



ETELÄ-POHJANMAAN

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Project Budget (RCSO)

| CESME + / RCSO | BUDGET | 10/2021-9/2022 | 10/2022-2/2023 | REMAINING |
|----------------|--------|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| BUDGET | 39550 | 34780 | 4770 | |
| BL1 | 27000 | 22903 | 3575 | 5212 |
| BL2 | 4050 | 3436 | 536 | 78 |
| BL3 | 2000 | 2100 | 0 | -100 |
| BL4 | 6500 | 3000 | 500 | 3000 |
| REMAINING | | 3341 | 159 | 3500 |

Status of Project Activities in South Ostrobothnia

Local Stakeholder Meetings

1. LSG took place on 9.2.2022
 1. Online meeting with 12 participants
 2. Meeting evidence provided in Google Drive
2. LSG took place on 24.5.2022
 1. It was hybrid meeting with total of 10 participants (5 attended onsite, 5 online)
 2. Meeting evidence provided in Google Drive

Communications:

- The newsletter was disseminated to LSG by email in April.

Good Practices Identified

RCSO:

- Sustainable Growth and Vitality in Regions – Funding Instrument
 - Presented in Thessaloniki,, Presentations and GP template available in Google Drive
 - Good Practice uploaded in IE platform on 28.6.2022
- Climate and Circulan Economy Roadmap project
 - Presented in Thessaloniki by project manager Liisa-Maija Hurme, Presentations and GP template available in Google Drive
 - Good Practive uploaded in IE Platform on 28.6.2022

JPYP:

- Business Finland Funding in Finland
- PlasticSampo / Plastic Coin project

Regional Report

- Created and uploaded in Google Drive.
- Presented during project meeting in Thessaloniki 29.-30.3.2022.
 - Presentations available in Google Drive.

Policy Change Report

POLICY INSTRUMENT

Name: **Regional Programme of South Ostrobothnia 2022-2025**

Same as in Application Form or new?

- This is new, as the old one is not valid anymore

TARGED POLICY CHANGE

- **New projects / activities**
- Improved governance
- Structural change

Self defined performance indicator

Number of SMEs contacted

Amount of funds to be influenced: not yet (30.6.2022)

Policy Instrument: Regional Programme of South Ostrobothnia 2022-2025

Description: The Regional Programme of SO 2022-2025 is a revised version of the earlier regional programme (and policy instrument) for 2018-2021.

The programme is based on three priority objectives:

- 1. Stable and Dynamic South Ostrobothnia** – Responding to question: How will the region develop as balanced and lively region? –
- 2. Smart and Skilful** – How will the region succeed in the competition for increasing competences?
- 3. Flexible and sustainable** – How will the region reform and strengthen itself?

Priority Objective 3: FLEXIBLE and SUSTAINABLE addresses especially the issues of CESME – Circular Economy of SMEs

Policy Instrument

- The priority objective 3, Flexible and Sustainable, includes multiple objectives that address the issues of CESME - Circular Economy of SMEs.
 - Objective 3.1. Building a climate-smart South Ostrobothnia, addresses activities such as taking action to mitigate climate change and adapting to its effects, promoting a controlled transition to sustainable energy production and promoting climate-smart actions in the land-use sector.
 - Objective 3.2. focuses on Strengthening key business focus areas including sustainable food ecosystem and new bioeconomy solutions.
 - Objective 4.3. addresses the renewing practices of businesses including subobjective 3.2.3 Circulate and Digitalise! with focus on finding new practices for circular economy and digitalisation.

4 Flexible and sustainable:

How will South Ostrobothnia renew and strengthen itself?

4.1 Climate-smart South Ostrobothnia (RIS3)

- Taking action to mitigate climate change and adapting to its effects
- Promoting a controlled transition to sustainable energy production
- Promoting climate-smart actions in the land-use sector

4.2 Strengthening business focus areas (RIS3)

- 4.2.1 Sustainable food ecosystem and new bioeconomy solutions
- 4.2.2 Smart technologies
- 4.2.3 Wellbeing and experience economy

4.3 Renewing practices (RIS3)

- 4.3.1 Start up and Grow!
(Practices for start-ups and growing enterprises)
- 4.3.2 Circulate and Digitalise!
(Practices for circular economy and digitalisation)
- 4.3.3 Innovate and Renew!
(Practices for innovation and business renewal)
- 4.3.4 Go Global!
(Practices to promote internationalisation)

Policy Change

Possible new actions were discussed first time in the LSG meeting held on 25.5.2022

- As a result the Italian GP's (the sustainability awards and competitions) were found the most interesting for our region.
- Discussions are still ongoing, but we got **three initial ideas** how the GP's could be implemented in our region.

Initial ideas:

1. **Activity 1: Launching a new award: Circular Economy Stars of South Ostrobothnia**

1. Together with key local stakeholders Regional Council, JPYP, Chamber of Commerce, Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences

2. **Activity 2: Incorporate sustainability and circular economy criteria into already existing awards and competitions in the region.**

1. There are at least three competitions that could learn from the Italian GP's. The actions need further discussion with the respective actors. (Who has time, remains to be seen).

3. **Circular Economy Innovation Bootcamp** – *Circular Economy solutions for common challenges*

1. *A Competition type of thing? – could be financed through Rural Development Funds*
2. *Could be made in Rural Villages – and under Smart Villages theme – So organising CE workshops in villages, where solution are found to common challenges.*

Activity development

ACTION ONE: CIRCULAR ECONOMY STARS:

- In June 2022 the project ideas have been further developed and discussed with key actors:
 - Ideapaper of the Circular Economy Stars –project has been developed.
 - 16.6.2022 Meeting with Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences (project managers of circular economy projects) – discussing the idea and interest to collaborate
 - 21.6.2022 Meeting with Chamber of Commerce in South Ostrobothnia – discussing the ideas and interest to collaborate
 - Email correspondence with managing authorities in RCSO about funding opportunities.
- Plans for becoming months
 - In August further develop the project idea with interested stakeholders
 - September: develop project proposal
 - October: Submit project proposal
 - November: Start the project

Proposed Actions (DRAFT)

| Action / concrete activities | Interregional inspiration from other project partners <i>Good Practice and aspects of particular interest</i> | Relation to Policy Instrument <i>How will the PI be affected from the specific Action</i> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Circular Economy Stars Award | The Sustainable Innovators Awards and the Barresi Award from Emilia Romagna | ... |
| Incorporating Sustainable Development and Circular Economy Criteria into existing business idea competitions. | The Sustainable Innovators Awards and the Barresi Award from Emilia Romagna | ... |
| Circular Economy Innovation Bootcamp for Villages | The Sustainable Innovators Awards and the Barresi Award from Emilia Romagna | ... |
| | ... | ... |



Time plan

| 2022 | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Month | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct |
| Steps | 2 nd LSG Meeting on 25.5.2022 – First ideas for actions, based on lessons learned from the project. | Idealising and brainstorming possible activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discussions with possible actors. Meetings with SeAMK on 16.6.2022 and Chamber of Commerce on 21.6.2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Contact to possible funding- Ideapaper of the new activities | Holidays | Getting in touch with key stakeholders and actors. Developing the project idea and selling them for stakeholders. | Further developing the project idea. Possibly submitting an application for funding. | Starting the project. |

Please describe the nature of the policy change and how the project has contributed to this change

- The aim is to launch **new activities/projects** that support the region's shift towards circular economy - a development need addressed in the policy instrument.
- With the activities SMEs in the region are encouraged to take actions towards Circular Economy and assess their companies' processes in reference to circular economy. (Circulate and Digitise! – ClimateSmart South Ostrobothnia)
- Via communicative actions understanding and knowledge about circular economy will be enhanced in the region. (Both within the SMEs as well as citizens and RDI actors.)

Has the policy change already taken place?

- No

How will you keep your stakeholders involved?

- **Action 1 - Circular Economy Stars Award:** the key stakeholders are engaged in the promotion and design of the award, the activity is designed and planned closely with local stakeholders
- **Action 2 – Incorporating Circular Economy Perspectives in existing awards and business competitions:** Contacting the responsible actors in charge of the competitions.
- **Action 3: Innovation Bootcamps to boost circular economy in the villages:** *Trying to sell the idea for LAG's or other relevant rural developers.*

What is the expected territorial impact?

- **Action 1: Circular Economy Stars Award:** Enhanced knowledge of Circular Economy, its different aspects as well as possibilities widely in the region. Encourage local businesses to take part in the award as well as think about the sustainability of their businesses.
- **Action 2 – Developing the existing business competitions:** Encourage students to develop sustainable and circular business ideas.
- **Action 3 – Circular Economy Innovation Bootcamps for Villages:**
Sustainable solutions for common challenges. Especially in the rural areas.



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