Stakeholder meetings

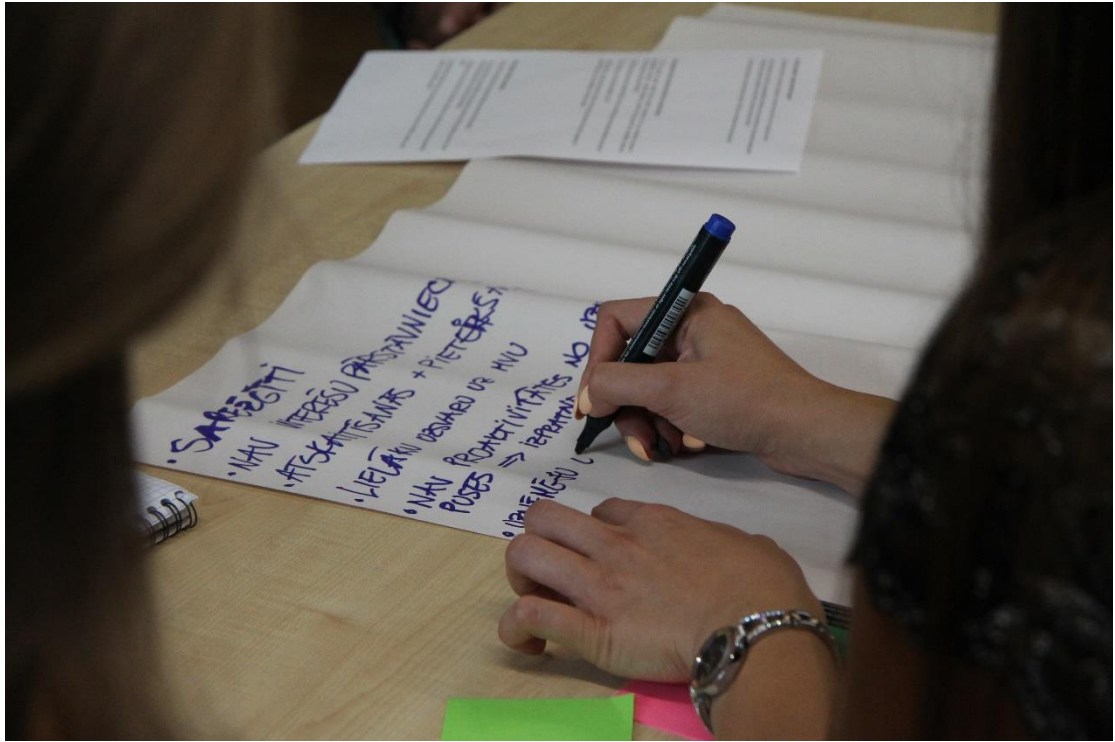**Stakeholder meeting in Latvia to discuss the results of self-assessment**

On September 14 the main conclusions of self-assessment were presented to the representatives of the local governments and various business support institutions of the Vidzeme planning region, inviting them to participate in the discussion on how to promote the development of eco-friendly innovation companies.

During the stakeholder meeting a discussion took part also about improvements which are needed in the current business support system and whether the development of ICT-based eco-innovations would be reasonable in Vidzeme.

Finding the weaknesses in the support system serves as a reason for organizing stakeholder discussions, where, through exchanges of experiences and observations, ideas were expressed on what action should be taken to promote the development of eco-innovation.

Summing up the results of the discussion of September 14, a number of useful suggestions were received as a way to strengthen the business support system while stimulating the emergence of eco-innovative companies. Public administration representatives admitted that careful work would be needed to separate municipal, regional and national competencies in meeting the needs of particular businesses. It was convincingly expressed that in the Vidzeme region it was necessary to support the formation of new clusters as it would promote the development and representation of the industry. Participants in the discussion also pointed out that, for example, the currently available national support tool for social entrepreneurship is not recognized by the target group as an eco-innovative enterprise support tool. Based on their experience and observations, the public sector believes that the personalization and personalization of addressing and soliciting local businesses are necessary while allowing talks to allow companies to become more aware of the availability of support tools.

Photos: Vidzeme Planning Region