9:15-10:00 | Project Partners Presentations (7 partners, 2 case studies) |
| 10:00 – 12.30 | Overview of the Direct Support Mechanisms per region <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 10:00-10:30 Current Direct and Indirect Support Mechanisms for SPF/Innovation in Germany▪ 10:30-10:50 Direct support mechanisms for SPF in Flanders▪ 10:50-11:10 Direct Support mechanisms for SPF in The Netherlands/Prov. South-Holland |
| 11:10-11:40 | Coffee break <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 11:40-12:00 Direct Support mechanisms for SPF in UK▪ 12:00-12:20 Direct Support mechanisms for SPF in France▪ 12:20-12:40 Direct Support mechanisms for SPF in Finland |
| 12.40 – 13.40 | Lunch (incl. short tour of the Fraunhofer CBP facility) |
| 13:40 – 15:00 | Discussion/exchange/gap analysis: <u>current versus ideal situation</u> for direct support mechanisms |
| 15:00 – 15.15 | Coffee break |
| 15:15 - 16.15 | Brainstorm about/Identification of best practices for Direct Support Mechanisms to SPF |
| 16.15 – 16.45 | Conclusions and Wrap-up |