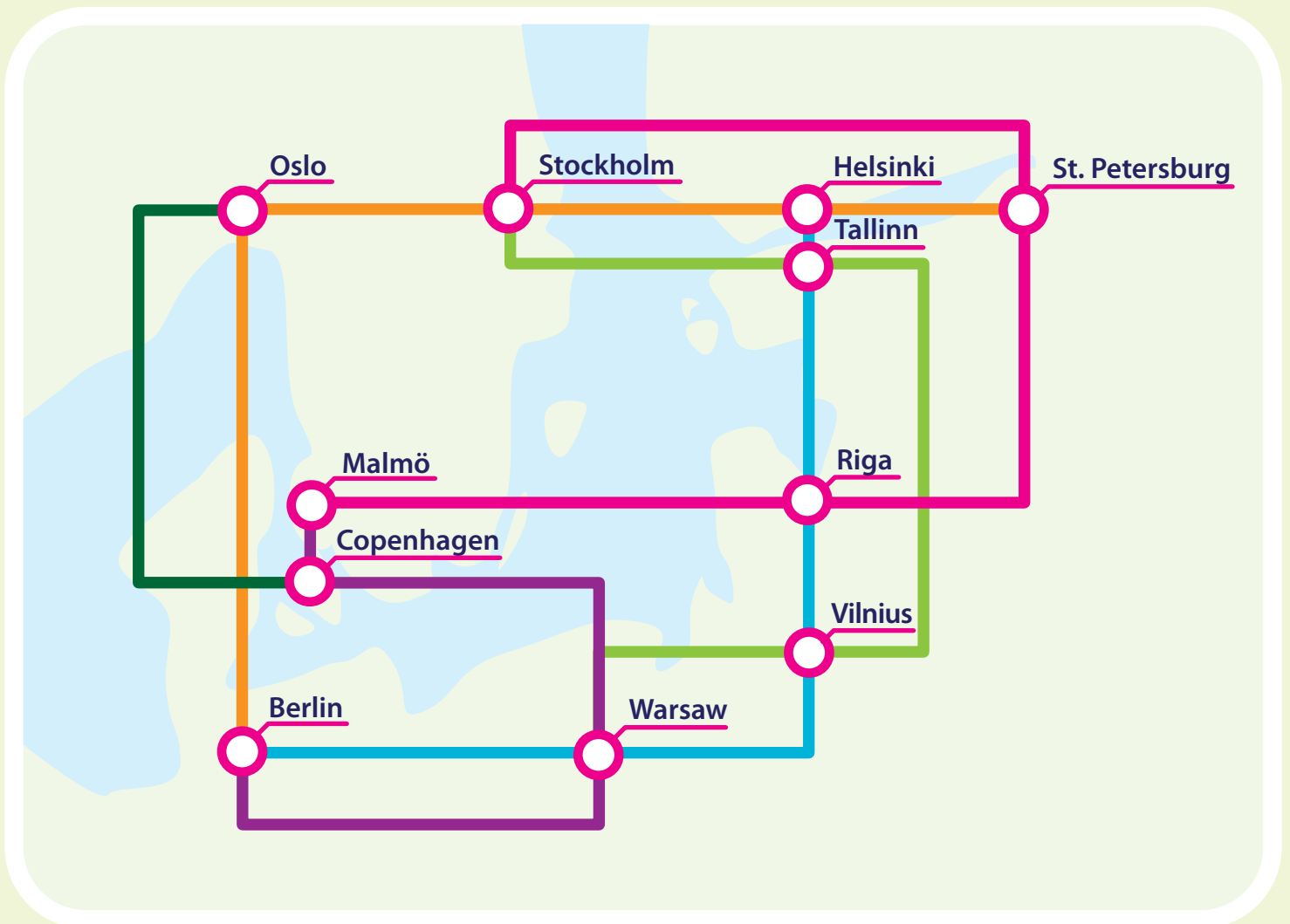


The Baltic Sea Archipelago of Innovation



PROJECT PART-FINANCED
BY THE EUROPEAN UNION



Project partners

Lead partner



City of Helsinki



Project co-ordinator Culminatum Ltd Oy

Project partners



Berlin

WISTA-MANAGEMENT GMBH

WISTA Management GmbH



Technology Foundation Berlin GmbH



Copenhagen



EVU Center for Business Start Up,
Growth and Development



Malmö



Riga



St. Petersburg



St. Petersburg State
University



Stockholm



County Administrative
Board of Stockholm



Tallinn

Observers



Oslo



Warsaw



Vilnius

Mission

The mission of the Baltic Metropolises Innovation Strategy (BaltMet Inno) project is to strengthen the competitiveness of Baltic Metropolises by increased strategic and practical level cooperation in innovation policies for the benefit of participating metropolitan regions, countries represented by the metropolises and the Baltic Sea Region as a whole.

Baltic Metropolises strive together for a more prosperous Europe. The metropolises around the Baltic Rim are the key drivers of their national economies, however, rather small in size.

In order to be strong in the European and global scale, Baltic Metropolises have to be prepared to take an active role in the development of the innovation area which goes well beyond their national boundaries. Therefore, the Baltic Metropolises have started to build up a closely networked "Archipelago of Innovation". The BaltMet Inno project has pooled a diversity of competences by bringing together cities, regional development agencies, universities and science parks for closer innovation policy co-operation.

Baltic Metropolises – Pool of Potentials

- Baltic Metropolises*, together with the surrounding areas, are home to 21 million inhabitants – every fourth citizen of the Baltic Sea Region
- The joint annual GDP of the 11 cities is approx. EUR 400 billion
- There are 92 universities, 145 polytechnics, university colleges and academies with a total number of students and academic staff of 1.3 million
- Every fourth inhabitant has attained higher education
- There are 86 science and research centres; over EUR 20 billion is invested in research and development annually (47% of the total R&D input of the Baltic Sea Region)
- The total budget spending of the metropolises was EUR 43 billion in 2006

*Baltic Metropolises: Berlin, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Malmö, Oslo, Riga, St. Petersburg, Stockholm, Tallinn, Vilnius, Warsaw



A Baltic Sea Archipelago of Innovation

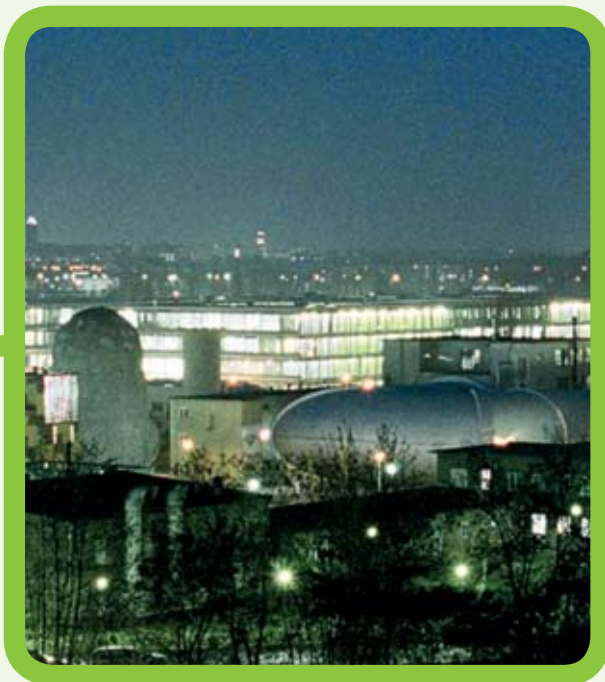
The nations and metropolitan regions around the Baltic Sea are outstanding with top rankings in competitiveness (e.g. OECD World Competitiveness index 2006-07) and innovation (e.g. European Innovation Scoreboard 2006). Based on these strengths and in face of the global challenges ahead, significant efforts have been invested in recent years into developing the Baltic Sea Region into a joint strategic concept for science, technology, innovation and growth.

Through their size, diversity of scientific and technological competences and international connections, the metropolitan cities and their surrounding regions, play a crucial role in the development and maintenance of competitive innovation environments in the region.

Together, the leading capital and metropolitan regions around the Baltic Sea can create a strategic platform for creating an Archipelago of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, i.e. a number of distinct and competent islands of science and technology-based innovation and entrepreneurship in a Baltic Sea of competence and capability.

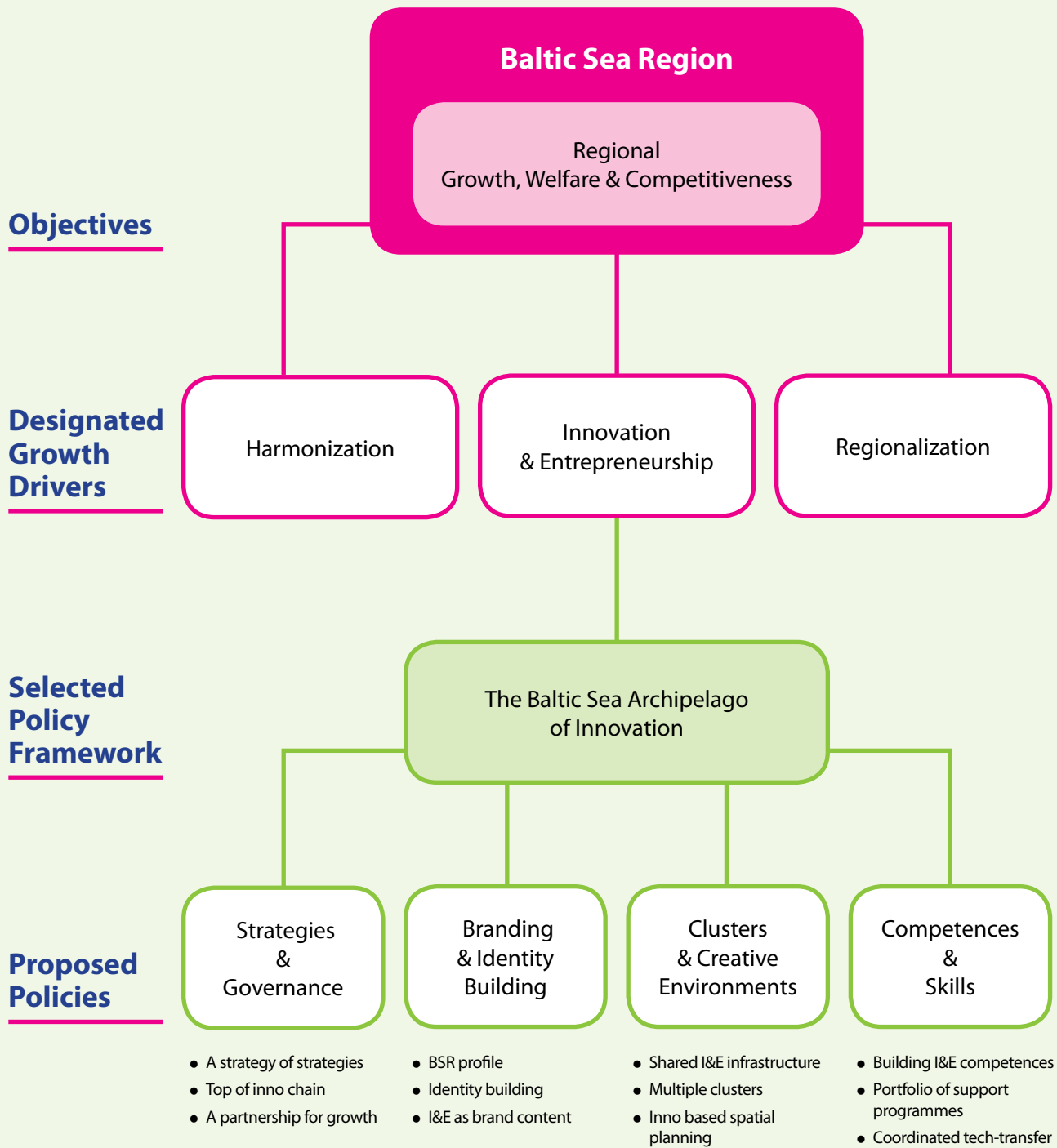
The Baltic Sea Archipelago of Innovation rests on four pillars:

- A strategy and a governance regime positioning the Baltic Sea Region with its competences in science and technology-based innovation – as a polycentric and diversified innovation archipelago – at the top of the innovation chain
- A communication framework to be used in branding the region and strengthening its identity
- A selected portfolio of well connected, globally competitive, science and technology clusters supported by creative innovation environments
- An innovation and entrepreneurship (I&E) infrastructure based on a set of qualified innovation competencies and skills, and supported by a portfolio of I&E support programs and instruments



Responsible project partner: City of Copenhagen

Contact information: Mr. Steen Lohse, slo@vhhr.dk



Improving Strategic Cooperation in Innovation Activities



The main goals in innovation focused strategic cooperation are:

- Improved quality and coordination of local and regional innovation strategies and related strategy processes in the Baltic Metropolises and between them
- Inclusion of BSR focused, transnationally complementary elements in the metropolises' innovation strategies
- Achievement of economies of scale as well as economies of scope between the Baltic Metropolises

In the BaltMet Inno project several activities have contributed to improved strategy level cooperation between the metropolises. The main results include:

- Analysis of existing innovation strategies and strategy processes
- Local innovation strategy drafts for two of the participating cities, Riga and Tallinn
- "Handbook" for designing a local innovation strategy for a metropolitan area
- Surveys made on innovation in public procurement and planning and design of innovation infrastructure and creative environments

Responsible project partner for Work Package 1,
"Complementary Innovation Strategies in the Baltic Metropolitan Areas":
Culminatum Ltd Oy (Helsinki)

Contact information: Mr. Kimmo Heinonen, kimmo.heinonen@culminatum.fi

Reinforcing the Image of Baltic Metropolises as Innovative and Creative Locations

The goals in city marketing and community building activities of BaltMet Inno are:

- Strengthening of the role of knowledge, innovation, entrepreneurship, and creative settings in the promotion of Baltic Metropolises
- Establishment of cooperation in innovation related marketing activities including addressing innovation and entrepreneurship aspects into local and regional marketing strategies

In connection with BaltMet Inno project the following results can be listed:

- Existing marketing practices and strategies in partner cities were analyzed
- A marketing strategy framework for Baltic Metropolises was designed with knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurship as important components. The framework was piloted in Riga and Tallinn
- Local Marketing Councils were established in Riga and Tallinn as permanent bodies dealing with city marketing priorities and activities
- Transnational cooperation in joint marketing between Baltic Metropolises and investigation of potential for further joint efforts started
- Agreement reached on necessity for extended further cooperation to promote the Baltic Sea Region on the global arena and call for collaboration with national governments

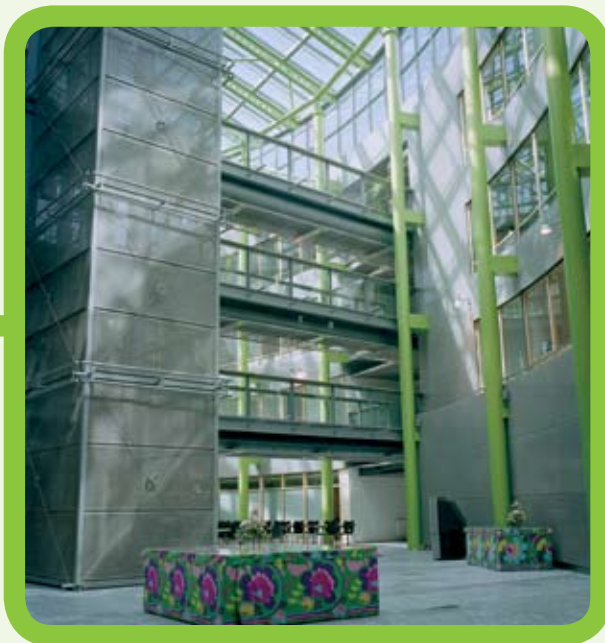


Responsible project partner for Work Package 2, "Community Building and Marketing Strategies":
City of Riga

Contact information: Ms. Linda Pukite, linda.pukite@riga.lv

Bringing Clusters and Cluster Developers Together

In every Baltic Metropolis science parks, incubators and other innovation environments play a significant role in the development and growth of clusters. These structures also are active players in creating innovative businesses, developing entrepreneurship, and in supporting interregional as well as trans-national networking.



The goals of cluster focused work in the BaltMet Inno project are:

- Development of structures and instruments for trans-national networking of regional clusters
- To prepare proposals for needed infrastructure and services for strengthening interregional collaboration

The main results of cluster related activities in the project are:

- SWOT analysis of existing cluster structures and development activities in the partner cities
- Deeper analysis and exploration of cooperation potentials within three selected “pilot clusters” (Life Sciences / Biotech; ICT and Media; Micro and Nano Systems and Optical Technologies)
- Design of a benchmark tool based on specific “success criteria” for science parks and implementation of benchmark study for six science parks located in different BaltMet Inno cities
- Specification and agreement on potential “value added services” targeted at companies for reciprocal provision and utilisation



Responsible project partner for Work Package 3, “Cluster Development”:
Wista Management GmbH (Berlin)

Contact information: Mr. Helge Neumann, helge@wista.de

Strengthening innovation competences and entrepreneurial skills



The countries and metropolitan regions around the Baltic Sea rank generally high in terms of innovation and competitiveness but often low in indexes measuring entrepreneurship and business creation. The main goals of the BaltMet Inno project relating to strengthening innovation competences and entrepreneurial skills in the Baltic Metropolises are:

- Mapping of the broad knowledge base and existing innovation and entrepreneurship infrastructures
- Emphasizing the impact of innovation and entrepreneurship support structures on regional growth
- Strengthening existing and initiating new collaborations between innovation and entrepreneurship-related actors
- Identifying and developing new tools and joint activities to increase collaboration

Results achieved in BaltMet Inno include:

- Knowledge, regarding innovation and entrepreneurship support structures, infrastructures and practices, was exchanged thoroughly between Baltic Metropolises

- A joint transnational training program directed at incubator managers and other new business facilitators was planned and executed
- Collaboration possibilities were identified and recommendations for future joint activities given



Responsible project partner for Work Package 4, "Innovation competencies and entrepreneurial skills":
County Administrative Board of Stockholm /SSES (Stockholm)

Contact information: Mrs. Claudia Hakanen, claudia.hakanen@sses.se

Prospects for the Future

The BaltMet Inno project partners propose further co-operation of cities together with partners from academia and business in the following focus areas:

Design of innovative city environments

- Development of new and existing science and technology parks and campus areas
- Adaptation of old industrial areas (e.g. by the waterfront) to creative settings
- Development of test-beds for new technology and service innovations

Creative industries – support systems and city development policies

- Increased understanding of creative industries and their role in making cities better places to live, work, invest and visit; promotion of creative city image
- Shaping and strengthening the support systems of creative industries
- Building business capacity of the sector
- Using creative industries in innovative city development

Transnational cluster development activities

- Selection and exchange of the best practices in building and supporting business driven clusters

- Transfer of cluster building instruments
- Establishment of new and strengthening existing transnational cluster networks
- Setting up permanent cooperation structures between science parks, business incubators and cluster development practitioners.

Promotion of science and knowledge-based entrepreneurship

- Transfer of the best practices in educational and mentoring programmes for entrepreneurs and new start-up companies
- Collaboration in joint training and internationalization programmes for new start-up support organizations, business coaches and developers
- Facilitation of matchmaking between companies and universities for improved commercialisation of R&D outputs

Innovation friendly procurement processes

- Shaping public procurement strategies, processes and practices favourable to innovation
- Development and transfer of instruments for improving the possibilities of SMEs to participate in public tenders, particularly in connection with new innovative products and services.







For Further Information:
www.inno.baltmet.org