

# The Värmland Smart Specialisation Strategy: from planning to funding

Anders Olsson

Manager of Research and Innovation



# VÄRMLAND SMART SPECIALISATIONS

Value-Creating Services

Forest Based Bioeconomy

Digitalisation of  
Welfare Services

Advanced Manufacturing  
and Complex Systems

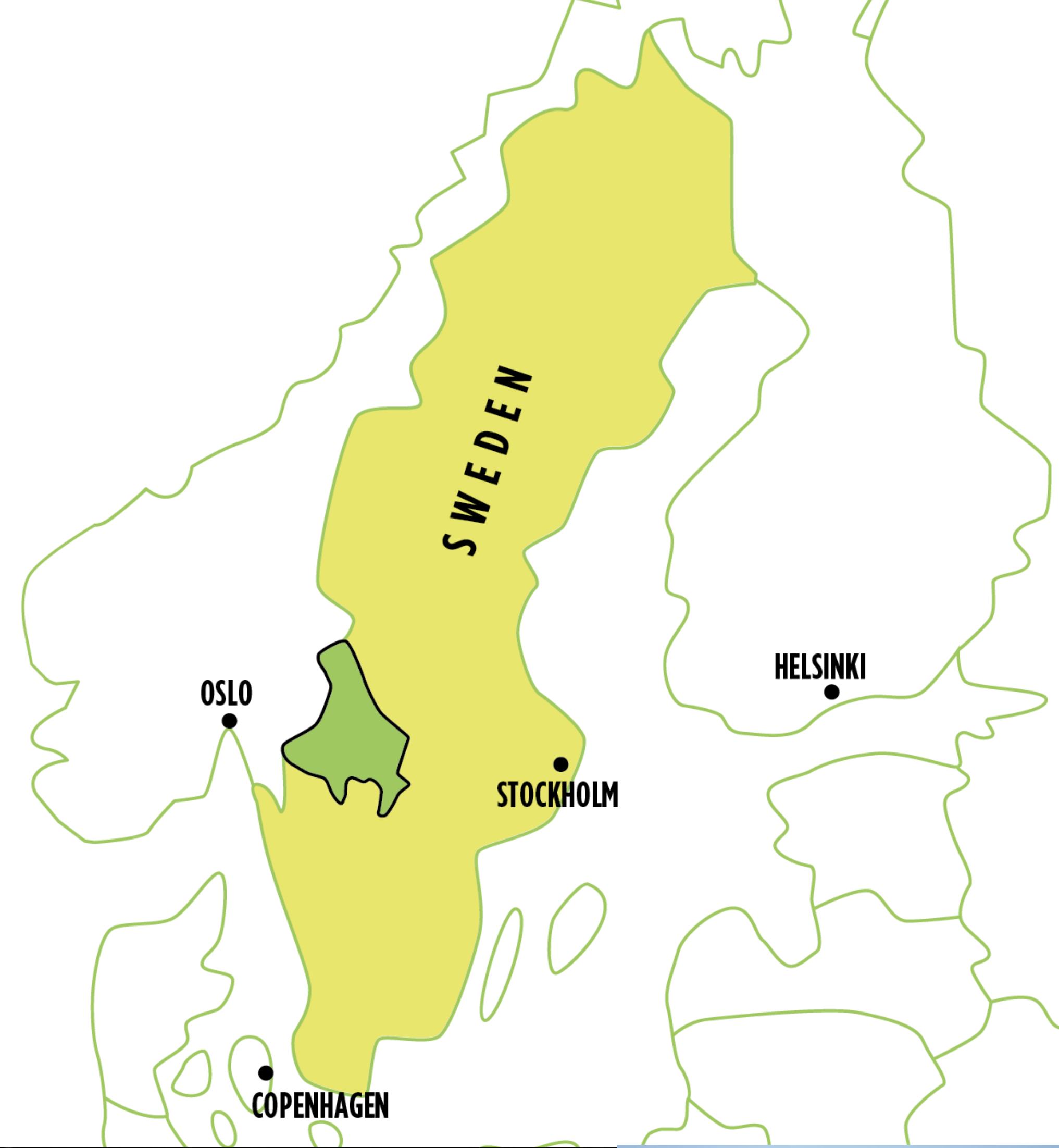
Nature, Culture and Place  
Based Digitalised Experiences

System Solutions  
with Photovoltaics

Region

# VÄRMLAND

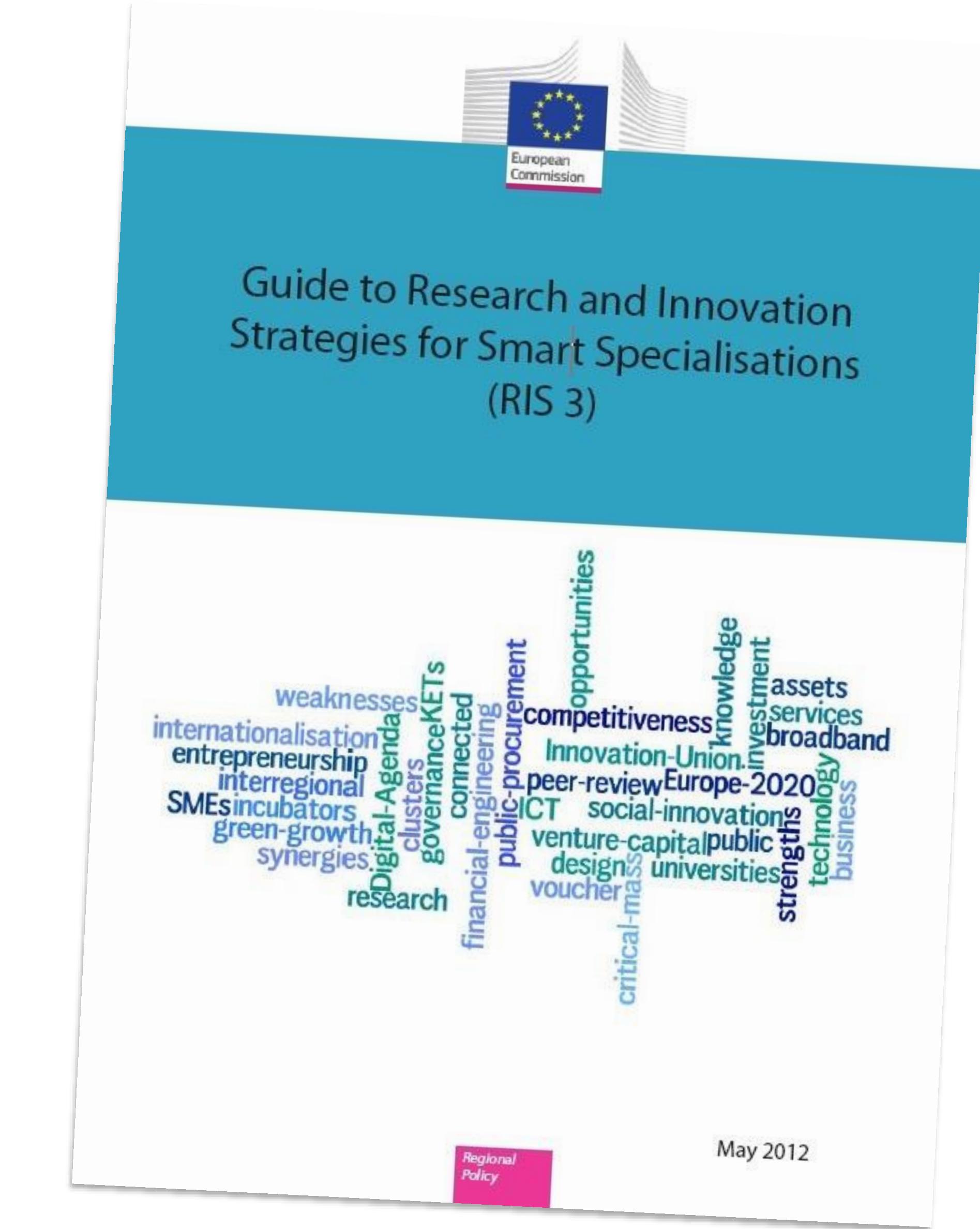
- 18 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- 75 % covered by forest
- 280 000 inhabitants
- Strong Innovator (EU RIS 2017)
- One dominating university
- Vänern, the largest lake in EU







# The RIS3 Guide



# OECD evalution Värmland

Strenthen the role of Karlstad University.

Contract - the region and the university.

Strengthen link between clusters and research.

Develop a few internationally strong research areas.

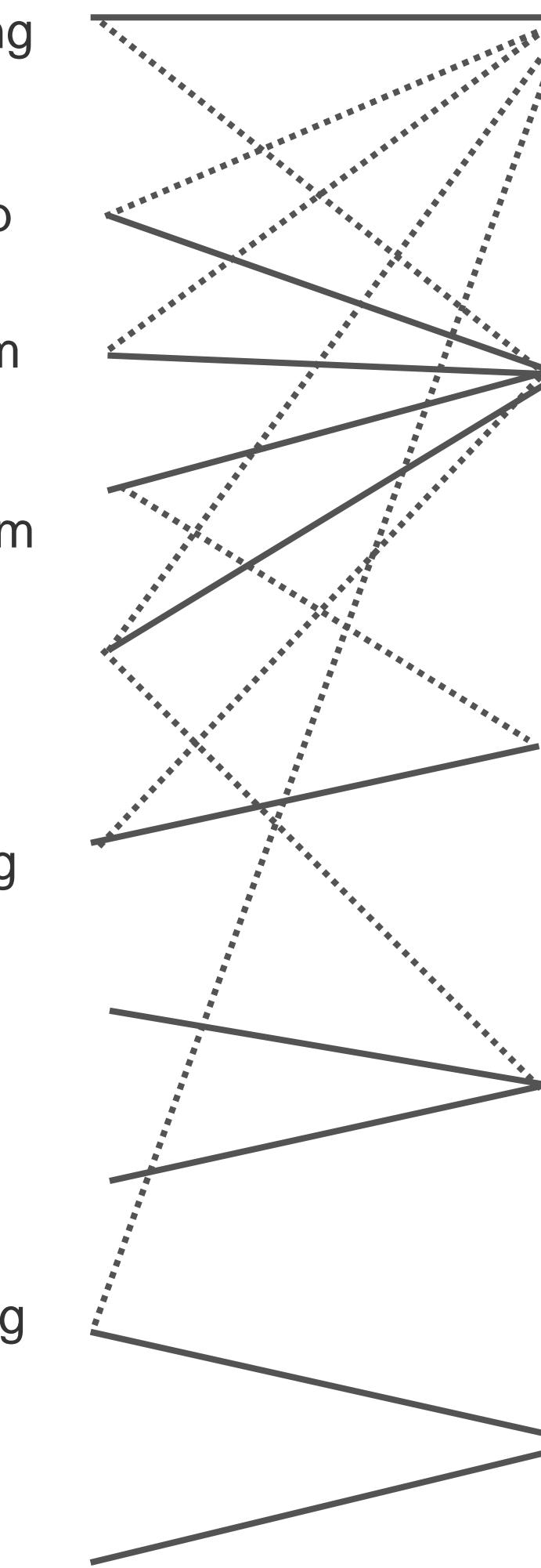
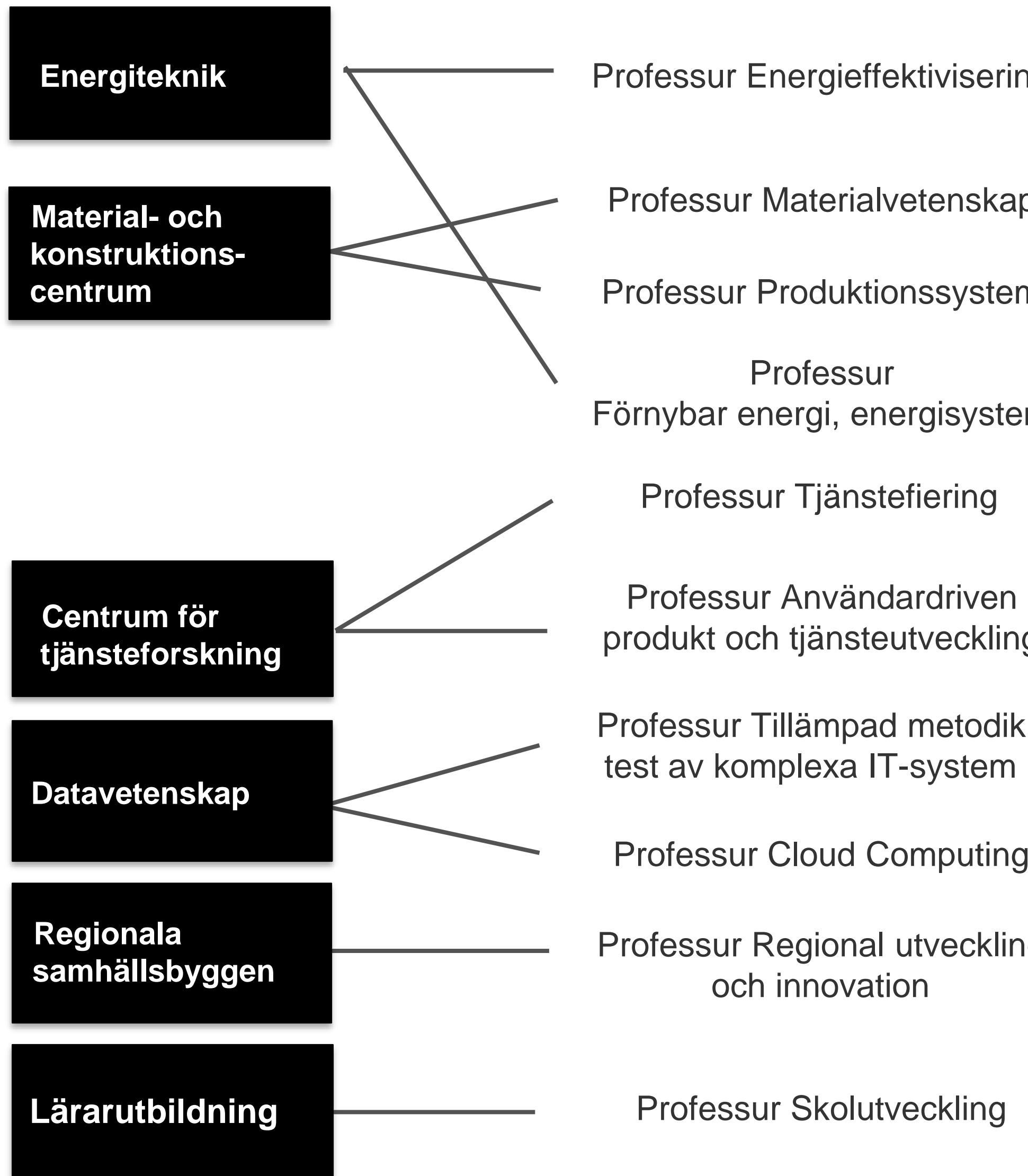


15

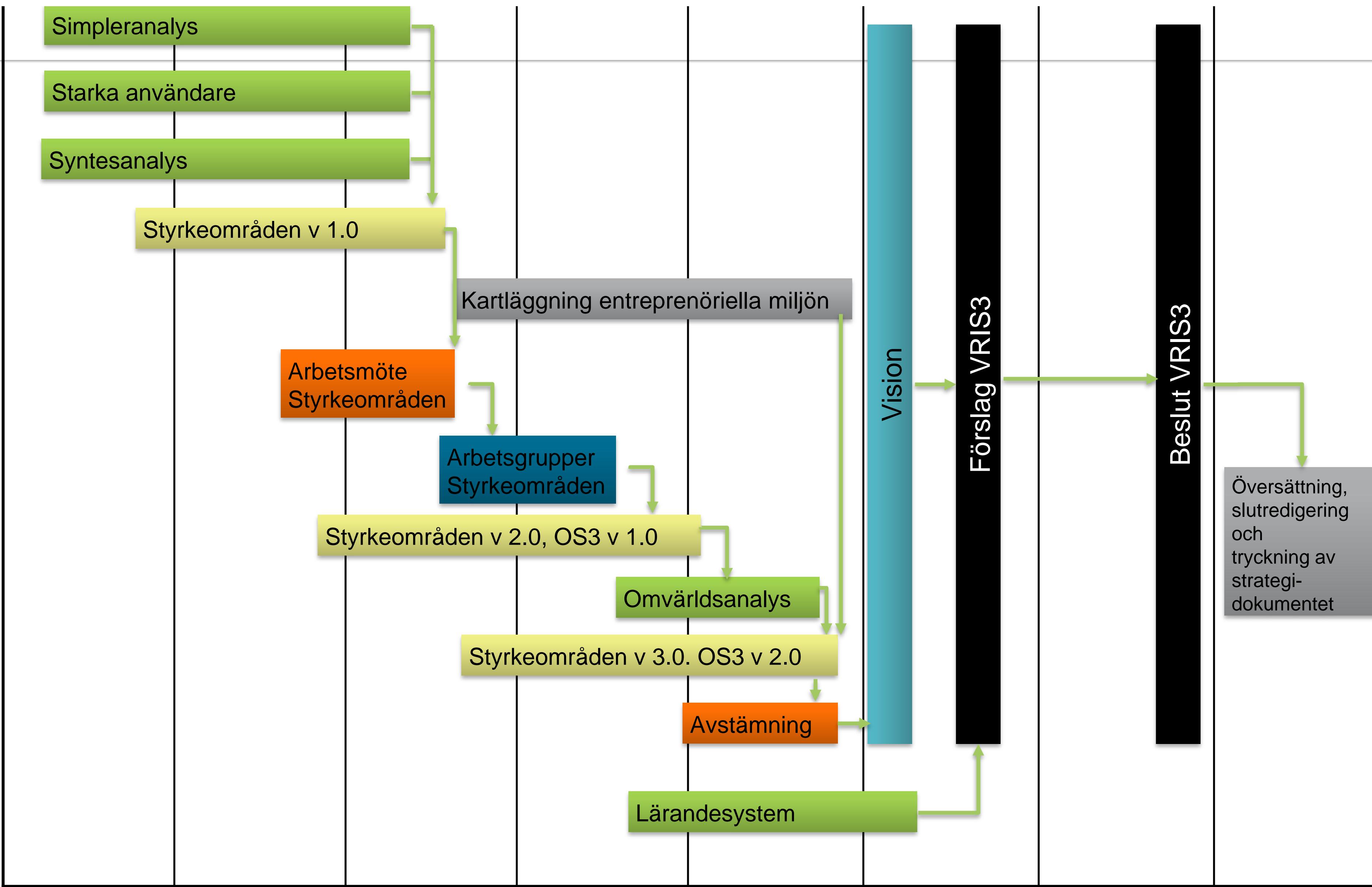
JUN  
2006

# The Ten Professor Programme

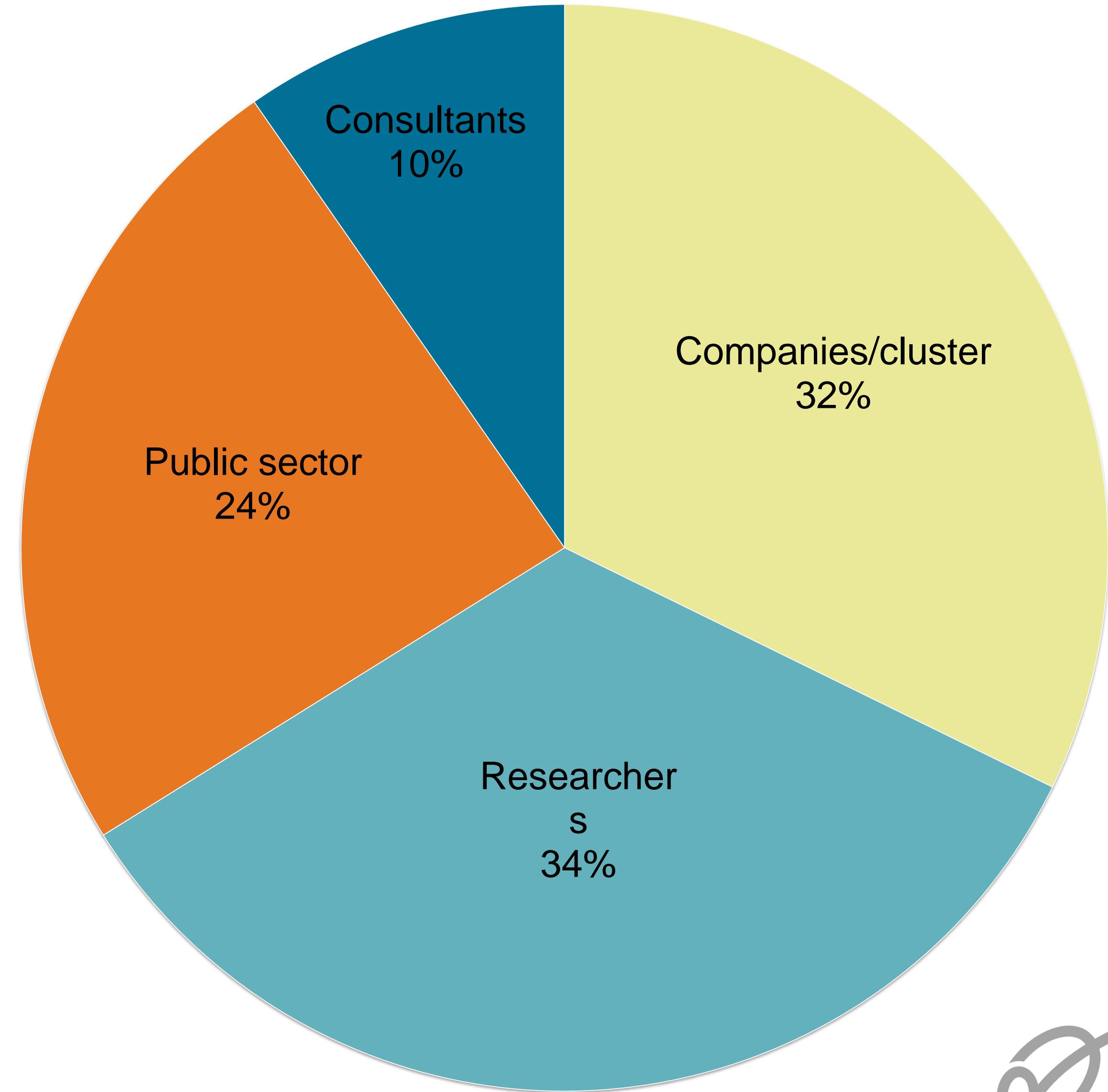
## Building strong research groups - 2010-2014



# The planning process 2014 -2015



# Participants in the RIS3 planning process



Five working groups

40% women

60% men

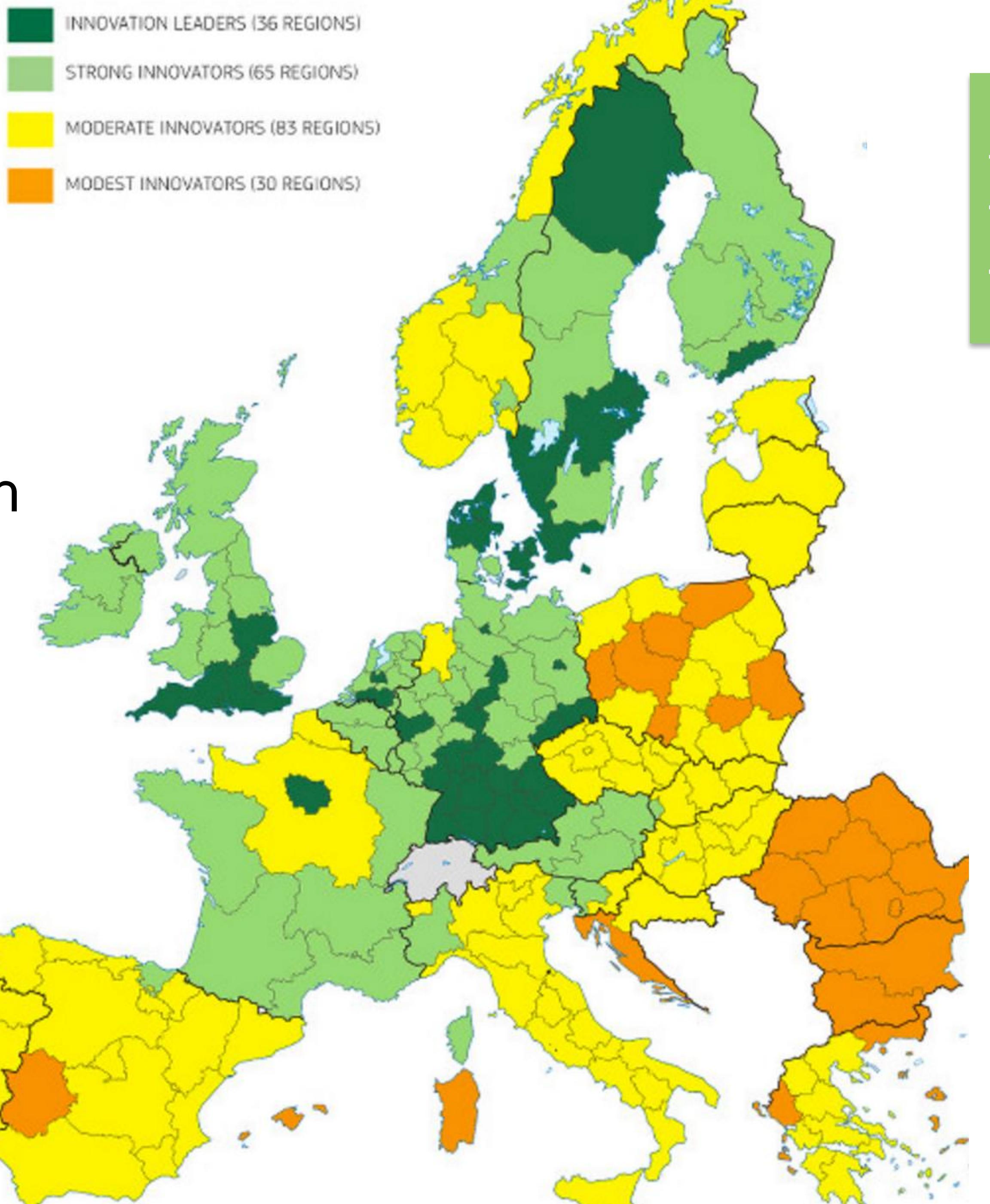
In total 60 persons

# Innovation in Värmland

Värmland – Strong Innovator

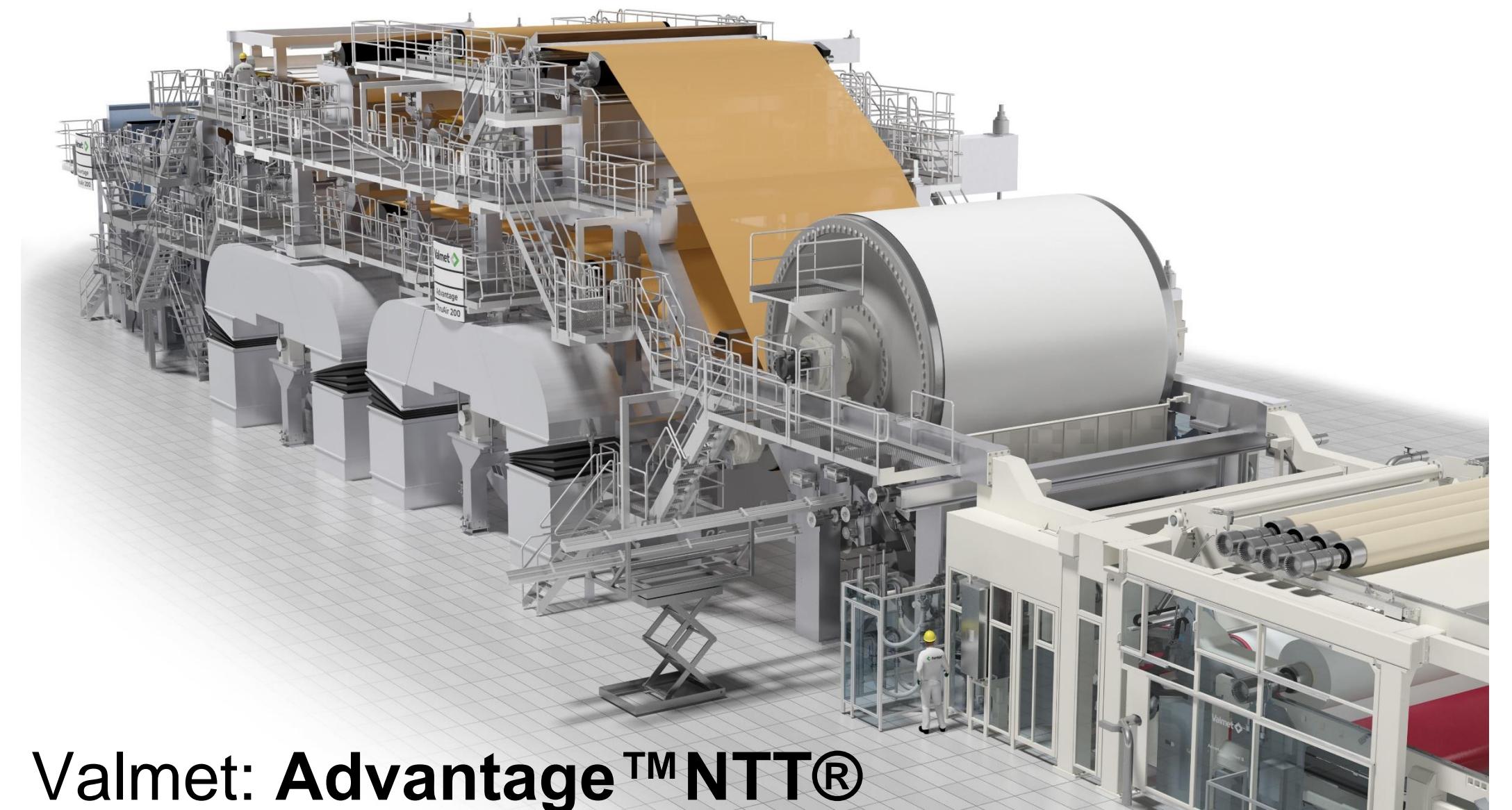
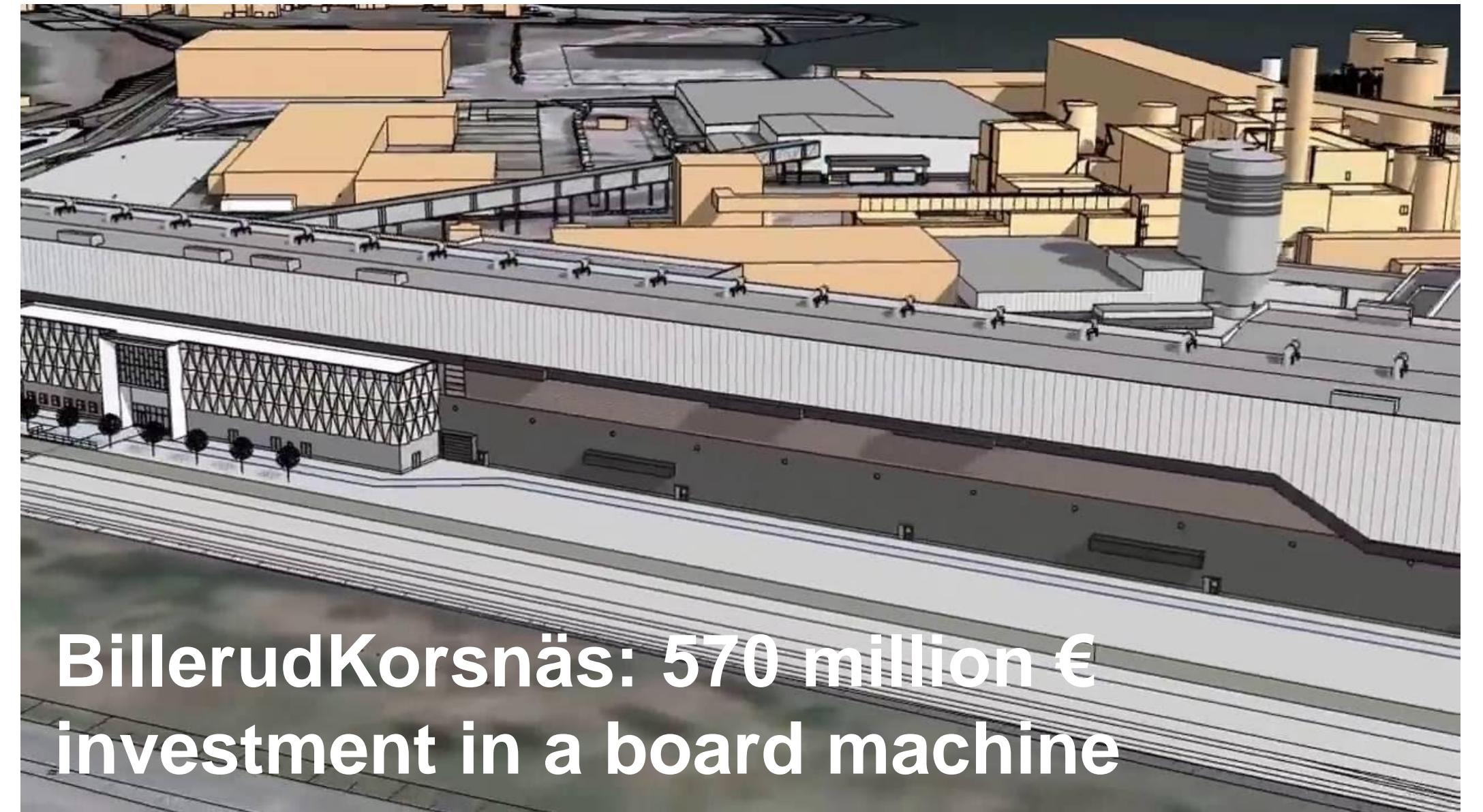
In a Swedish context innovation strength is low. But consider that Sweden as a whole is a global innovation leader.

The region's innovation system is well developed but the outputs are comparatively weak.

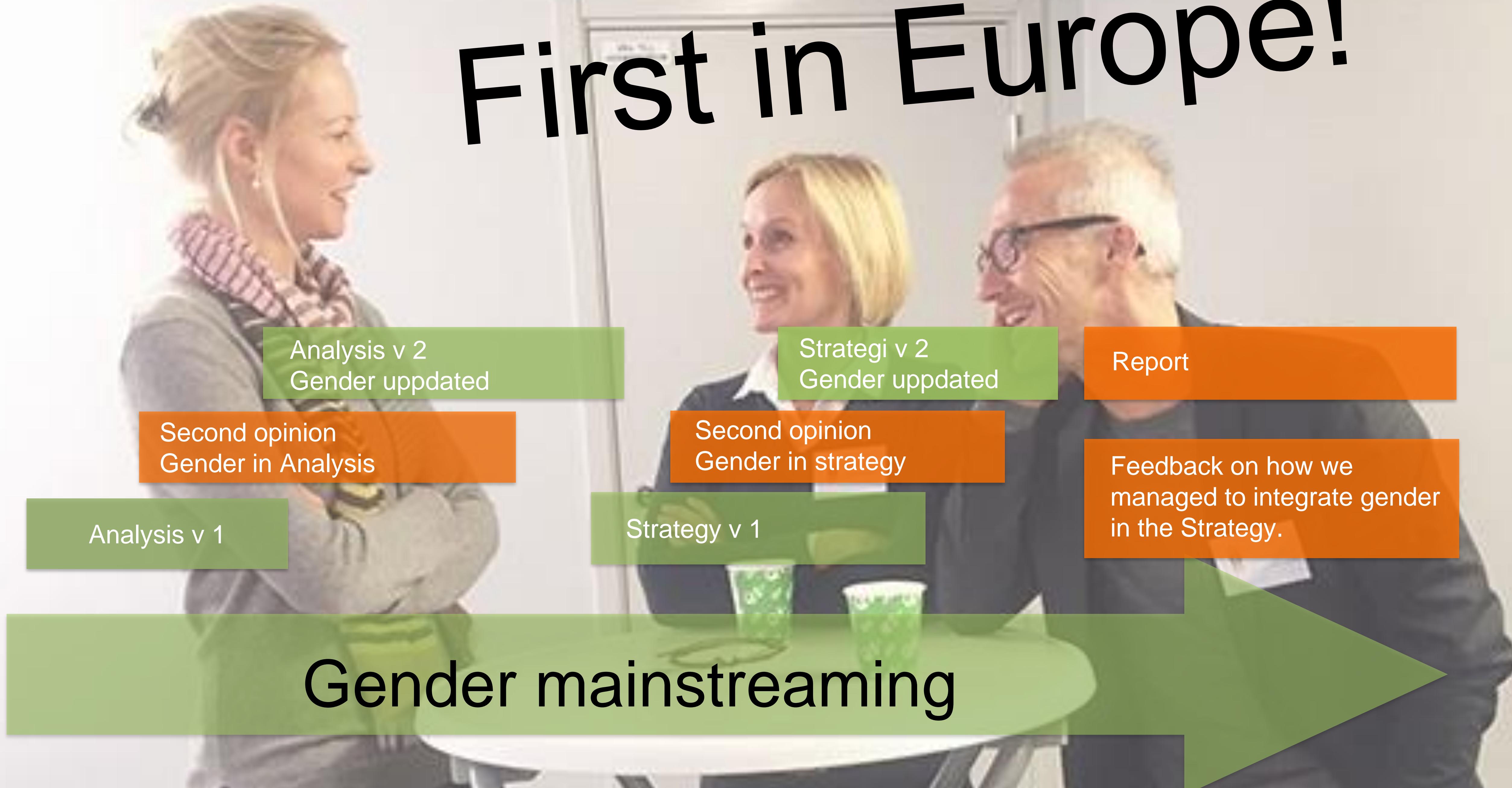


The region is very strong in the paper, pulp, packaging and tissue.

- Have no equivalent elsewhere in Europe.



# First in Europe!



# Gender integration

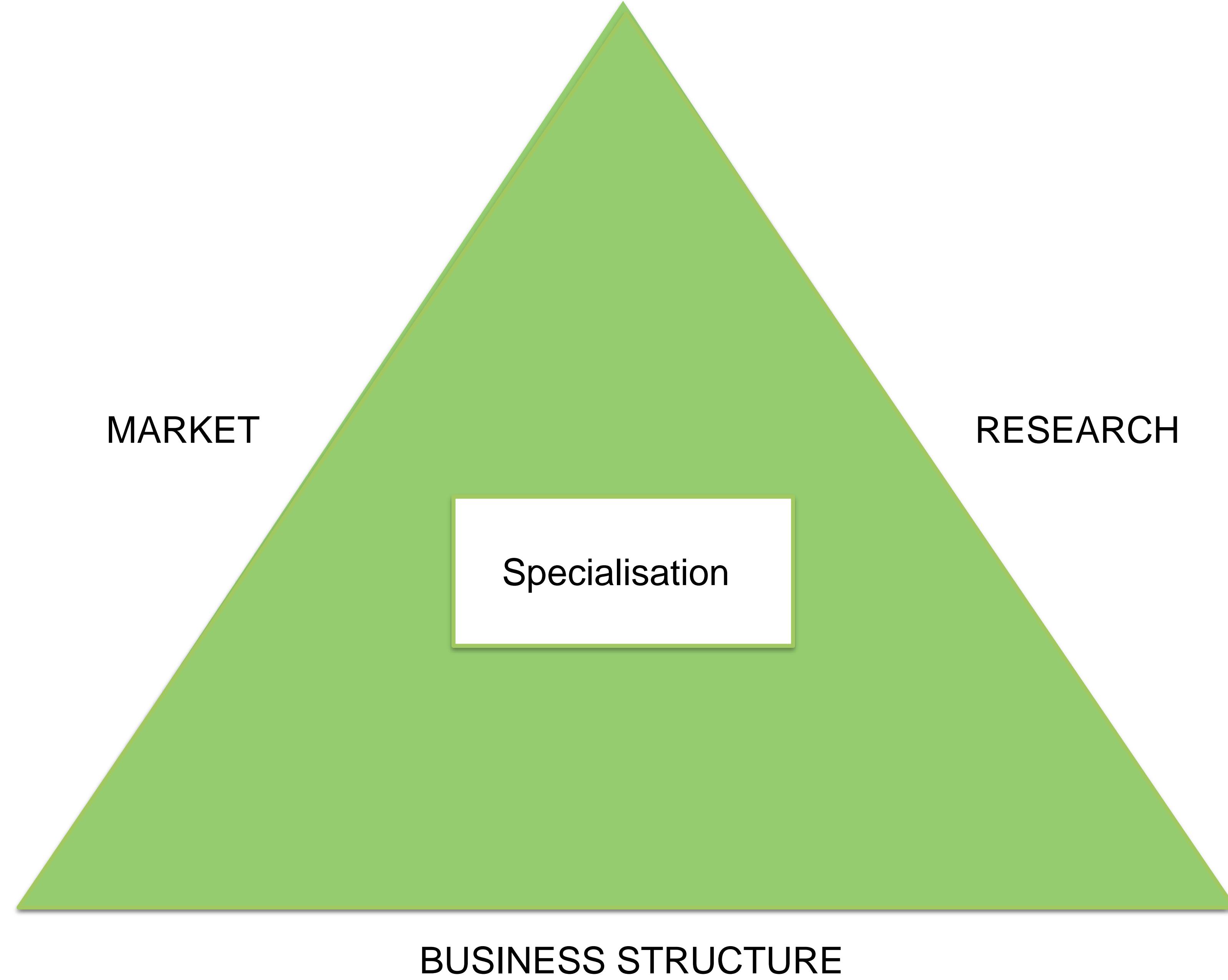
- Gender mixed groups result in higher firm performance and higher effectiveness.
- A diversity of competences provides bigger interfaces with different parts of society.
- An equal representation of women and men increase the rate of innovation.

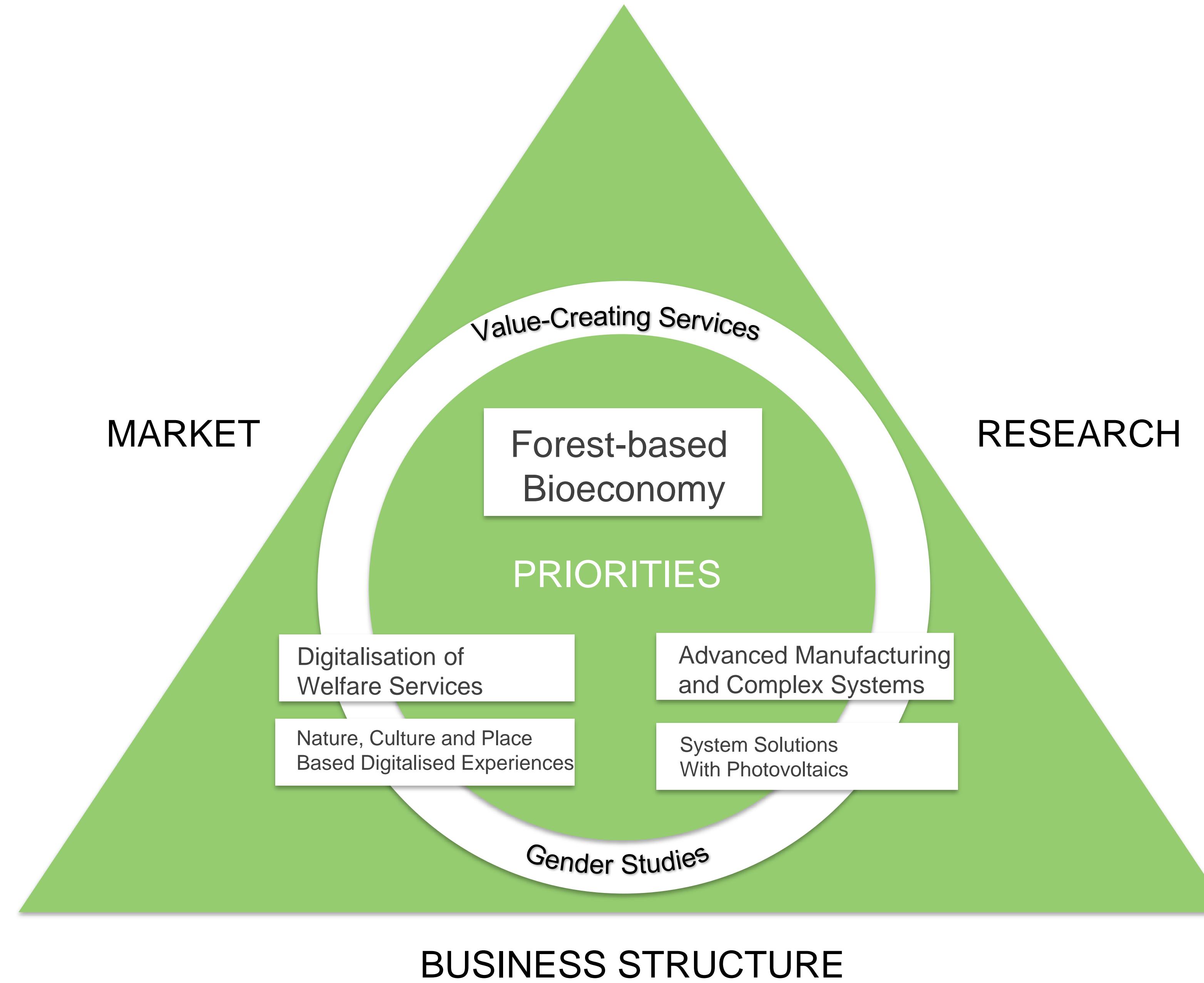
# Strong areas

Pulp and paper and packaging material	Packaging	IT and Telecom	Steel and manufacturing	Hospitality industry	Food products	Cultural and creative industries	Solar power
---------------------------------------	-----------	----------------	-------------------------	----------------------	---------------	----------------------------------	-------------

PRIORITISED SPECIALISATIONS			SPECIALISATIONS UNDER QUALIFICATION	
VALUE-CREATION SERVICES				
Forest-based bioeconomy	Digitalisation of Welfare Services	Advanced Manufacturing and Complex Systems	Nature, Culture and Place Based Digitalised Experiences	System Solutions with Photovoltaics

Smart specialisation





	FOREST-BASED BIOECONOMY	DIGITALISATION OF WELFARE SERVICES	ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND COMPLEX SYSTEMS	PLACE BASED DIGITALISED EXPERINCES	SYSTEMS SOLUTIONS WITH PHOTOVOLTAICS
CRITICAL MASS	4 000 anställda i pappers- och massabranschen.	2 000 anställda inom IT	> 10 000 anställda inom stål- och verkstadsindustrin	3 000 anställda inom besöksnäringen.	Okänta antal anställda. Ca 50 företag är medlemmar i GEC
INNOVATIVENESS	Åtta forskargrupper på Kau. Ett institut Två större privata forskningscentra. Fossilfri barriär.	Tre forskargrupper, varav en excellent miljö på Kau. Två institut.	En stark forskargrupp. En centrumbildning En universitetsfilial. Minst ett större privat forskningscenter.	Forskare på Kau, framförallt inom en institutioon (Geomedia)	Två forskargrupper, en excellent och en stark.
REGIONAL ORGANISATION	Värmlandskluster	Värmlandskluster	Värmlandskluster	Klusterorganisation men ej ett Värmlandskluster	Klusterorganisation men ej ett Värmlandskluster
INTERNATIONA-LISATION	Företag agerar på världsmarkanden. Visst internationellt samarbete för klusterorganisationen	Från svenska marknaden för så väl klustret som företagen.	Företag agerar på världsmarkanden. Visst internationellt samarbete för klusterorganisationen	Företag agerar på närmarkanden i Nordeuropa. Samarbete med Norge för klusterorganisationen	Norgesamarbete. Export till Afrika.
MEETS SOCIETAL CHALLENGES	Bioeconomy, food security, forestry, clean and efficient energy, resource efficiency.	Health, demographic change and wellbeing Inclusive Secure societies - protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens.	Secure, clean and efficient energy, but oil...	Utvecklar turism med tanke på fler av samhällsutmaningarna.	Secure, clean and efficient energy; T v
ENTREPRENEURIAL DYNAMIC	Vinnväxt - entrepernöriell upptäckande process.	Tillväxt i antal företag. Söker affärsmöjligheter via tematiska satsningar och norgemarknaden.	Sökande efter nya konstellationer för nya värdeerbjudanden mha kompetenskartläggningar.	Hög tillväxt i antal företag.	Stort antal innovationsprojekt. Nya företag i ung bransch.
GENDER	Mansdominareta. Har jobbat med jämställdhet.	Vård och omsorg har många anställda kvinnor Compare jobbar med jämställdhet.	Mansdominareta. Har jobbat med jämställdhet.	Många turismföretag attraktiva för kvinnor.	Mansdominerat. Ungt har inte hunnit jobba med jämställdhet.

STRATEGY DOCUMENT

# 01

Värmland's Research and  
Innovation Strategy for

## *Smart Specialisation 2015-2020*



Forest-based  
bioeconomy

Digitalisation  
of Welfare  
services

Advanced Manu-  
facturing and  
ComplexSystems

Nature, Culture and  
Place Based Digi-  
talised Experiences

System Solutions  
With Photovoltaics

## VALUE-CREATING SERVICES

RISE

Paper province

RISE

Packbridge

Broby Grafiska

Sweflex

Värmland Energy  
Office

Regional Wood  
Centre in  
Northern Värmland

Compare

Experio Lab

RISE

Nordic Medtest

Innovation Hub  
Vivan

IUC  
Steel and  
Engineering

Karlstad Lean  
Lab

Innovation and  
Technology  
Centre  
in Kristinehamn

Visit Värmland

Nordic Innovation  
Food Arena

Compare

Form in Värmland

Glava Energy  
Centre

RISE

Grants and innovation Office – Karlstad University

# Karlstad University

a partner in RIS3

Highest grade from national authority when rating collaboration

Granting in Horizon 2020 round 1: 32%.

Innovation office Fyrklövern, highest grade from  
Ministry of Education and Research.



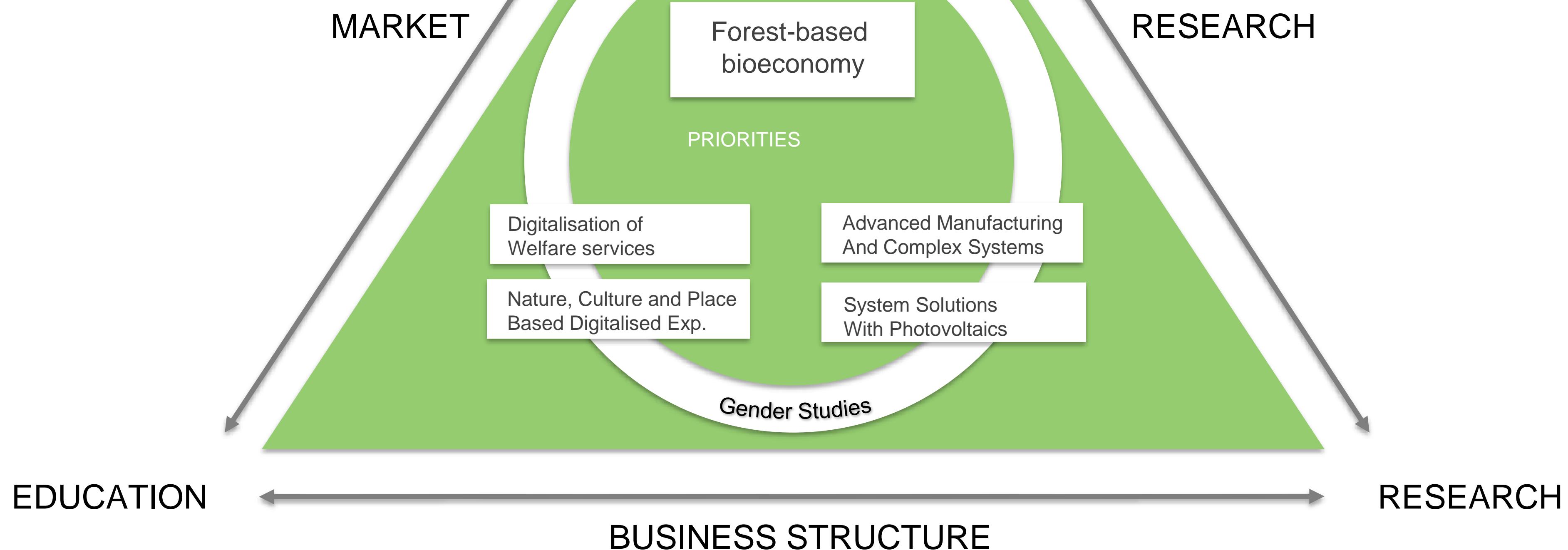


The Academy for Smart Specialisation

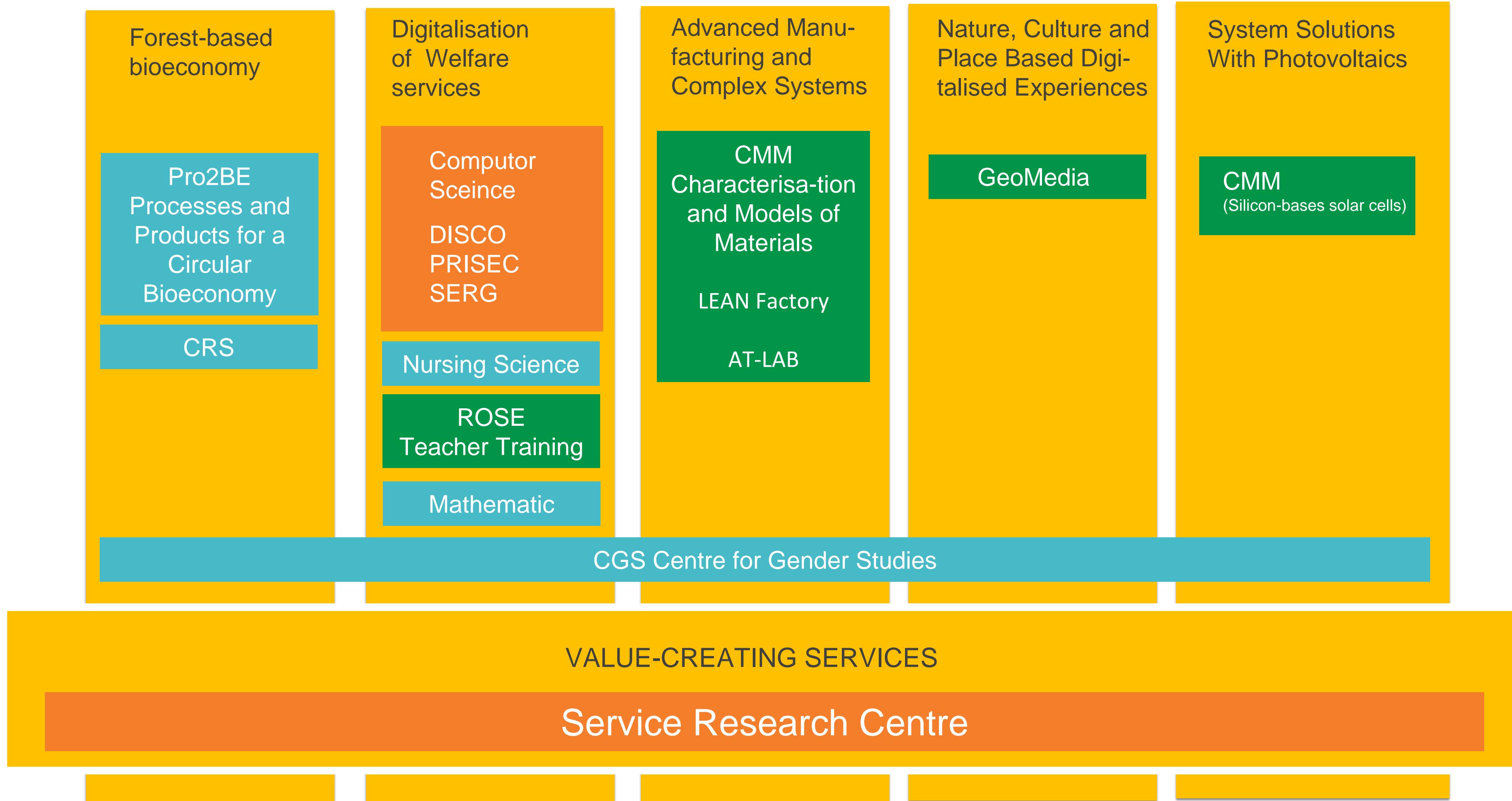
Business angels  
Entrepreneurs  
Partners  
Societal actors  
Business  
Researchers

# INNOVATION

Students



# THE SPECIALISATION AND RESEARCH GROUPS



**AKADEMIN FÖR  
SMART SPECIALISERING**



# Marek Przeor from DG Regio:

The Academy for Smart Specialisation is a best practice in Europe on how you can connect universities to smart specialisation.

You have managed to do this more tangible thanks to the concept Academy for smart specialisation.



# Funding of The Academy for Smart Specialisation in 2016-2020

5 Million € from Region Värmland.

+ > 5 million € from Karlstad University

+ > 5 million € in external funding

In total: 15 – 20 million €



AKADEMIN FÖR  
SMART SPECIALISERING



The Academy for Smart Specialisation is a tool for transformation and renewal of the private and public sectors in Värmland and the strengthening of research and education at Karlstad University.

# Expectations on the Academy for Smart Specialisation

- Supply of competence
- Major research and innovation projects
- Investments, export success and growth
- Establishment of companies and international demo and FOI environments
- International strategic alliances
- Policy impact in support of specialisations
- National and international attention

# Forest Based Bioeconomy

We show the way with bio-based innovations  
from the forest to a fossil free sustainable  
society.





Make more of our long-fiber raw material.

Increase the value added from side streams.

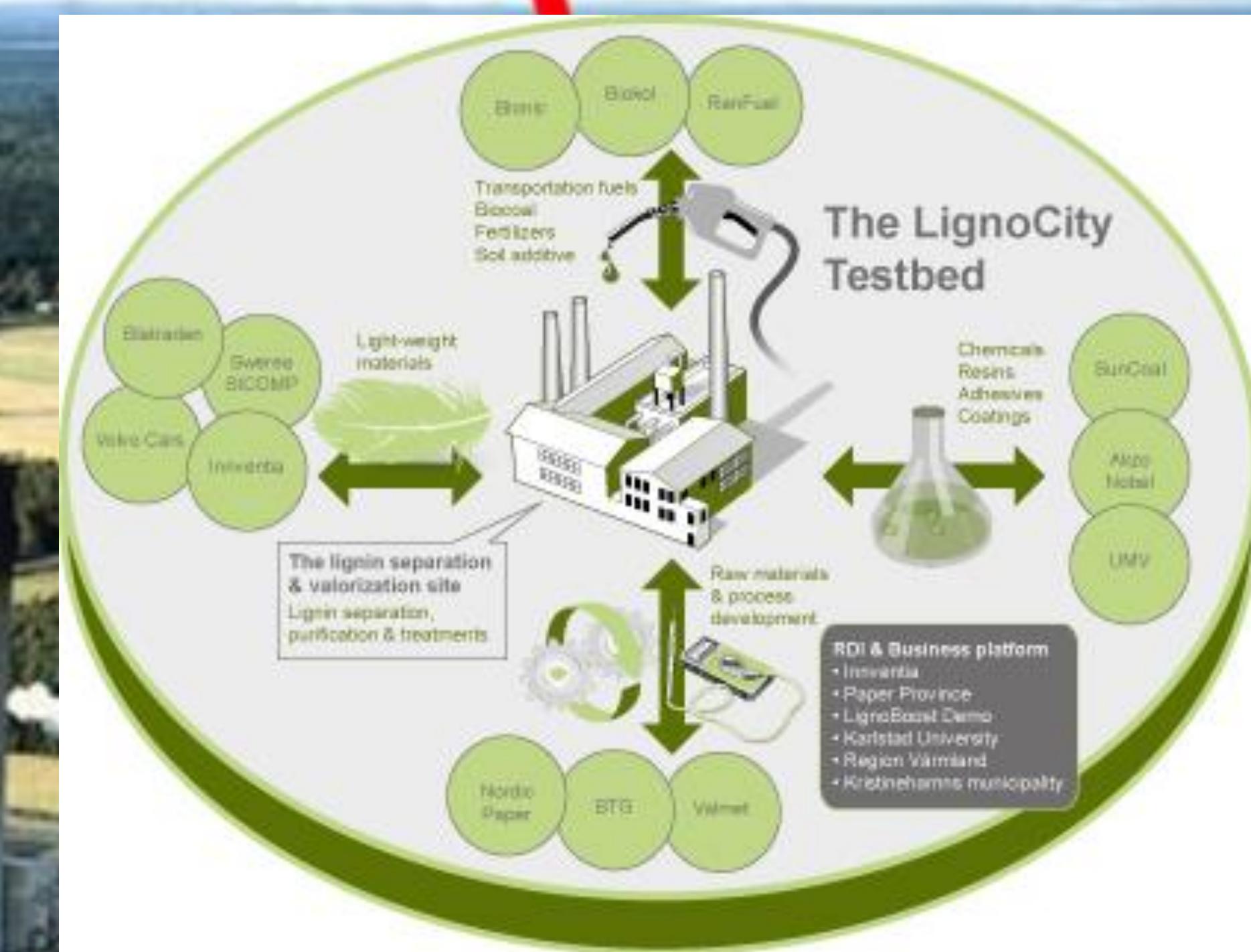




# Nordic Paper Bäckhammars bruk



# LignoBoost AB F&U-infrastruktur



# Region Värmland

– The Nordic Region, which  
prioritizes forest based bioeconomy  
highest

- Funding
- Policy, lobbying
- Team Bioeconomy – managers, EU Bussels office
- National and european networks
- Projects
- Communication



# bioeconomy region

Hedmark

Oppland

Inre  
Skandinavien

Region  
Dalarna

Akershus

Region  
Värmland

Østfold





**Smart specialization in bio- and circular economy in the Baltic Sea region through enhancing cross-sectoral business-research partnerships and innovation ecosystem management.**

<http://www.bsr-stars.eu>



# Forest industry research at Karlstad Universitet



KARLSTADS UNIVERSITET

**Pro2BE**

**Research on Processes and Products  
for a Forest Based Circular Bioeconomy**



AKADEMIN FÖR  
SMART SPECIALISERING

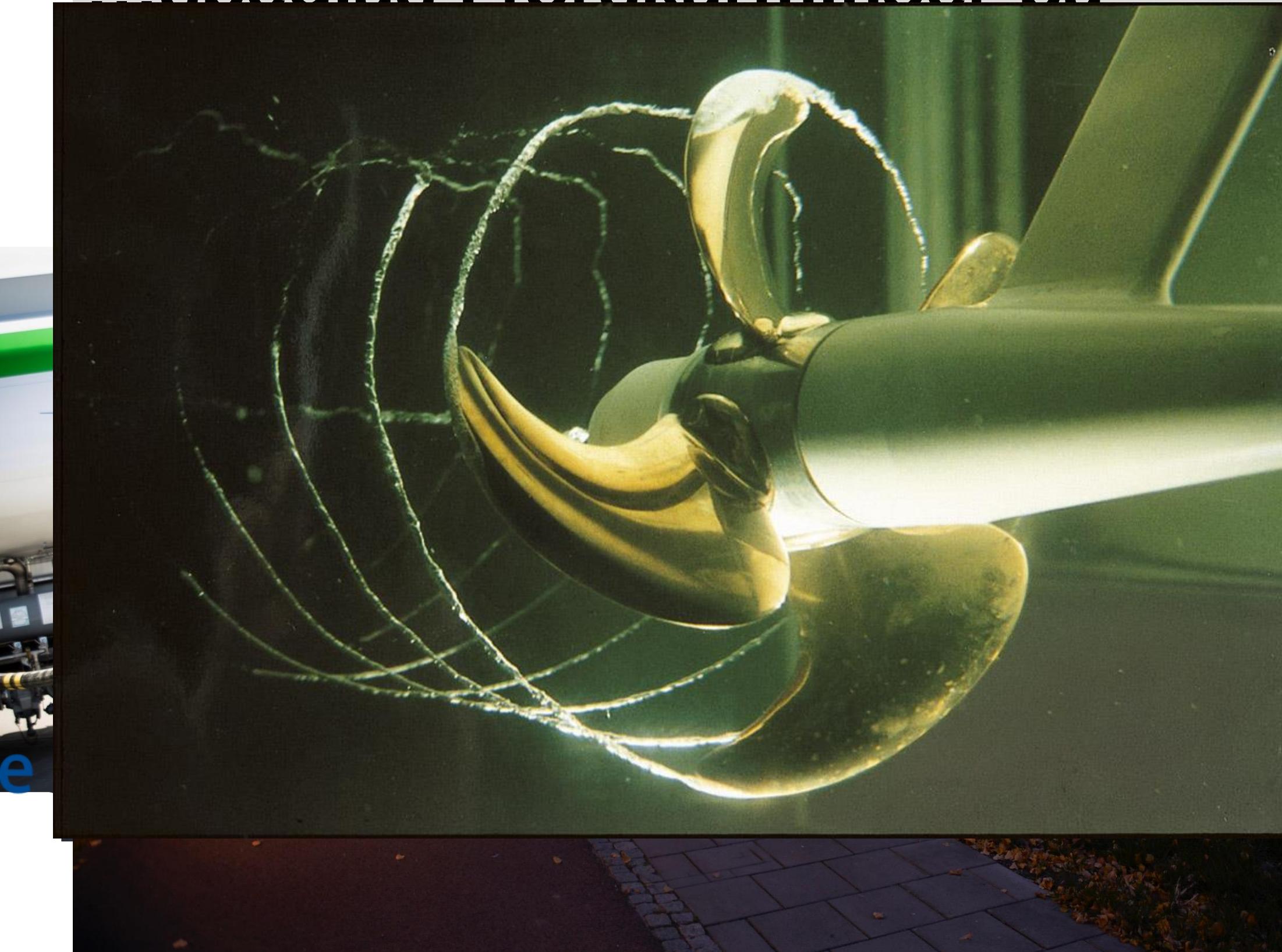


Region  
Värmland



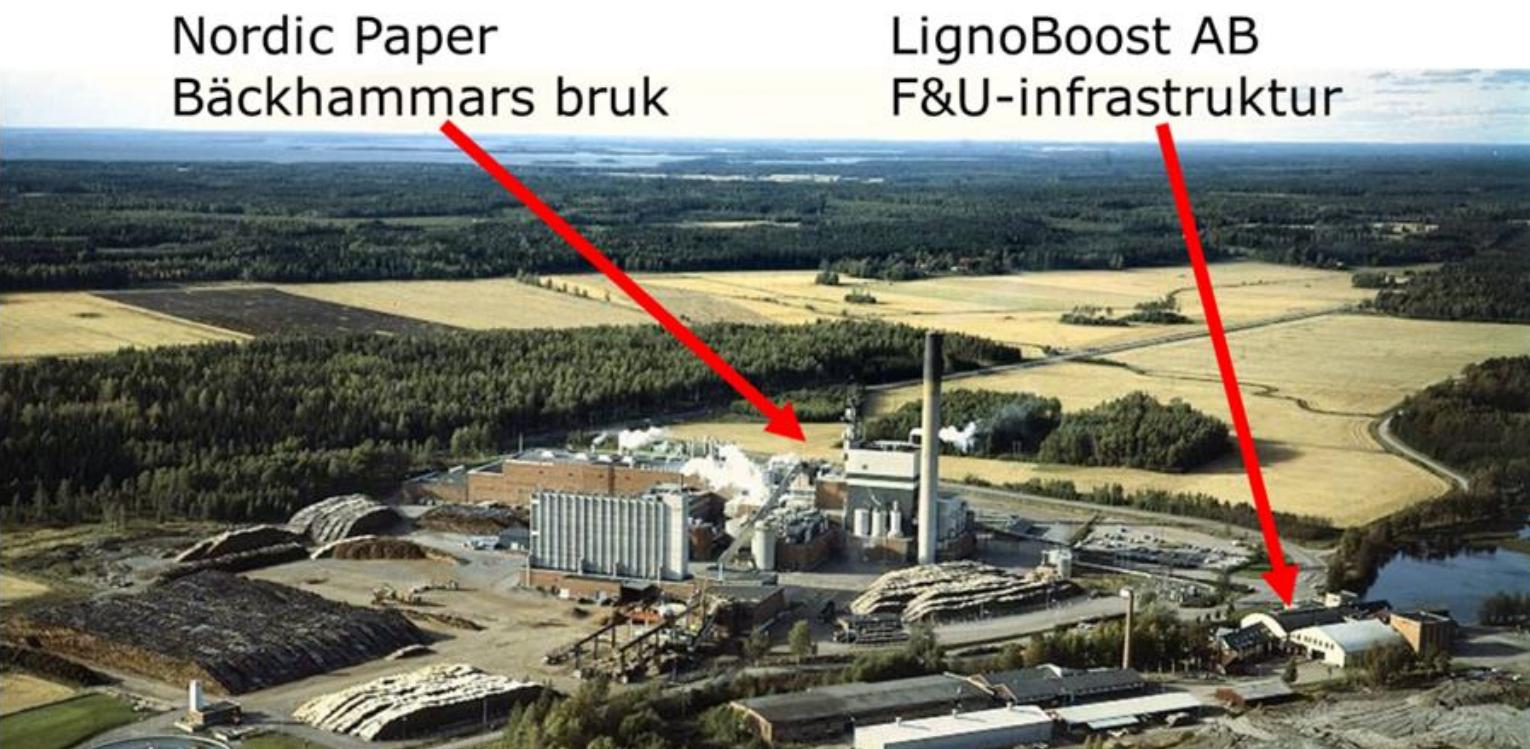
# Testbäddar i Värmland

spelas i forskarmiljöer på



The  
**LignoCity**  
Testbed

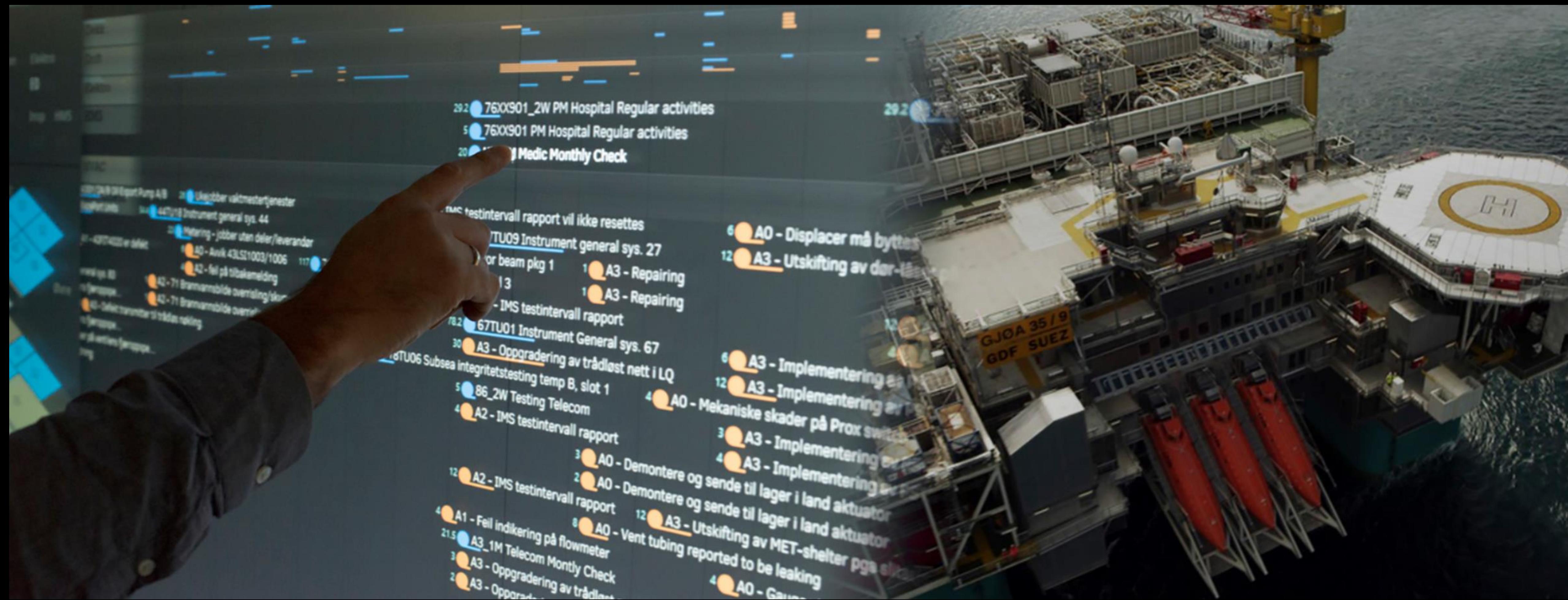
PART OF  
**RI.  
SE**





**modvion®**





# From five years to six months

- Big consulting firms helps startups in on the plant.
- Machinery produsers supports innovations.
- Norwegian industries positive when it comes to industry-relevant cases.
- The smaller industry groups take great responsibility.

MOOC - Massive  
Open Online Course

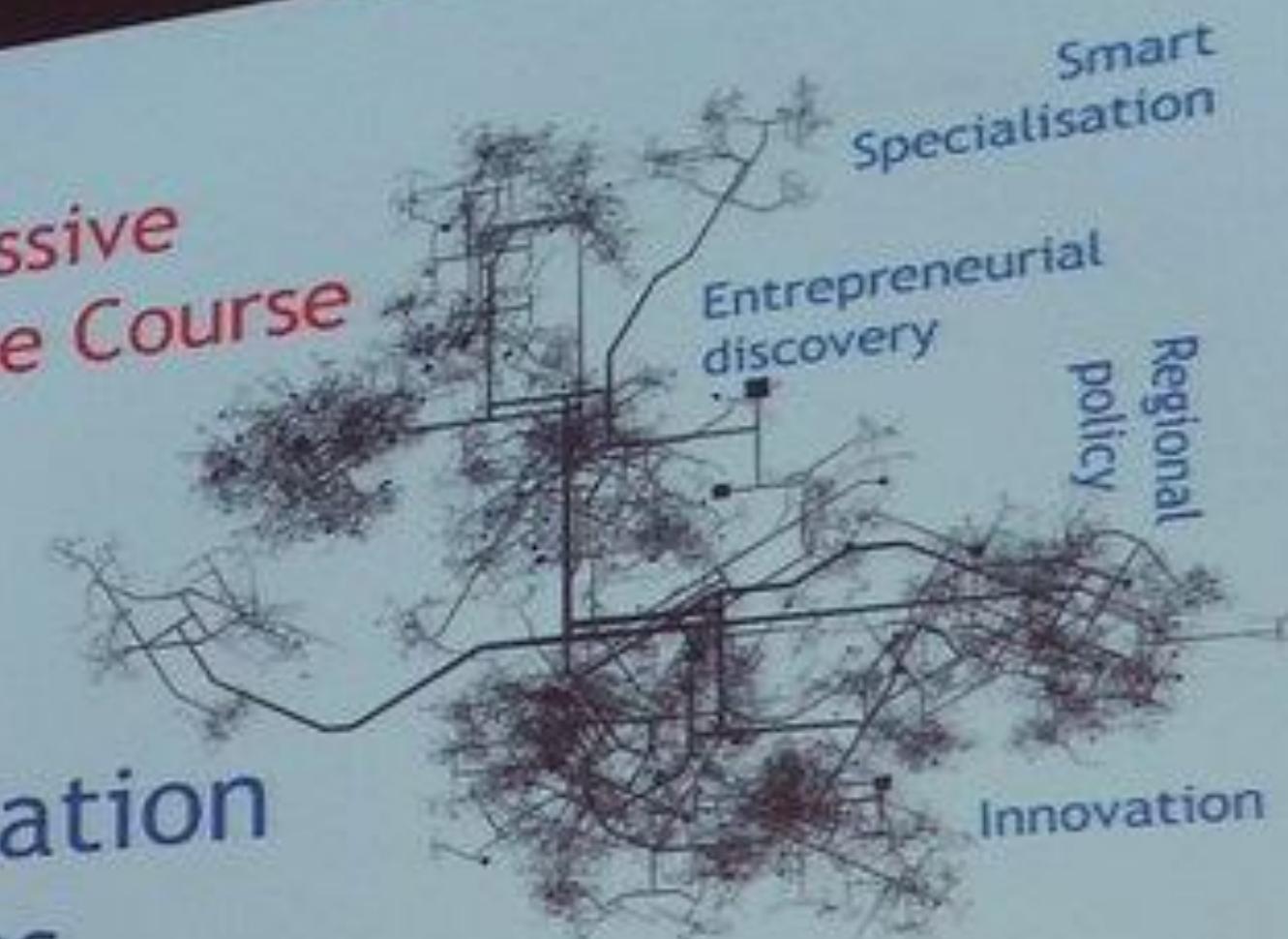
## Smart Specialisation Strategies



BAKBASEL  
economic research & consultancy



Stratégies de Spécialisation Intelligente



# Smart specialisering a' la Värmland

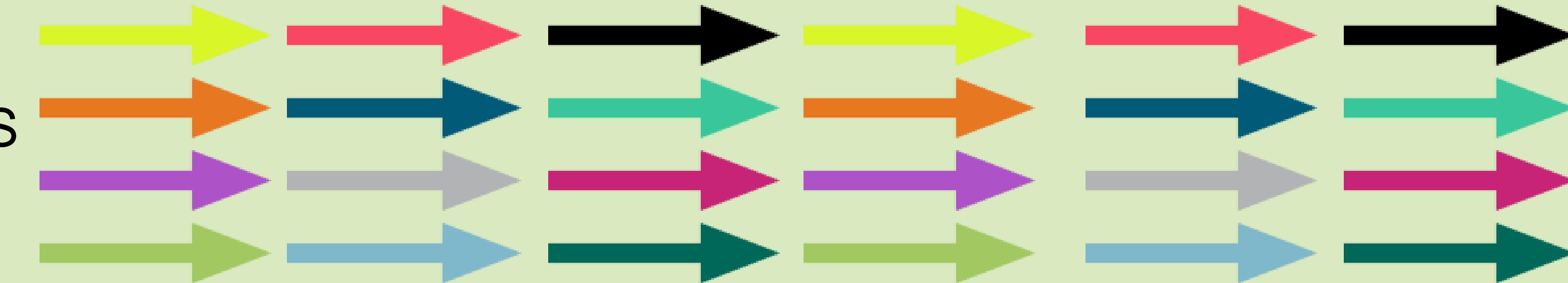
Smart ways to organise and develop existing regional assets in order to create value for users and society.

- Specializations is both about what we are good at, and what we're good for.
- Always assume a customer and user perspective in the innovation process.
- Gender Mainstreaming.
- Clusters play a central role in the entrepreneurial discovery process.
- The Academy for smart specialisation



## THREE SUCCESS FACTORS FOR SMART SPECIALISATION IN EU REGIONS

CRITICAL MASS



TRANSITION

2015

2020

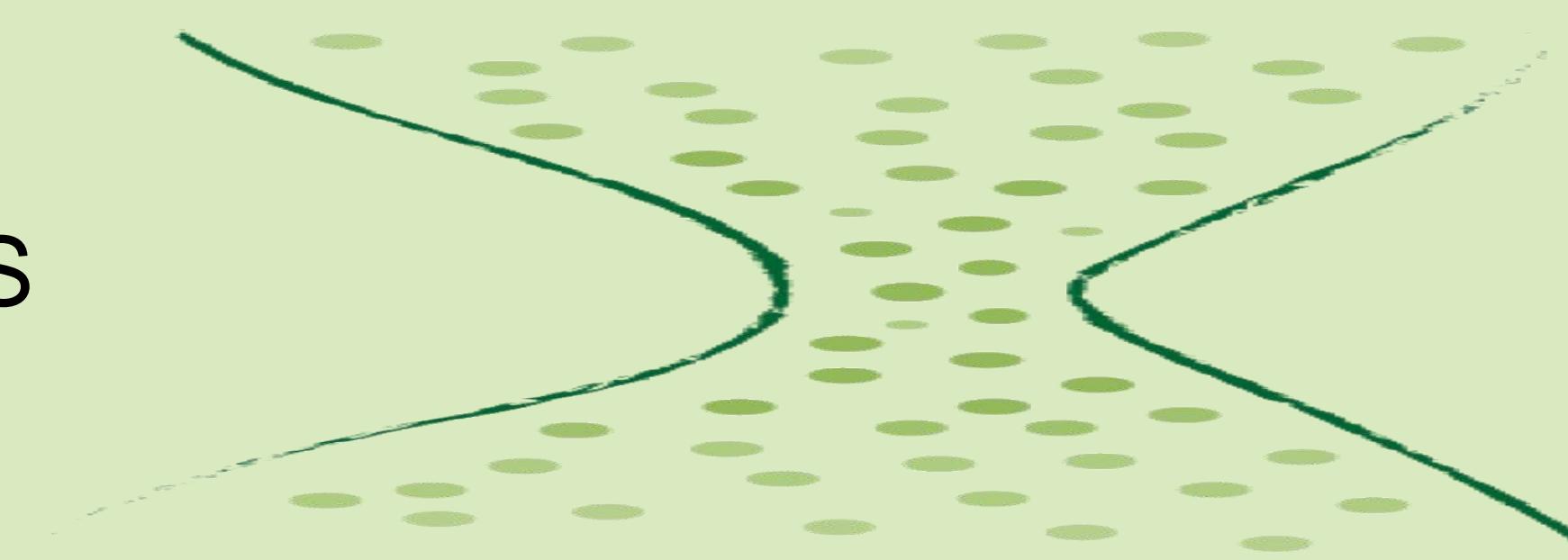
2025

2030

2035

2040

NATIONS



---

# **MAINSTREAM SMART SPECIALISATION**



# Pilot Industrial Transition Regions



EUROPEISKA  
UNIONEN  
Europeiska  
regionala  
utvecklingsfonden



REGION DAL<sup>RNA</sup>

# Pilotregioner

## Omgång 1

- Norra Mellansverige
- Piedmonte (ITA)
- Sachsen (TYS)
- Haute de France (FRA)
- Wallonien (BEL)

## Omgång 2

- Cantabria (SPA)
- Center-Val de la Loire (FRA)
- Grande Estes de France (FRA)
- East North of Finland, (FIN)
- Greater Manchester (UK)
- Slovenien
- Litauen