

Kantola Industrial Estate and Woodpolis

Interreg Europe – BRIDGES
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GP description

- Kantola Industrial Estate
 - Wood processing industry, founded in 2006
 - 12 companies, 240 jobs, 100 M€ turnover
 - Growth orientated strategy made to support the growth of the companies
-> Masterplan
 - 2020 goal: 50-70 more jobs, turnover about 200 M€
- Woodpolis
 - Competence center to support the companies in Kantola
 - R&D, Education & Training, manufacturing facilities
 - Triple helix co-operation
 - Companies
 - Educational institutions (regional)
 - Universities (national)
 - Mainly funded by ESIF but also national innovation fund
- Stakeholders: City of Kuhmo, Regional Council of Kainuu, Regional Knowledge actors

Resources needed / Evidence of Success

- Woodpolis staff 4 people
 - Product development, training etc.
 - Kantola staff 2 people
 - Strategic development of cluster and companies
 - Cluster companies
 - 12 companies employing 240, circa 100 M€ turnover
- Working triple helix collaboration
 - New innovations and markets
 - First CLT factory in Finland
 - Energy efficiency development
 - Orchestration of private and public funding

Difficulties encountered / Potential for transfer

- Funding is mostly project based – continuation issues
- Growth barriers
 - Skilled labour force
 - Lack of capital
 - Distance to market
- Many transferable aspects without industry limitations
 - Model of programme-based (master plan) wood cluster and industrial estate with business ecosystem and triple helix co-operation as an idea
 - Bottom-up approach for knowledge-based development
- Applicable also to small and less technologically advanced companies.

Example of transfer: Goriska region (SI)

Knowledge intensive platform of aquaculture

- Objective: To ensure good state of ecosystems and develop new products
- Target: To finance the repopulation process of endemic species with revenues from commercial aquaculture
 - Knowledge intensive network between SMEs and research
 - Increase and disseminate the repopulation knowledge among stakeholders
 - Development projects within and outside the sector (products, branding, tourism)
 - Competence Center approach piloting
 - Links to other sectors and market research

Why Kantola GP? / Expected Outputs

- Bottom up approach
 - Research -> thematic areas -> product development actions and business services
- Joint local actions with linkage to national / international levels
- Demand led approach is accesible also to small SMEs with limited innovation capacity
- Alignment to RIS3
- Knowledge intensive platform
 - Competence Center established based on learnings of Kantola
- Repopulation of endemic marble trout and Adriatic grayling
 - Knowledge building, implementation, commercial sustainability
- New product development and access to new markets
 - Processing of fish, branding, commercialisation

Contacts

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Thank you!