



IMPROVE

Interreg Europe



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Lapland

Päivi Ekdahl and

Development director

paivi.ekdahl@lapinliitto.fi

Samu Rötönen

Senior Expert of regional development

samu.rotkonen@lapinliitto.fi

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Territorial context

Lapland in facts and figures

- Surface area 100,366 km², of which 7,699 km² is water
- Population 180,200, population density 1.8/km²
- Employment: approximately 69,000 jobs, of which approx. 50% are in private enterprises
- Number of private enterprises 9,100
- Annual revenue of Lapland €12,000 M, of which 70% comes from private enterprises
- Annual revenue of mining and metal industry approx. € 5,000 M
- Annual revenue of forest bioeconomy approx. € 1,300 M
- World's northernmost bio, mining and metal industry hub
- Europe's only chromium mine and the largest gold mine in Europe
- Tourism is the fastest growing sector with overall demand of approx. € 1,000 M and an average annual growth of 9%, in 2017 as much as 20%
- Agricultural production and reindeer husbandry approx. € 340 M
- Finland's fourth largest export region, 7 % of Finnish export
- Nine national parks in the area
- World's cleanest air and Europe's purest water
- World's largest wild organic harvesting area
- Strong educational structure: University of Lapland, Lapland University of Applied Sciences, Vocational College Lappia, Lapland Education Centre REDU and the education centre of the Sámi region
- Research Institutes: Geological Survey of Finland (GTK), Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE), Sodankylä Geophysical Observatory (SGO) as the most notable
- National circular and bio-economy centre in Kemi



Lapland has the fastest growing economy in Finland

Lapland is a unique Arctic region that wants to be the most innovative and entrepreneur-driven of all the sparsely populated EU regions by the year 2022. The future objectives are set high, but the measures for achieving those goals are tangible and close to the operators.

Territorial context

The R&D&i system

R&D&i organisations in Lapland

- Task of regional development is ruled by law -> active participation to regional cooperation and synergy between organisation's strategy and regional strategies

Governance of Arctic Smartness (regional RIS3)

- Base of the regional ecosystem is in active cooperation of education, research and innovation, public administration, businesses and third sector
- The actors working at the business interface create service concepts.
- The universities provide innovation platforms and learning environments and meeting points for business, education and research.

Challenges

- Lack of skilled workforce and utilisation of digitality in the development of products and services
- Global economy changes the requirements for expertise and creates challenges for the enterprises
- 80% of the enterprises in Lapland are micro-sized, share of research financing of enterprises is about 1,2% of the GDP

Regional Council of Lapland

Administration:

- Joint municipal board formed by its 21 member municipalities, decision-making processes is based on municipal democracy.
- one of the 19 regional councils in Finland

Responsibilities:

- Regional development and the regional land use planning
- Intermediate body in the national mainstream programme, managing authority of the Kolarctic CBC programme (external cooperation), national financier and contact point of Interreg Nord –programme and national contact point of Northern Periphery and the Arctic programme
- International cooperation
- The Regional Rescue Services of Lapland - in charge of the regional safety and rescue operations

Role within the R&D&I system

- Active role in governance of the RIS3 ecosystem
- Financier of regional R&D&I projects
- Leadership regional development strategy and regional development

Who we are

The team involved in IMPROVE project



Ms. Päivi Ekdahl – overall responsibility,
member of the steering group
paivi.ekdahl@lapinliitto.fi



Mr. Samu Rötönen – project manager,
substitute member of the steering group
samu.rotkonen@lapinliitto.fi



Ms. Reetta Laakkonen – communication manager
reetta.laakkonen@lapinliitto.fi



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Thank you!

Questions welcome
