

## Content

---

The central idea of this workshop is to bring together different ideas on the regional visions, means and instruments of regional development and innovation systems in the context of the debate on "regions of knowledge". The regional analyses of each region will be the starting point of discussion in the workshop. The aim of the workshop is first to give a picture of regional differences and similarities and then to enlarge the scope to the level of the European Union Regions of Knowledge.

Some of the key questions of the workshop (and the parallel working groups within the expert seminar) are:

- What can different regions learn from each other?
- What are the bottlenecks of regional development and the regional innovation system?
- What are the crucial clusters to develop in the future?
- How can regional networks be fostered?
- Which visions of future "regions of knowledge" exist?
- How can a development towards "regions of knowledge" be fostered?

This expert workshop in Brussels, will deal with the future of regions of knowledge, innovation systems and regional development. At this workshop, we will gather people who represent both private and public sector and who recognize the importance of developing the regional innovation system from the point of view of the future. The workshop aims at creating new ideas for regional as well as European action in this field, at creating a productive discussion between experts from different regions in Europe with different histories, experiences as well as different systems of regional development. Finally, the workshop is meant to produce new perspectives for and insights into European as well as regional policy making that can support a positive, future-oriented development of regions of knowledge.

## Contact Information

---

Project Coordination and Region Southwest-Finland:

Dr. **Juha Kaskinen**, Finland Futures Academy, Finland Futures Research Centre, Turku School of Economics and Business Administration, Turku, Finland  
E-mail: [juha.kaskinen@tukkk.fi](mailto:juha.kaskinen@tukkk.fi); Internet: <http://www.tukkk.fi/tutu/tva>

Region Wallonia, Belgium

**Pascale Van Doren**, Institut Jules-Destree, Namur, Wallonia (Belgium)  
E-mail: [vandoren.pascale@destree.org](mailto:vandoren.pascale@destree.org), Internet: <http://www.destree.org/>

Regierungsbezirk Düsseldorf, Germany (Duesseldorf Region)

**Cornelia Daheim**, Z\_punkt GmbH, The Foresight Company, Essen, Germany  
E-mail: [daheim@z-punkt.de](mailto:daheim@z-punkt.de); Internet: <http://www.z-punkt.de/>



---

## Implications of Knowledge Society in European Regions

## Developing the Regional Innovation System

### Expert Workshop in the Context of the SPIDER-Project

27 January 2005, Brussels

---



## SPIDER

### A project to enhance regional competitiveness and innovation

---

The SPIDER-project is a regional development project funded by the European Union's 'Regions of Knowledge Pilot Action' –program. It aims at improving the regional innovation systems and developing them further with help of the futures research and foresight methods. Three regions take part in SPIDER: Southwest Finland, Duesseldorf Region from Germany and Wallonia Region from Belgium. The project has started in January 2004, will last two years and it will end in January 2006.

### The course of SPIDER-project

The regional action groups (groups of central actors from the regions involved in this project) have discussed the development of regional innovation systems in their respective regions in November and December 2004. A short report of the status and future expectations of the regions is prepared by applying statistical and existing foresight data as well as the results of the group discussions. The aim is to outline the regional vision of the innovation system and a possible future development to a "region of knowledge". These results will be the basis of the workshop. During the first half of 2005, the regional visions will be precised and action recommendations will be formulated. In this phase, the Delphi-method is applied. We will gather comments that participants can revise, assess and complement during spring. In the end of 2005, we will organize an extended workshop. In this workshop the results of the project are discussed on the European Union level.

### Why take part in the SPIDER-project expert seminar?

The development of regional innovation systems requires a creation of a many-sided network. We believe that new innovations are born at the interface of different and even contradictive views. If we want to create visions and action recommendations, this kind of "creative tension" is needed in order to produce new insights, visions and ways of acting. By being part of this joint effort, you will get new ideas and perspectives to support your own actions regardless of your field of activities, and new information on the state of your own and other regions and their innovation activities, and you can exchange experiences and strategies with experts from other regions. In addition, the expert seminar gives you an opportunity to influence regional development of the European Union and you can create new supporting networks for your own activities on the regional and European level.

## Developing the Regional Innovation System The program of the expert seminar

---

### Programme

#### 10.00 Opening the workshop

---

- **Jean-Marie Rousseau** (European Commission):  
Introduction to the framework of the "Regions of Knowledge Pilot Action"  
Regional strategies and the construction of the regional advantage: A perspective on knowledge and human and social issues (preliminary title)

#### 10.30 The SPIDER-Project: Visions from the Regions

---

- **Juha Kaskinen**: Introduction of the SPIDER-Project and a view of Southwest Finland in 2020: Beyond Information Society
- **Karlheinz Steinmüller / Cornelia Daheim** (Z\_punkt The Foresight Company, Germany): Duesseldorf Region in 2020: The Permanence of Change
- **Philippe Destatte and Pascale Van Doren** (Institut Jules-Destrée, Wallonia, Belgium): Wallonia in 2020: Future Issues, Future Citizens
- Florence Hennart, Regional Ministry of Economy, Wallonia : Implementation of Lisbonne strategy in Wallonia : report on the competitive position of Wallonia

#### 12.30 Parallel working groups and expert inputs

---

##### Experts inputs

- Dr. **Anette Braun**, Future Technologies Division of VDI TZ GmbH, Allemagne
- **Marc Halévy**, Fondation Noétique, Belgique
- **Jean-Marie Rousseau**, DG Recherche de la Commission européenne
- Prof. **Laura Sinisalo-Ojala**, TSEBA, Finlande

##### Working groups on topics such as:

- Regional development and regional innovation systems: bottlenecks, lessons learned and new perspectives
- Regional strategy building within knowledge regions
- Hybrid networks building as innovative support
- Beyond the network: new co-operational structures in knowledge economies
- Innovation in the broad sense: new definitions of innovation in the social and sustainable context

13.00-14.00      *Lunch*

#### 14.00-16.00      Parallel working groups continue

---

16.00              *Coffee break*

#### 16.30- 17.30      Results, Discussion and Conclusion

---

- Results of the working group sessions
- Final Discussion - Next steps
- Conclusion