

Uppsala County Council
welcomes
the South-west Finland delegation
to Uppsala County
- 10-11 October 2023 -

Visitors program



Uppsala
Konstmus
Fredens

South-west Finland delegation

Participants:

Regional Council of SW Finland (3 colleagues)

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Aim of the visit:

To intensify Finnish cooperation with Sweden, especially within the county of Uppsala. Our regions are very similar concerning the same size and unifying themes of expertise which can be found. In particular, the current geopolitical and economic situation challenges us to establish new, closer cooperation in the Baltic Sea region.

Main themes of the visit:

- Best practices from Uppsala County
- Perceived difficulties and challenges
- The role of collaboration within organisational eco-systems in meeting common needs

Where discussion during the visit unearths common ground, opportunities for future initiatives will be investigated.

Program overview:

Tuesday 10 October

08:30	<i>Coffee and refreshments</i>	
09:00 – 10:00	Welcome	
10:00 – 12:00	Eco-system for innovation and business growth	
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:00 – 14:30	Competence supply	
14:30-16:30	Transitioning to green mobility Fossil fuel free transportation Challenges for public transport	<i>Off-site visit (15:15-16:45)</i> Innovation in production of biological drugs <i>Testa Center, Björkgatan 30</i>
19:00	<i>Dinner</i>	

Wednesday 11 October

08:30	<i>Coffee and refreshments</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Energy and climate challenges	
09:30 – 11:30	Transitioning to a green society Quad-helix innovation Strategic infrastructure	<i>Off-site visit (10:10-11:20)</i> Green start-ups <i>Green Innovation Park, Ulls väg 29C</i>
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:00 – 14:00	Wrap-up	
14:00	<i>Departure</i>	

PROGRAM - Tuesday 10 October

Coffee and refreshments will be available at Uppsala County Council, Storgatan 27 from 8:30

9:00 – 10:00 Welcome to Uppsala County and Uppsala County Council

Askholmen, Regionens Hus, Uppsala County Council, Storgatan 27

Tobias Arvidsson, Director for regional development, Uppsala County Council

Andy Metcalfe, International liaison, Uppsala County Council

The opening session will set the stage for the coming days together. We will provide an overview of our organisation and mandate, the county's operations within the field of regional development and answer outstanding questions concerning the program 14-15 June.

The South-west Finland region is invited to provide a brief overview of South-west Finland and identify key challenges to be discussed during the coming programme.

10:00 – 12:00 Eco-system for innovation and business growth

Askholmen, Regionens Hus, Uppsala County Council, Storgatan 27

Toni Jonsson, Development officer, Uppsala County Council

Erik Asplund, Business strategist, Uppsala County Council

Bengt-Åke Ljudén, CEO, ALMI Business Partner

Mikolaj Norek, International liaison, STUNS

Uppsala County has worked consistently for the last 20 years to secure a defined and united business development system for the companies and innovators of the county. This session will provide insight into and What's and Why's of coordinating and financing the system, define how we drive our smart specialisation and business development agenda and share experiences from over 35 years of quadruple-helix innovation in Uppsala County. We will showcase both our agendas and challenges for identifying and meeting key questions of the future.

Key words: System coordination, Smart Specialisation, Partnerships for Regional Innovation and Regional Innovation Valleys, Business growth and export, Business incubation, Start-up and Scale-Up, Science Park development.

The Regional Council of South-west Finland is invited to give a general presentation of the region and outstanding features.

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch a table is reserved at Picnic på Radisson Blue.

13:00 – 14:30 Competence supply

Askholmen, Uppsala County Council, Storgatan 27

Kim Scharafinski, Development officer, Region Uppsala
Erik Allard, Project Manager, STUNS Life Science

Europe is facing enormous challenges as we seek to equip school leavers and professionals alike for future competence challenges. This session will discuss how our counties are tackling the increased demands for flexibility and innovation placed on companies, intermediaries and educational institutions as they face up to the progression of digitalisation, green transition and social integration in society. How do we transition from Life-long learning to Accelerated Leap-Learning? How do we retain, maintain and attract a talented and skilled labour force?

Keywords: Vision for the future, branch colleges, validation, combi-programs, collaboration with labour market initiatives, skill attraction, balancing skill supply and demand

The South-west Finland region is invited to provide input into this discussion from similar challenges faced in Finland.

Coffee will be available from 14:00, before departing for the study visits

14:30 – 16:30 Transitioning to green mobility

Askholmen, Uppsala County Council, Storgatan 27

The shift from fossil fuels within transport systems

Martin Ahrne, Senior Advisor, BioDrivÖst
Björn Isaksson, Senior Analyst, BioDrivÖst

EUs clear agenda for a fossil free Europe provides challenges and incentives for the necessary but complex transition to renewable fuels across society. This session will present some of the key innovations and system solutions which Uppsala County is currently delivering in pursuit of these goals and how success is being secured through quadruple helix cooperation.

Keywords: Biogas, electricity, hydrogen, synergies, incremental and radical transition, logistics, from parallel linear to integrated circular energy systems

The challenges facing public transport

Stefan Adolfsson, Manager for unit for public transport and societal development, Uppsala County Council

In an increasingly pressured working day, expectations on public transport are rising. This session will present the challenges that public transportation is facing in being environmentally friendly, digitally accessible, industrially efficient, safe in all aspects and on-time for all passengers!

Keywords: Public transport systems of the future, robust and resilient, sustainable, electric

The South-west Finland region is invited to provide input into the discussion from similar challenges faced in Finland.

Finnish participants: **Petteri Partanen, Jenni Suominen, Paavo Kosonen, Johanna Krappe, Nida Jafri, Annika Holmbom**

Parallel off-site visit

15:15-16:45 Innovation in production of biological drugs – Testa Center

At Testa Center, Björkgatan 30

Jesper Hedberg, CEO Testa Centre, Cytiva

Jenny Barnes, Project Leader, Region Uppsala Innovation, Uppsala County Council

Our Life Science collaboration seeks to support growth and competitiveness across the county's nationally acclaimed life science sector. This session, based as a study visit, will look at our close collaboration with industry, academia, the healthcare sector and society as we identify barriers to business growth and provide solutions to exploit and overcome foreseen obstacles. The session will take place at Testa Center, a public-private cooperation with the Swedish government, which aims to secure the life science industry's growth and manufacturing capabilities through the provision of an open testbed for biological production.

Keywords: Cluster and business development, university collaboration, finance, health care system Interaction

The South-west Finland region is invited to provide a similar overview of the Life Science innovation and business eco-systems in Southwest Finland and identify key challenges for discussion.

Finnish participants: [Salla-Maria Lauttamäki](#), [Soile Haverinen](#), [Minna Storm](#), [Juhani Soini](#), [Elina Kontio](#), [Tero Piispanen](#), [Mats Lindfelt](#)

Please note: All participants visiting Testa Center must provide a valid identification card or passport to be allowed access to the site

19:00 **Dinner** a table is reserved for 19:00 at The Station House, Paris

PROGRAM - Wednesday 11 October

Coffee and refreshments will be available at *Uppsala County Council, Storgatan 27* from 8:30 *Fagerviken, Region Uppsala, Storgatan 27*

9:00 – 9:30 Energy and climate challenges

Anneberg, Uppsala County Council, Storgatan 27

Mikael Åhlman, Development officer, Uppsala County Council

This brief introductory session will outline the challenges and strategies in Uppsala county as we transition into a low carbon society. We will frame the coming two sessions and provide a background of mandates, development platforms and on-going cooperation across the county.

Coffee will be available from 10:15

9:30 – 11:30 Transitioning to a green society

Anneberg, Uppsala County Council, Storgatan 27

Quad-helix innovation

Caroline Beck-Friis, Project manager, STUNS Energy

Martin Wetterstedt, Project manager, STUNS Energy

EUs Green Deal provides a clear vision for Europe's future. This session will provide an insight into some of the very concrete work the county is engaged in to live up to this agenda. For nearly 10 years, in close collaboration between academia/students, the public sector, innovators, small businesses and community action, the county has delivered need-driven innovation, open testbed environments and talent generation initiatives to meet societal needs. Our focus now is circular energy flows in Viable Cities.

Keywords: Need-driven innovation, testbeds för innovative businesses, Viable Cities, Quad-helix transition, university collaboration, circular flows, talent generation for green transition, photovoltaics

Strategic infrastructure and business development

Mikael Åhlman, Development officer, Uppsala County Council

The population of Uppsala County has consistently grown over recent years as the question of energy has moved to become a central issue for European integration. This session will look at how the county, over the past 6 years, has vigorously worked to meet the challenges regarding new demands for societal technospheric infrastructures in areas such as energy grid capacity, smart-water-energy-waste steering and energy balances to guarantee the stable and consistent energy mix we need to confidently meet growing societal needs and development in the future.

Keywords: energy grid capacity, smart-energy steering, circular chemistry, energy synergies and balance, multi-level cooperation, behaviour change

The South-west Finland region is invited to provide a similar overview of key energy innovation initiatives and challenges from the region for discussion.

Finnish participants: Jenni Suominen, Soile Haverinen, Annika Holmbom, Johanna Krappe, Mats Lindfelt

Parallel off-site visit

10:10-11:20 Green start-ups

at Green Innovation Park, Ulls väg 29C

Henrik Cyrén, Senior Innovation leader, Green Innovation Park

Mats Ljunggren, Evolarab

Sarosh Ramachandra, CEO Eko Grönovation

The European Green Deal aims to make the European Union the world's first “climate-neutral bloc” by 2050. To delivery this transition Europe needs to combine the knowledge of academic learning with the drive of business entrepreneurs. This study visit will share how Uppsala county’s Green Innovation Park works to provide an environment where sustainable solutions are created from research at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and will give insight into two innovative companies with close ties to the park.

Key words: Green business development, university collaboration, finance, green transition, business growth, sustainability, green collaboration structures

Finnish participants: [Salla-Maria Lauttamäki](#), [Petteri Partanen](#), [Paavo Kosonen](#), [Minna Storm](#), [Nida Jafri](#), [Juhani Soini](#)

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch a table is reserved at Uppsala Concert Hall & Conference Centre

13:00 – 14:00 Wrap-up

Anneberg, Uppsala County Council, Storgatan 27

Tobias Arvidsson, Director for regional development, Uppsala County Council

This session will provide time for South-west Finland-colleagues to summarise and evaluate the study visit. Specific detail will be placed on on-going agreements already in place and plans for possible collaboration in the future.

Contacts during your visit:

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Welcome to Uppsala!

Tobias Arvidsson

Tobias Arvidsson
Director of Regional Development
Uppsala County Council