



Clarification of the Action plan of Helsinki-Uusimaa region, Finland

Part I - Profile of the Action Plan

Project:	BRIDGES
Partner organisation:	Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, PP4
Other partner organisations involved:	-
Country:	Finland
NUTS2:	Helsinki-Uusimaa
Region:	Helsinki-Uusimaa
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Part II – Policy context

The Action Plan aims to impact

Investment for Growth and Jobs programme: Helsinki – Uusimaa RIS3		X
Type 1: Implementation of new projects		
Type 2: Change in the management of the policy instrument (improved governance)	X	
Type 3: Change in the strategic focus of the policy instrument (structural change)		
Other improvements not corresponding to types 1-3 (please comment)		
European Territorial Cooperation programme		
Other regional development policy instrument: Uusimaa 2.0 development programme, measures 5 and 7 on internationalisation.		X

Improvement needs: Increase in RDI spending by the private sector; HURC RIS3 key enabling technologies (among which Bio-based economy RDI); Accelerate innovation research; Build innovation capacity through multi-financial instrument.

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Part III - Policy instrument

PP4 deals with two policy instruments, RIS3 and Uusimaa 2.0 development programme. Uusimaa 2.0 does not have a budget of its own, however, like all regional development programmes in Finland, it is the enabling framework for all development policy interventions.

The main policy instrument, as already announced in the approved BRIDGES AF, is the RIS3 of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region – Research and Innovation Strategy for Regional Development 2014– 2020, part of the Sustainable growth and jobs 2014-2020 – Finland's structural funds programme 2014FI16M2OP001, Sub-programme for Helsinki-Uusimaa. Through the BRIDGES project, PP4 aims at impacting the RIS3 of the period 2014-2020. This is achieved through Action 2 and the supportive activities of Action 1. However, as there are no more Structural Funds available, PP4 is requesting some BRIDGES-based funding for Action 2 and also contributes from own budget. In the long run, implementation of Action 2-based projects will be funded by RIS3 as it will be part of the 2021-2027 Structural Funds period.

Uusimaa Programme 2.0¹ is the regional development programme of PP4. It was approved in 2017. Uusimaa 2.0 provides an overall enabling framework for the region and is the main reference for decision makers. Among the strategic priorities of Uusimaa 2.0 are Priorities 5 New technologies for growth and exports and 7 International expertise and investment, referring to excellence and internationalisation: Priority 5² states that "...Active international cooperation at the forefront of science and applied research and product development brings technological competitive advantage and helps in making technology choices", while Measure 3 of Priority 5 stresses that "3. Promote international technology partnerships, cooperation and networking between companies, research actors and the public sector.". Priority 7 states that "The experience of international experts in different market areas, knowledge of the target audience and foreign networks are important tools for export promotion and attracting investors", while Measure 1 of Priority 7 emphasises "1. Investing in cooperation between capital city and regional actors in international marketing and attracting investments³".

Part IV - Action plan

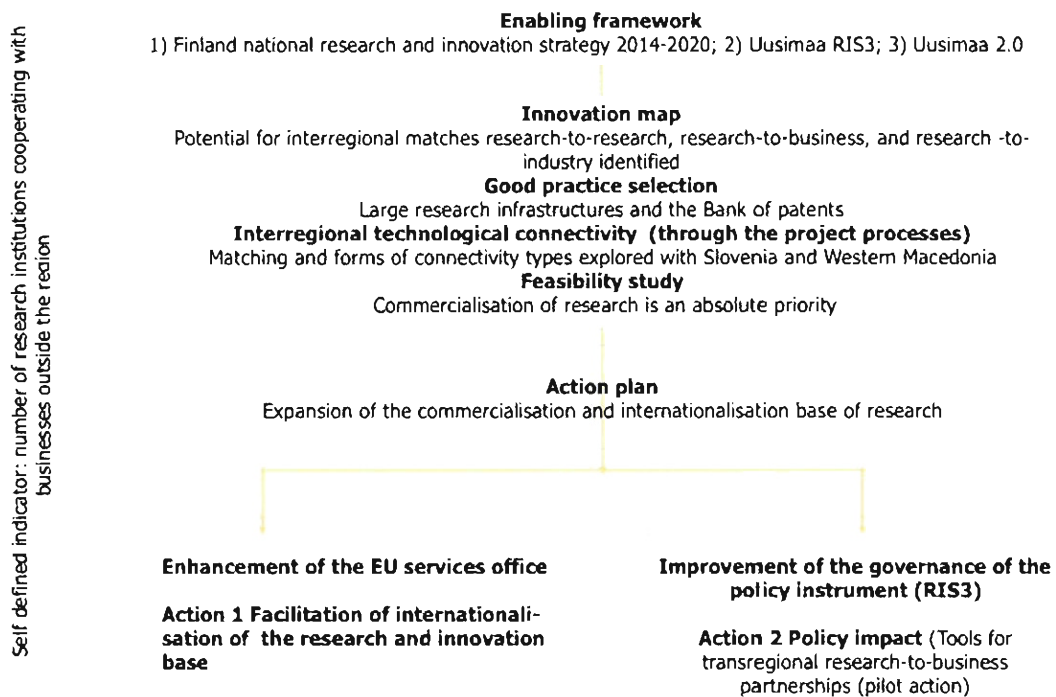
The action plan of Helsinki-Uusimaa has two actions *Action 1 Facilitation of internationalisation of the research and innovation base* and *Action 2 Policy impact*, ie. improvement of the governance of the policy instrument. Action plan 2018 of PP4 responds to the findings of the feasibility study and is in line with the Uusimaa 2.0 development programme 2017-2021. In the programme especially important issues for Bridges are; 1) Support technological developments and innovations that promote growth and exports. 2) Strengthen the reputation of Uusimaa as a uniquely creative, technology-friendly and courageously prosperous region and 3) Promote international technology partnerships, cooperation and networking between business, research and public sector organizations.

¹ Uudenmaan Liitto (2017). UUSIMAA-OHJELMA 2.0 (2017).

² Ibid above, pages 25-27, page 25 Tavoite 5: Uusilla teknologioilla kasvaa ja vientiä.

³ Ibid above, pages 28-29, Tavoite 7: Kansainvälistä osaamista ja investointeja.

Figure 1 Action plan PP4



The action plan, as a formal intervention, was approved by the Board of the Regional Council of Helsinki – Uusimaa on 17.12.2018. The formal approval was required for accessing the last call of the Structural Funds of the Helsinki-Uusimaa region, since the last call opened on 10.10.2018 and closed on 31.3.2019. As a result, the option to co-fund BRIDGES and RIS3 activities was taken into account by the last call by promoting applications for commercialisation of bio-based industries, energy and cleantech research get higher scores in the evaluation, if they involve in the commercialisation and have interregional dimensions and partners. This is to provide that they focus on commercialising patents, IPR, capitalisation of RDI project results into new applications and capitalise on 2nd chance projects, applications that are high quality but could not be funded in a first round. PP4 special goals in theme 1 are: (1.1) produce new business, (2.1) advance growth and internationalisation for SMEs and (3.1) advance energy efficiency of SMEs. Theme 2 special goals are; (4.1) developing research, competence and innovation clusters based on regional capabilities, (5.1) innovation action development of enterprises and (3.2.) developing renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions.

Guiding principle on the call is the concept of Smart Specialisation in the Regional Innovation Strategy (RIS3) with four spearheads; 1) Urban Cleantech, 2) Health & Wellness, 3) Digitalising Industry and 4) Citizen City. From Bridges point of view Urban Cleantech includes applicable tasks of energy and resource efficiency, circular economy and bio-based economy. These goals are complemented by regional criteria, implementing PP4 Bridges AP measures. Firstly, application must support triple helix development environments at international level. Secondly, application should have potential to attract internationally competed RDI

funding and investments to Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. ERDF funding of PP4 is mainly for SMEs, but also big companies could participate as “locomotives”.

The present document (*Clarification of the Action plan of Helsinki-Uusimaa region, Finland*) clarifies the approach of the action plan and details its implementation according to the recommendations of the Interreg Europe Joint Technical Secretariat and the available policy instrument options.

Good practice transfer & policy learning

Patents and Knowledge Bank⁴: The Patents and Knowledge Bank is a good practice that comes from Valencia. It was contributed to the BRIDGES project by Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council and originates from the Interreg Europe project iEER. In the BRIDGES project, we have made it a point to develop synergies and exchange with other projects and programmes. The important aspect of the Patents and Knowledge Bank GP is that it is not just a registry. It is a platform of various activities with the purpose of making known to the wider public IPRed and patented research results and also providing opportunities for learning how they can be used. The BRIDGES advisory partners assessed the GP and found it is very useful and valuable except for one aspect missing: a proactive coordinator who would be also matching businesses to research & research-to-business, also promote learning and better understanding of the commercialisation opportunities. The synergy between this GP and the BRIDGES project is in confirming the need for activating (i.e. beyond making known) researchers and technology transfer units (TTOs) for commercialising excellence. This element (activation of research units and TTOs) is transferred to Action 1 of the action plan and is combined with the elements transferred from the following GP on Large Research Infrastructure Services for SMEs (LRIs).

Large Research Infrastructure Services for SMEs: This GP comes from the BRIDGES project and is approved to the Interreg Europe data base (<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/8/large-research-infrastructure-services-for-smes-science-link-baltic-tram-projects/>). The GP systematises access to large research infrastructures. To PP4, the essential part of the GP is 1) understanding large research infrastructures (LRIs for short) services to industries and especially those from synchrotrons: why and how synchrotrons, through the materials measurements they offer to all types of industries including agriculture, are crucial for competitive growth; 2) understanding that LRIs need to tailor their offers to industry and make concrete, industry-specific value offers with clear added value to the industry; 3) to make such value offers, TTOs are needed (as front offices of LRIs or separate organisations) to turn excellence in value offers for the industry; 4) LRIs are very costly, high-technology infrastructures, i.e. hard to replicate and therefore access to LRI services is by definition useful to regions through applications of distributed (=not necessarily local or regional) triple helices related to regional innovation systems. 5) It implies that “marketing” LRI services requires access to interregional markets and that the “innovation on demand” request identified by BRIDGES partners, is relevant.

⁴ Patents and Knowledge Bank = PKB for short.

The LRI GP is important to PP4 as it brings together research-to-business methodological aspects (items 1,2 3 above) with potential policy initiatives (items 4,5,6) which jointly can be effective in commercialising excellence by internationalising the applications base of research. In addition, the findings from the LRI GP, are largely aligned with the Finnish innovation and research strategy of 2014-2020⁵. This objective is reinforced in the interim review⁶. The LRI GP is transferred to Actions 1 and 2 of the PP4 action plan. *Action 1 Facilitation of internationalisation of the research and innovation base* relates to the activation of excellence units and TTOs towards commercialisation of excellence through internationalisation. This is done by adding, in this sense, one more function to the PP4 'EU services office' and funding (PP4 own funds) the function for the duration of Phase 2. *Action 2 Policy impact (Tools for transregional research-to-business partnerships)*, provides, through mini projects, the tools for accessing pools of potential clients across the BRIDGES partnership and beyond (interregional technological connectivity). Action 2 is the pilot action of the BRIDGES project. Its purpose is to improve the governance of the Structural Funds policy instrument (RIS3) by integrating successful aspects of the pilot action.

CENTROPE good practice. CENTROPE is a transnational innovation voucher developed through a Central Europe Interreg B project called CENTROPE. CENTROPE was contributed to BRIDGES good practices by BRIDGES PP7, and the GP is accepted to the Interreg Europe data base <https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/11/centrope-innovation-voucher/>.

Through the BRIDGES pilot the GP is transferred to interregional level. Nine out of the ten types of the CENTROPE supported activities are adopted by the pilot action, while a number of transferability challenges are also addressed, for example provisions for the sustainability of the effort, faster processes, and addressing marketing challenges, Table 1. The supported activities are especially relevant to PP4 excellence units and research & technology transfer organisations (RTTOs), especially those relating to Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 3,4,5, and 6.

Table 1 Supported activities of the pilot action

Supported activities by the pilot action	TRL reference where relevant	Reference source
(1). Development of new products/prototypes	TRL 5 & 6	CENTROPE
(2). Preparation of a Business Plan for innovative products	TRL 3 & 4 TRL 5 & 6	CENTROPE
(3). Development of new concepts	TRL 5 & 6	CENTROPE

⁵ The Finnish Research Infrastructure Committee (2013). Finland's strategy and roadmap for research infrastructures 2014–2020. <https://www.aka.fi/globalassets/awanhat/documents/tiekartta/webroadmap2014eng.pdf>. The 2nd key objective is dedicated to the openness and collaborative use of research infrastructures, stating that it is important to achieve improvements to the openness and collaborative use of research infrastructures.

⁶ Finland's strategy and roadmap for Research infrastructures 2014-2020, interim report 2018. http://www.aka.fi/globalassets/tiedostot/aka_infra_tiekartta_raportti_en_030518.pdf. Page 20, 5 Conclusions of the strategy and roadmap 2014–2020 interim review /Conclusions of the roadmap interim review: "The objectives set for national and international research infrastructures aim at promoting collaboration between different actors in order reinforce the joint use, openness and funding base of the infrastructures. Further development is still required in areas such as evaluation of the infrastructures' impact, development of flexible usage policies, and the practical implementation of lifecycle thinking for infrastructures. Administration and direction and the management of cooperation structures and data policies of large-scale, distributed or virtual research infrastructures require suitable operating models and skills that should be systematically developed both in Finland and internationally".

Supported activities by the pilot action	TRL reference where relevant	Reference source
(4). Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, studies for problem solving	TRL 3 & 4 TRL 5 & 6	CENTROPE
(5). Development of a new service		CENTROPE
(6). Tailored training in new technologies	TRL 7 & 8	BRIDGES
(7). Product/service testing	TRL 3 & 4	CENTROPE
(8). Measurement services for product development / improvement	TRL 3 & 4 TRL 5 & 6	BRIDGES
(9). Materials research for innovative product development	TRL 3 & 4 TRL 5 & 6	BRIDGES
(10). Economic impact assessment of new technologies	TRL 5 & 6	CENTROPE
(11). Analysis of technology transfer potential	TRL 3 & 4	CENTROPE
(12). Support for product development		CENTROPE
(13). Facilitating SMEs' access to KETs		BRIDGES
(14). Regional mapping of commercializing RDI		BRIDGES
(15). Market placement of innovative products		BRIDGES
(16). Standardisation and qualification of technology transfer services		BRIDGES

The pilot action stresses facilitation for research-to-business actions and associated investments, which are at the heart of RIS3 implementation. PP4 joined the pilot action to get better experience of bilateral research to business partnerships and impact accordingly the regional policy instrument (improvement of governance). CENTROPE is tested, transferred and mainstreamed through Action 2 of the PP4 action plan.

Field findings & Actions

Contrary of the rest of the BRIDGES regions that are focusing on developing linkages to research as a way of closing gaps to their innovation systems, Helsinki-Uusimaa is a region that joined the project in an effort to address mismatches between the research and economic base by expanding the research applications beyond the region.

Field findings

Innovation map: potential for interregional matches research-to-research, research-to-business, and research -to-industry was identified.

Interregional innovation partnerships developed within and during the project activities, five types of potential were profiled: a) innovation services for problem solving & measurements, a lot like the innovation vouchers in Finland (= on demand innovation services); b) research-to-business interregional partnerships for product development / improvement, similar to many Business Finland programmes but allowing Interregionality and flexibility of actors; c) research-to-industry activities for more holistic industry renewal; d) joint programming for research-to-business; and e) research-to-research interests.

Feasibility study: the feasibility study focused on assessing the innovation chain in the bio-based sector in Helsinki-Uusimaa. It combined externally assigned mapping of needs and institutions and internal processing. Summary: 1) confirmation of the need to increase commercialisation of research including bio-based industries; 2) confirmation of the need to seek relevant globalised triple helices and activate regional networks to support the process; 3) confirmation that research-to-research needs/ potential/opportunities are covered by many initiatives already and the related actors are very active; 4) the same is true for research-to-business when related to larger businesses, already active internationally and with increased visibility; 5) research-to-SMEs and research-to-industry (e.g. for industry renewal) are niches not already covered by ongoing initiatives; 6) the sector of bio-based industries is especially dynamic in Helsinki-Uusimaa since it has strong excellence and applications to all types of economies including agriculture; 7) acknowledgement of the strategic role of Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council in supporting this process.

Actions

Action 1. Facilitation of internationalisation of the research and innovation base.

Action 1 is about extending the range of activities of the 'EU services Office' of PP4. The purpose of this office is to provide expert support to organisations located and active in Uusimaa to help them effectively participate in EU projects. The main tasks of this renewed EU services are contributing and reviewing the pilot action applications. The service also facilitates meetings with research units and SMEs when needed.

The funding for Action 1 is PP4 own funding. It is estimated at 69 000€ for the period 1.4.2019 – 31.12.2020.

Action 1 adds one type of activity to the EU Service Office: it is planned to introduce dissemination and information especially about interregional research-to-business opportunities and on this base activate research units for the purpose of developing research-to-business partnerships & commercialising research at EU level. The new facilitation service will be disseminated through the Helsinki Smart site. Contacts and information to foreign interested beneficiaries are also included. In the case of foreign requests, the facilitation service would also support matching to relevant research institutions.

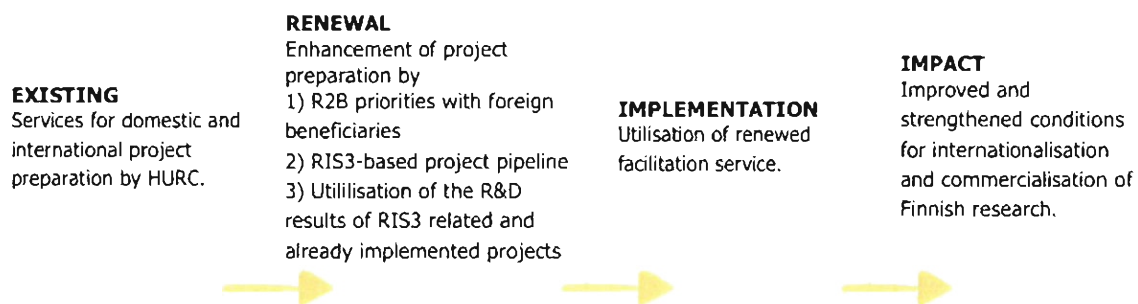
Existing PP4 EU Office provide services for actors seeking EU funding in finding the right funding programme, application process information about and training for the programmes and application procedures. It also helps to find right contacts for finding project partners in Finland and in other parts of Europe. Renewed service will be enlarged to contain first Bridges pilot tasks and later be normal service. This means facilitating the mini-projects, announcing the calls, filling in of value offers with research units and searching for clients.

Action 1 is strengthening the implementation of the regional development programme Uusimaa 2.0 discussed in Part III - Policy instrument. As mentioned earlier, provisions in the last call of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Structural Funds were made and allocation of ERDF and other funding was foreseen for applications aiming at the commercialisation of bio-based industries, energy and cleantech research get higher scores in the evaluation, if they involve in the commercialisation and have interregional dimensions and partners. This is to provide that they focus on commercialising patents, IPR, capitalisation of RDI project results into new applications and capitalise on 2nd chance projects, applications that are high quality but could not be funded

in a first round. Unfortunately, that opportunity was missed as the Structural Funds last call closed on 31.3.2019. However, these provisions will be mainstreamed into the 2014-2020 Structural Funds (RIS3 revision) provided the results of the testing of the new service generates positive results. Mainstreaming of the service as an operation is foreseen (i.e. for the service to become permanent) depending on the results and experiences generated during the implementation of Action 1 in Phase 2.

In conclusion: implementation of Action 1 includes: assigning of staff and basic tasks description, deciding dissemination outlets and approaches, creation of information material, activation of the service, exchanges with research units and TTOs, monitoring of results and conclusions report. The conclusions report is expected by the regional policy makers, as it provides the evidence-base for decision making, subsequently leading to mainstreaming (or not).

Figure 2 Action plan PP4, the concept for the extended project facilitation service



Action 2 Policy impact (*Tools for transregional research-to-business partnerships*)

Action 2 is the BRIDGES project pilot action. It is structured into two sub-actions: Sub-action on interregional testing of the *Tools for transregional research-to-business partnerships* and Sub-action on mainstreaming *Tools for transregional research-to-business partnerships* into the RIS3 revision. There is a shared reference to the activities and sub-actions of Action 2, it is *Tools for transregional research-to-business partnerships*. This reference is accepted by all three partners of the pilot, i.e. BRIDGES project partners Kainuu (PP2), Helsinki -Uusimaa (PP4), and Western Macedonia (PP5).

The funding for the implementation of Action 2 is own as well as applied from the BRIDGES project underspending. The applied funding is 52 500€, out of which 16 000€ will go to mini projects (experts costs), 30 000€ to staff, 4500€ Administration, and 2000€ for the organisation of a planning meeting in Helsinki bringing together PP2, PP4, and PP5. The own funding for Action 2 comes up to 81 000€, out of which 12 000€ are for mini projects and 69 000€ for staff & administration.

Sub-action on interregional testing of the *Tools for transregional research-to-business partnerships*

In the Helsinki-Uusimaa region, the pilot action matches research-to-business across the BRIDGES partnership and maintains the BRIDGES project RIS3 & innovation-system reference (bio-based industries). Interregional research-to-business mini-projects are organised for preparing full research-to-business projects &/or investment plans, which are called for short 'follow-up actions'. The mini-projects are based on

value offers by research units willing to internationalise their research, and concern product & service development / improvement. They are aligned to the TRL⁷ scale provisions. Follow up actions are, for example, investment & financing plans, ETC projects, regional / national structural funds applications, etc., that will be implemented in the programme area of the business that benefitted from the mini-project in the first place. PP4 does not fund follow up actions.

Benefitting excellence fields are those identified in the innovation map during Phase 1 and part of the RIS3 of Helsinki-Uusima: Biotechnology and cleantech; vegetable proteins; functional foods; fisheries and aquafarming.

The pilot action is important to PP4 for four important aspects of excellence-market placement requirements and economy renewal: (a) it activates and supports excellence units and TTOs to commercialise their research; (b) it facilitates access to a large pool of potential clients to research units, (b) it funds the preparation of product development / improvement plans in which follow up funding solutions are described clearly, (c) it reinforces PP4 excellence & innovation related networks across the EU.

Expected outputs:

- 1 policy instrument impacted: 2014-2020 RIS3 of PP4 (Helsinki-Uusimaa). The policy impact will be recognisable under a common title for all three regions: *Tools facilitating transregional research-to-business partnerships*.
- 3 research-to-business transregional mini-projects implemented and 3 development plans with funding options identified and clearly described.
- 1 ex post evaluation report for the purpose of reinforcing the mainstreaming of the strengths of the pilot action and impacting the policy instruments of the three participating regions. The recommendations of the evaluation report are required inputs to the regional board of PP4 and the implications of the report for the PP4 policy instrument will be discussed accordingly.

The pilot action for Helsinki-Uusimaa addresses one structural challenge of the region in terms of growth through specialisation: the need to commercialise more of its excellence and expand the economic base of research applications. The implementation of Action 2, sub-action 1, is linked to Action 1, since it is the enhanced PP4 EU Services Office that will operate the pilot action implementation.

Sub-action on mainstreaming successful aspects of the *Tools for transregional research-to-business partnerships*

The mainstreaming is planned for the RIS3 revision under the title *Tools facilitating transregional research-to-business partnerships*.

⁷ TRL = Technology readiness level, TRL 3: Experimental proof of concept; TRL 4: Technology validated in lab; TRL 5: Technology validated in relevant industrial environment; TRL 6: Technology demonstrated in relevant industrial environment; TRL 7: System prototype demonstration in operational environment; TRL 8: System complete and qualified; TRL 9: Actual system proven in operational environment. <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/kets-tools/kets-tc/map>.

The process of the RIS3 revision happens through the setting up of the RIS3 revision team, thematic regional workshops and supportive studies (if needed), formulation, discussion and final approval by the regional board of the revised RIS3. It is a lengthy procedure. The mainstreaming of the concept of mini projects as *Tools facilitating transregional research-to-business partnerships* will happen in the following way: the issue is taken into account by the RIS3 revision agenda, i.e. it is mentioned there. Persons involved into the RIS3 and the Structural Funds are also part of the PP4 team monitoring the implementation of the pilot action. Their focus is on observing the effectiveness of the mini projects to be effective in internationalising the commercialisation of Finnish excellence. This is part of an on-going evaluation process and will be an input to the final evaluation report. Integration of the mini projects into the RIS3 revision is brought up again once the evaluation results are out. Based on the experience and the overall evidence of the mini projects, PP4 will finally decide and justify whether the concept of the mini projects will be made part of the revised RIS3 or not. If it is approved, then the form of integration will be under the heading *Tools facilitating transregional research-to-business partnerships* with eligible activities as the mini projects or larger types of initiatives, it will depend on the PP4 decisions and means.

Implementation of Action 2

The implementation of Action 2 is identical to the activities of the pilot action. The activity plan of the pilot action is agreed among the partners and is re-iterated below.

Table 2 Action 2 plan

PHASE 2
Semester 1
There are nine (9) main activities taking place during the 1st semester, i.e. 1.4.2019 – 30.9.2019:
I. MINI-PROJECTS
1. The organisational arrangements of PP4 'Enhancement of EU services' are finalised.
2. The results of the approval (or not) of the pilot action are informed to applicants. In case the pilot action is approved, then:
3. Kick off events and information to the press in the PP2, PP4 and PP5 regions take place.
4. One interregional meeting is planned to take place in Helsinki Finland, to finalise (any) pending issues among the pilot action partners. During the interregional meeting the supportive material (mini-project concepts, methodology, criteria and evaluation approach), that have already been prepared during Phase 1 are reviewed, finalised and adopted.
5. Announcement of calls of the mini-projects and invitation to research units to participate is made by PP2, PP4 and PP5.
6. Filling in of the value offer outlines by the research units starts.
II. POLICY IMPACT
7. Mainstreaming item (i) The concept of mini projects under the heading 'Tools facilitating transregional research-to-business partnerships' is included into the RIS3 revision agendas of PP2 & PP4 (spring 2019) and integrated into the ROP for Western Macedonia (spring 2019). PP2 and PP4 issue calls for mini projects, and PP5 issues calls for mini projects and follow up actions under the present. Western Macedonia ROP.

8. Mainstreaming item (ii) (Members of the RIS3 revision teams (PP2 and PP4) & the Western Macedonia ROP join the pilot action monitoring process to be able to have -to-day experience of the mini projects.

III. MANAGEMENT

9. Coordination of the pilot action activities (coordination is done by PP2).
10. One online progress-assessment and trouble-shooting meeting.

Semester 2

Ten (10) main activities are foreseen for the 2nd semester, i.e. 1.10.2019-31.3.2020.

I. MINI-PROJECTS

1. Search for clients, and matching between research and businesses, starts. First partnerships are identified.
2. Applications for mini-projects, evaluation and approval of mini-projects, start.
3. Implementation of mini-projects starts. We expect that mini-projects will be implemented during approximately 3 months, i.e. a development plan of the follow up action is expected to be ready within 3 months.
4. Filling in of value offers by research units continues.

II. POLICY IMPACT

5. Mainstreaming item (iii) Recommendations are made for the concrete provisions to mainstream of the mini projects to the RIS3 teams of PP2 and PP4, following the results and effectiveness of the calls; the same process if followed by the regional board of the PP5 MA.

III. EVALUATION

6. The first data collection starts. The data collection is carried out by PP2, and inputs come from PP2, PP4, PP5, PP5 MA, research and any other beneficiaries.

IV. MANAGEMENT

7. Coordination of the pilot action activities.
8. One online progress-assessment and trouble-shooting meeting.
9. One face-to-face meeting, back to back with all other Phase 2 planned meetings. Preliminary planned to be held during the later part of Autumn 2019.
10. Phase 2 reporting.

Semester 3

Eight (8) main activities are foreseen for the 3rd semester, i.e. 1.4.2020 - 30.9.2020.

I. MINI-PROJECTS

1. Applications for the last mini-projects, evaluation and approval of mini-projects.
2. Implementation of mini-projects continues.
3. Closing of the mini-projects implementation. All follow up actions (= development plans) must be completed by the end of August 2020.

II. POLICY IMPACT

<p>4. Mainstreaming item (iii) Recommendations are made for the concrete provisions to mainstream of the mini projects to the RIS3 teams of PP2 and PP4, following the results and effectiveness of the calls; the same process if followed by the regional board of the PP5 MA.</p> <p>5. Revised RIS3 text and ROP actions with the mainstreamed title Tools facilitating transregional research-to-business partnerships and items included are available.</p> <p>III. EVALUATION</p> <p>6. Data collection for the evaluation report continues and the evaluation report is produced; deadline for the evaluation report is 30.9.2020.</p> <p>IV. MANAGEMENT</p> <p>7. Coordination of the pilot action activities.</p> <p>8. One online progress-assessment and trouble-shooting meeting.</p> <p>9. One face-to-face meeting, back to back with all other Phase 2 planned meetings and the final conference.</p> <p>Semester 4</p> <p>No content related activities should take place in this semester. The last months of the project should be entirely dedicated to the project closure.</p>

Part V - Timetable

Table 3 Action plan timetable

Ensuring enabling conditions			
Actions	Outputs	Who	When
Endorsement of the Helsinki-Uusimaa action plan by PP4	Endorsed action plan	PP4 & PP4 board PP4	17.12.2018.
Action plan clarifications accepted	Clarifications document accepted	IE JTS	April 2019 May 2019
Action 1 Facilitation of internationalisation of the research and innovation base			
Actions	Outputs	Who	When
Service concept is agreed, and implementation is organised.	Operational aspects (staffing, support material, information to the UL web site, internal linkages to the MA are agreed -as a way to ensure the structural funds operational linkages and inputs at all times).	PP4	April – June 2019
Service is operating	Calls for mini-projects & implementation	PP4	July 2019 – September 2020

Evaluation of the service concept and its results.	Evaluation criteria and process, together with pilot action	PP4 & PP2/PP4/PP5	September 2020
Decision for mainstreaming of the service or not	Decision as to whether this service will become permanent or not	PP4	December 2020

Action 2 Policy impact		
Activities	Partner involvement	Semester
Organisational arrangements cleared (renewal of 'EU projects service')	PP4	1 (1.4.2019-30.9.2019)
Approval of the pilot announced	PP2, PP4, PP5	1 (1.4.2019-30.9.2019)
Kick off of the pilot, local meetings	PP2, PP4, PP5	1 (1.4.2019-30.9.2019)
Interregional meeting (Finland & Greece) in Helsinki	PP2, PP4, PP5	1 (1.4.2019-30.9.2019)
Mainstreaming item (i) The concept of mini projects under the heading 'Tools facilitating transregional research-to-business partnerships' is included into the RIS3 revision agendas of PP2 & PP4 (spring 2019) and integrated into the ROP for Western Macedonia (spring 2019). PP2 and PP4 issue calls for mini projects, and PP5 issues calls for mini projects and follow up actions under the present. Western Macedonia ROP. Mainstreaming item (ii) (Members of the RIS3 revision teams (PP2 and PP4) & the Western Macedonia ROP join the pilot action monitoring process to be able to have updated experience of the mini projects.	PP2, PP4, PP5	1 (1.4.2019-30.9.2019)
Announcement of calls for the mini-projects	PP2, PP4, PP5	1 (1.4.2019-30.9.2019)
Filling in of value offers with research units	PP2, PP4, PP5	1 (1.4.2019-30.9.2019) 2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020)
Search for clients	PP5 primarily PP2, PP4, PP5	2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020) 3 (1.4.2020 - 30.9.2020)
Applications for mini-projects, evaluation and approval of mini-projects	PP2, PP4, MA of PP5	2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020) 3 (1.4.2020 - 30.9.2020)
Observation of the pilot action implementation	PP2, PP4, PP5	1 (1.4.2019-30.9.2019) 2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020)
Mainstreaming item (iii) Recommendations are made for the concrete provisions to mainstream of the mini projects to the RIS3 teams of PP2 and PP4, following the results and	PP2, PP4, PP5	2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020)

effectiveness of the calls; the same process if followed by the regional board of the PP5 MA. Revised RIS3 text and ROP actions with the mainstreamed title Tools facilitating transregional research-to-business partnerships and items included are available.		3 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020) 3 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020) at the latest.
Implementation of mini-projects	Research from PP2, PP4 and PP5 regions; clients across the BRIDGES partnership	2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020) 3 (1.4.2020 – 30.9.2020)
Data collection for the evaluation	PP2, collecting data from PP2, PP4, PP5 & PP5 MA	2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020) 3 (1.4.2020 – 30.9.2020)
Evaluation report	PP2	3 (1.4.2020 – 30.9.2020)
The results of the ex post evaluation of the pilot action, indicating the most successful aspects of the pilot are annexed to the revised RIS3 and the Western Macedonian ROP.	PP2, PP4, PP5	4 (1.10.2020 – 31.3.2021)
Face-to-face meetings. (back to back with all other Phase 2 planned meetings)	All BRIDGES partners	2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020) 3 (1.4.2020 – 30.9.2020)
Closing conference	All BRIDGES partners	3 (1.4.2020 – 30.9.2020)
Pilot action coordination	PP2, PP4, PP5	1 (1.4.2019-30.9.2019) 2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020) 3 (1.4.2020 – 30.9.2020) 4 (1.10.2020 – 31.3.2021)
Phase 2 reporting	All BRIDGES partners	2 (1.10.2019 - 31.3.2020)

		4 (1.10.2020 – 31.3.2021)
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Part VI - Players involved

Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, business support organisations, research and education units, businesses, interregional partners (business support organisations, research and education units, businesses).

Part VII - Impact on the region

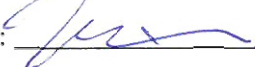
Self-defined indicator: number of research institutions cooperating with businesses outside the region: 5

The **BRIDGES** action plan was approved by the regional board of Helsinki-Uusimaa region on **17.12.2018** (BRIDGES-hankkeen toimintasuunnitelman vahvistaminen 526/00.01.03.01/2018; MHS 17.12.2018 § 218)

Approval and endorsement of the clarifications of the action plan for PP4 Helsinki – Uusimaa Regional Council

Date: 15.8.2019

Name and position: Juha Eskelinen, director

Signature: 

Stamp of the organisation (if available): _____



