**Smart specialisation in Estonia**

**Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications (MKM)**

**Ministry of Education and Research (HTM)**

First, MKM ordered a quantitative analysis of Estonian economic structure from Uni. Tartu researchers. Next, the two ministries asked Estonian Development Fund to analyse the economic activities in the country and propose fields for smart specialisation (ICT horizontally, health technologies and services, more effective use of resources)

**Estonian Development Fund (EDF)**

Qualitative analyses done by the Fund were used as an input for the following strategies. In addition, a limited number of events was organized for stakeholder engagement.

**Other partners responsible for the implementation:**

* Archimedes Foundation, Enterprise Estonia, Estonian Research Council, Estonian Defence Forces, ELNET, Environment Agency; Estonian Academy of Sciences, Kredex, Other ministries.

**Other partners responsible for the implementation:**

* Enterprise Estonia, KredEx, Environmental Investment Centre, Other ministries.

**Estonian Entrepreneurship Growth Strategy 2014-2020**

* Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications as the one responsible for the implementation
* Estimated cost: 382 350 000€, funded by EU structural funds and state budget

**Estonian Research and Development and Innovation Strategy 2014-2020**

* Ministry of Education and Research as the one responsible for the implementation
* Estimated cost: 1 353 215 525€, funded by EU structural funds and state budget

**Funding instruments**

Most of the funding instruments are from the previous funding period: competence centers, centers of excellence, mobility programs etc. This is because of the dependency of EU structural funds. In addition, academia as a stakeholder is much better organized compared to the private sector. Entrepreneurs are included but as evaluators of different project proposals. The only new instrument is the funding of applied research projects in the fields of smart specialization. In other instruments smart specialisation is used as an evaluation criteria which gives more points.

**Tallinn Enterprise and Innovation strategy 2014-2018**

* Is largely based on the two national strategies;
* The chosen fields of smart specialisation are health technologies, mechatronics, environmental technologies, ICT, creative industries, tourism, transport and logistics, health services, financial services.
* Municipalities in Estonia are not responsible for supporting enterprises – Tallinn City and its activities as a special case in Estonia because it is the largest municipality with 1/3 of the country’s population (450 000) and generates over half of the total GDP (53.3% in 2016).
* The implementation of the strategy is funded by city budget and by different foundations where the city is one of the partners.
* The city has limited possibilities to support entrepreneurial discovery process because of the two-level governance in the country with strong central government. It is the central government who is responsible for economic and science policy, taxes etc. Therefore we can say that although the City of Tallinn has chosen different fields of smart spec. and support entrepreneurship through mentoring, incubation, development of industrial parks, development of science park Tehnopol, in reality the city has almost limited possibility and capacity to implement field-specific policies. However, at the same time the city is much closer to everyday life, e.g needs of the people, closer contacts with local companies etc.