



2016

Identification & analysis

heritage and territorial situation of coastal and fluvial areas

2017

Exchange of experience & good practices


within heritage management

2018

Development of action plans

through participatory involvement of stakeholders

Methodological framework
(Ensuring continuity and progress)

WG1 + Field visit
Introduction 

WG3 + Field visit
Thematic roundtables 


WG5 + Field visit 

Standard template
Indicating main themes

Writing toolbox +
Good practice revisions

Approach to develop action plans

WG2 + Field visit
Heritage development
ELC 

WG4 + Field visit
Thematic roundtables 

Publication of toolbox

Conceptual framework
Prioritising themes
Good practice drafts

Toolbox integration
Path for strategic planning

Stakeholders involvement



Toolbox for policy development
GPs + Learning process





S34Growth
Interreg Europe

First call project testimonial

**S34Growth - Enhancing policies through interregional cooperation:
New industrial value chains for growth**

Mr. Esa Kokkonen, Director, The Baltic Institute of Finland

Interreg Europe exchange of experience seminar

Barcelona, 31 May 2017



SUOMEN ITÄMERI-INSTITUUTTI
THE BALTIC INSTITUTE OF FINLAND

S34Growth

Interreg Europe

EU industry renewal, competitiveness and internationalisation through industry-led interregional cooperation



www.interregeurope.eu/s34growth

Project summary

In the S34Growth project, 10 European regions from 8 EU countries develop an innovative interregional element to their structural fund policy instruments, supporting the renewal of Europe's industry and competitiveness.

Within the Vanguard Initiative – New Growth through Smart Specialisation, the S34Growth partners have been pioneering a new approach to European industry-led interregional cooperation since late 2013.

Key messages

- Supporting the renewal of Europe's industry and competitiveness
- Emphasising the importance of industry-led interregional collaboration
- New kind of interregional cooperation linking value chains across Europe and improving commercialisation and product & service development

Project Partners

Flemish Government, Department Economy, Science and Innovation (EWI) (BE)
Basque Government (ES)
Catalan Agency for Business Competitiveness (ACCIO) - Government of Catalonia (ES)
The Baltic Institute of Finland (FI)
The Council of Tampere Region (FI)
AFIL - Intelligent Factory Lombardy Cluster (IT)
Brainport Development (NL)
Province of Zuid-Holland (NL)
National Innovation Agency (PT)
Region Skåne (SE)
Scottish Enterprise (UK)



More information

<http://www.interregeurope.eu/s34growth/>
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- Based on the **Vanguard Initiative (VI)** - New Growth through Smart Specialisation.
- With VI, partners have been pioneering a new approach to European **industry-led interregional cooperation** since late 2013.
- **S34Growth** takes the VI initiated cooperation to a new level by focusing on policy learning processes, improving the structural funds (SF) policy instruments and developing an **interregional approach to S3**.
- The S34Growth partners are convinced that **changing the policy mindset must be done together with likeminded regions** with strong ambitions and innovation-driven S3 strategies.

- As regions desire to leverage their own strengths in combination with innovation capacity in other regions interregionally, **the existing policy structures and financing frames need to be improved to suit these interregional ambitions.**
- **The main objective of the S34Growth project is to develop and improve existing regional policy instruments to facilitate interregional collaboration, which in turn will support the renewal of Europe's industry and competitiveness.**
- **The project focuses on industrial innovation related interregional collaboration.**
- S34Growth builds on the VI methodology (**learn, connect, demonstrate, commercialise**).
- **As the main result, an innovative interregional element to the addressed regional policy instruments is developed**, supporting the interregional, co-specialization approach to smart specialisation, and to be easily replicated at any domain and anywhere in Europe.

Tools/activities used for the exchange

- **On-Site Deep Dive (OSDD) visits to S34Growth partner regions**, where each partner takes the host role once and prepares a 2-3 day programme of policy learning and co-creation
 - Each OSDD visit includes: **policy accelerator, co-creation session and site visits**
- **Analyses and reports on OSDD experiences**, performance and impact will be prepared for each OSDD, as well as final OSDD reports and learning logs to facilitate the **preparation of the regional action plans**
- Supporting the wider European dissemination and policy learning, **OSDD results based policy briefs (10)** consisting of analyses and recommendations will be prepared
- 2 high-level **interregional stakeholder and dissemination events**, as well as **regional stakeholder meetings** in each partner region

- **Tampere (15-17 June 2016)** – Increasing international value chains of the manufacturing sector through innovative approach inc. Article 70
- **Skåne (24-26 October 2016)** - Develop EU collaborations in ‘smart materials’
- **Norte (18-20 January 2017)** - Accelerating demonstration projects, particularly those with an inter-regional element
- **Scotland (21-23 March 2017)** - Improving and enhancing the inter regional dimension of the ERDF Operating Programme and the use of Article 70
- **Basque Country (16-18 May 2017)** - Improving internal competencies in order to implement Article 70
- **Lombardy (27-29 June 2017)** - New Innovation Voucher system focused on RIS3
- **South Netherlands (September 2017)** - Stimulating innovation/research intensity in SMEs and opportunities for Article 70
- **Catalonia (3-5 October 2017)** - Improving manufacturing engagement with the Catalonian S3 strategy
- **Flanders (30 Jan – 1 Feb 2018)** – Improving the potential international aspect of the region’s Transformation, Innovation and Acceleration Fund (TINA)
- **South Holland (13-15 March 2018)** - Inter-disciplinary / multi-disciplinary engineering – a new cluster model



Kickoff and OSDD Tampere, 15-17 June 2016



OSDD Skåne, 24-26 October 2016



Tools/activities used for the exchange

Pros:

- frequency of joint events (every 2-3 months) -> **learning, interaction, continuity**
- common agenda structure, planning processes and co-creation methods -> **continuity, learning**
- focus on host regions' strongholds and policy learning goals (including site visits and stakeholder involvement) as agreed during the OSDD planning process -> **stakeholder engagement, learning, co-creation**
- uniform and prompt reporting based on common templates, thorough policy briefs -> **enhanced overall project reporting, learning**

Cons:

- time pressure (10 OSDDs in 24 months)
- some coordination challenges in regard to the common exchange approach vs. national and regional SF regulations, processes and priorities
- turnover of stakeholders



OSDD Norte, 17-20 January 2017





OSDD Scotland, 20-23 March 2017

Conclusions, keys for a successful learning process

- **Solid partnership** with a common approach to desired policy changes, and with genuine opportunities for and commitment to future collaboration (e.g. aiming at widening the pool of resources and knowledge bases, or at accessing complementary assets)
- **Stakeholder engagement:** close linking of policy learning goals and activities and real-life cooperation and development needs of stakeholders
- **Professionally facilitated co-creation and policy learning sessions:** no traditional seminars or workshops
- **Communication, awareness-raising:** IE project facilitating new ways of ERDF-driven innovation and development, and for new stakeholders



OSDD Basque Country, 16-18 May 2017

”Best Stakeholder Award”

**Mr. José Ignacio Azumendi, Director General,
Basque Energy Cluster**

OSDD Basque Country, 16-18 May 2017



2nd Regional Stakeholder Group meeting

Council of Tampere Region, 20 February 2017





THE BALTIC INSTITUTE OF FINLAND

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Sharing solutions for
better regional policies



S34Growth
Interreg Europe

www.baltic.org



S34 Growth methodology

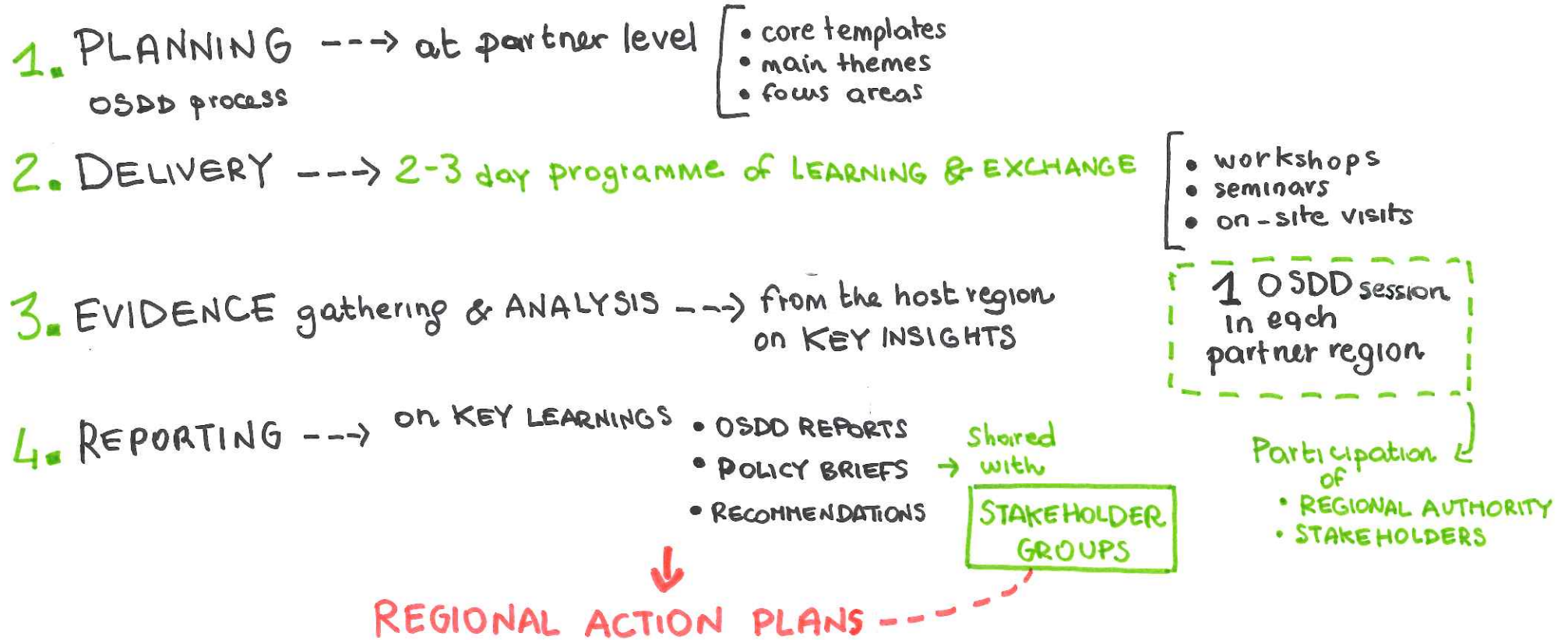
Identified within VANGUARD INITIATIVE

- LEARN
- CONNECT
- DEMONSTRATE
- COMMERCIALISE

- ✓ Regional stakeholders learning from each other
- ✓ Connecting organisations & activities
- ✓ Moving on to projects demonstration
- ✓ Improving commercialisation / product / service development process



OSDD - On-Site Deep Dive



‘SME Internationalisation Exchange’ Project (SIE)

Our Shared Learning Approach

Steve Samson, Kent County Council, UK

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www.interregeurope.eu/SIE



Kent (UK) faced a challenge

1. International trade helps businesses grow
2. But why aren't more companies exporting?
3. What can we do about this?

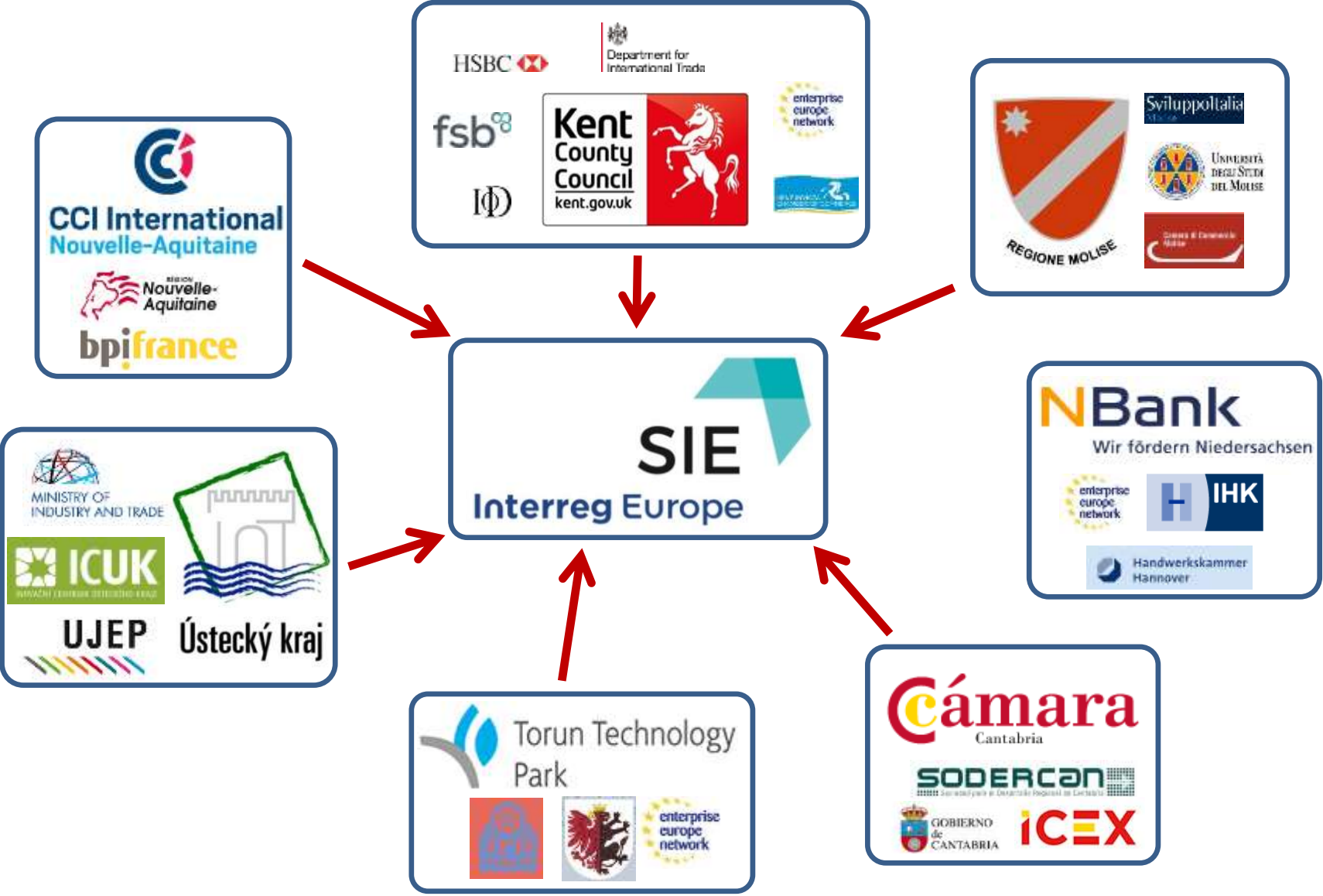


Was it only a Kent issue?

1. Is this challenge in other regions?
2. Who else wants to boost SME internationalisation
3. What could we learn from each other?



Working Together: Partners & Stakeholders



How are we learning from each other?

1. Local Stakeholder Groups
2. Study Visits to each region
3. Case studies identified
4. Case studies shared

1. Studies in each region
2. Comparative study & Recommendations

↓ ↓

Policy Improvement workshops

↓

Regional Action Plans

↓

New solutions in SIE regions

↓

Improved policies & programmes

Some Best Practice Examples



1. Kent International Business:

- **Challenge:** confusion among SMEs
- **Solution:** partners working together not competing



2. 'Vado e Torno' (Go & Come Back):

- **Challenge:** lack of international SMEs
- **Solution:** international graduate placements and financing for international start-ups



3. Internationalisation of Clusters:

- **Challenge:** exporting is difficult for small companies
- **Solution:** setting up clusters to bid for international contracts

What we've learnt about shared learning!

1. Partner regions have a lot of common issues
2. Partners have great solutions to common problems
3. Stakeholders are interested in what they can relate to
4. Regular communication keeps the process flowing
5. Share what's going well and what's not
6. Be clear & focused with learning activities
7. Adapt as you go along & look for added value
8. Allow time for questions, discussions, feedback
9. Simple ideas can be the best!

Thankyou!

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#SIEProject

www.interregeurope.eu/SIE



2016

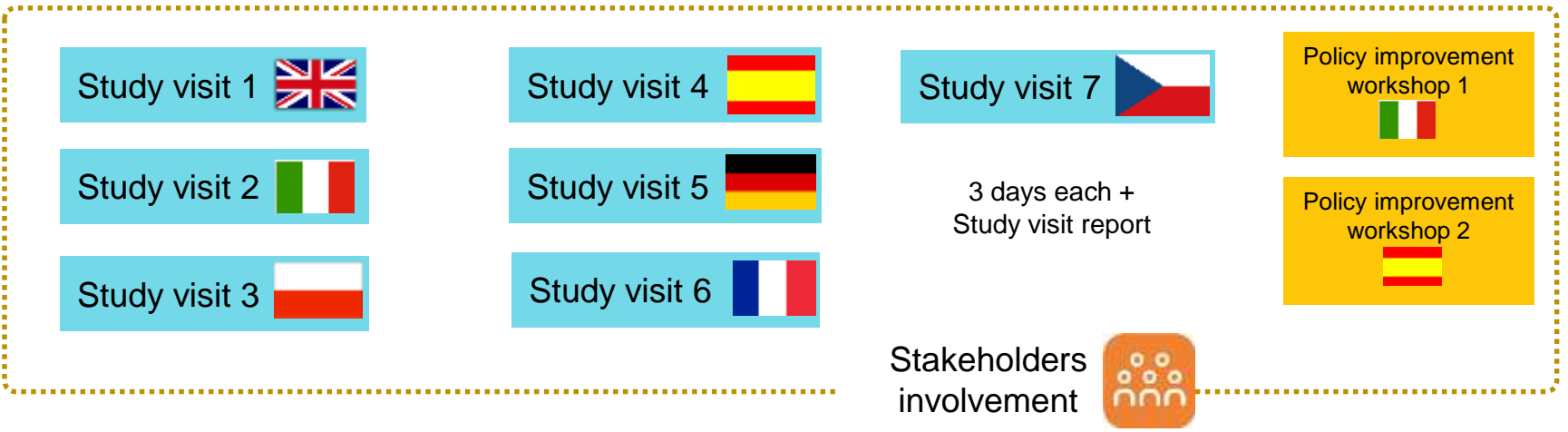
2017

2018

Identification & analysis
Assessment of barriers to SME internationalisation

Exchange of experience & good practices
Comprehensive study visits to examine the effectiveness of the support mechanisms in each partner region

Action plans
Evaluation of policy development + gap analysis



Final study of barriers to SME internationalisation

Joint best practice guide

7 action plans