



# **R&D and innovation in the EU Baltic Sea Strategy**

Sven-Gunnar Edlund  
Senior Advisor  
VINNOVA



## Outline

- Short about VINNOVA and it's role in the Swedish National Innovation system
- Short about the BSR strategy
- Prosperity, and Pio Area 7; to exploit the full potential of research and innovation in the BSR region
- Flagship; " Develop a Baltic Sea Region Programme for Innovation, Clusters and SME-Networks"



## **Knowledge Based Economy and Global Competitiveness**

- Innovation is the foundation of sustainable growth
- The economy is becoming more and more knowledge based and global
- R&D very important



# Governmental Funding Agencies

## **Research Council**

Science driven research

## **VINNOVA Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems**

Need-driven research and development

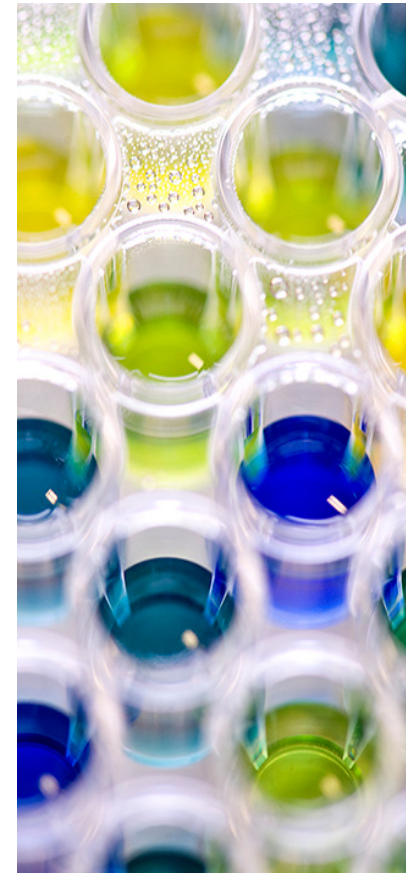
## **Swedish Agency for economic and regional growth**

## **ALMI**

## VINNOVA's mission and focus

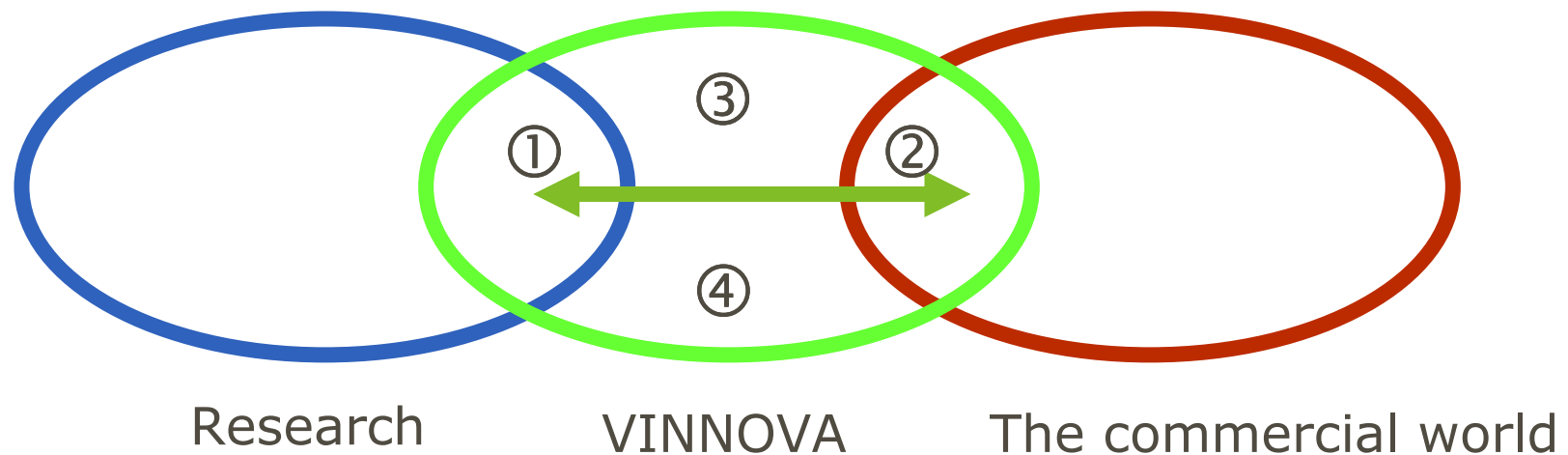
**Mission:** “Promote sustainable economic growth by financing needs-driven R&D and developing innovation systems”

**Focus:** Strengthening research cooperation between universities, research institutes, companies and other actors in the Swedish innovation system





## VINNOVA's mission – Sustainable growth by research and innovation



- ① Support the creation of new market inspired research results
- ② Support the creation of "bridge heads" on the market for research based innovations
- ③ Stimulate the creation of networks between academia - industry and public organisations
- ④ Support the adaptation of R&D - results for commercial exploitation



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## Background

- First time EU develops an internal EU strategy for a specific and limited territory within the union – a new working method to meet territorial challenges in a diverse European Union. Serve as best practice for other macro regions in the EU
- The work on the BSR strategy has received **high attention and high priority** by the Commission and top priority for the Swedish Chairmanship of EU. Follow-up during Polish EU Chairmanship 2011



# The EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

## Four overall objectives:

- To make the Baltic Sea region an environmentally CLEAN place
- To make the Baltic Sea region a **PROSPEROUS** place
- To make the Baltic Sea region an ACCESSIBLE and ATTRACTIVE place
- To make the Baltic Sea region a SAFE and SECURE place



# Prosperity

6. To remove hindrances to the internal market in the Baltic Sea Region including to improve cooperation in the customs and tax area
7. To exploit the full potential of the region in research and innovation
8. Implementing the Small Business Act: to promote entrepreneurship, strengthen SMEs and increase the efficient use of human resources
9. To reinforce sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries



## **7. Research and Innovation**

**To exploit the full potential of the region in research  
and innovation**

Coordinated by Sweden and Poland



# Flagship projects in Chap 7 Research & Innovation

		Lead Partner
1 Fast T	Innovation, Clusters & SME Networks	Sweden (VINNOVA) / Lithuania
2	Baltic Sea Fund for Innovation & Research	Nordic Council of Ministers
3	Services innovation	Lithuania/ Finland
4	Innovation in helth & Life sciences	Lithuania /Germany
5	Science Link for research infrasturcture	Sweden ( Swedish Research Council)
6 Fast T	Regional Foresight programme	Poland



- ***Strategic actions:***



***“Establish a common Baltic Sea Region innovation strategy” which will address the challenges***

- (a) reduce existing innovation barriers, including the harmonisation of environments for Foreign Direct Investment
- (b) facilitate transnational cooperation for the development and commercial exploitation of joint research projects;
- (c) utilise together the high level human capital in the region and promote the mobility of researchers;
- (d) jointly develop new and better innovation support instruments, including Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) support.



## ***Cooperative actions:***

***“Improve the exploitation of research through patents”  
by***

- a) fostering increased cooperation between national patent authorities in the Baltic Sea Region in providing innovation support facilities.
- b) “Sector specialization among the different authorities” in the Baltic Sea Region
- c) the ability to assist application to other Baltic Sea Region countries and to the European Patent Office (EPO)
- d) Support should be provided to SMEs, individual inventors



## Financing sources

- EU research & structural funding from existing EU programs
- National funding
- Regional funding
- Private funding



## **Funding**

- The commission will document all available programs to apply in. (55 billions Euro)
- Guidance will be given to responsible organisations and decision boards to give actions within the Strategy priority
- A funding group is established to advise Fast Track Flagships
- Follow up on funding and implementation



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# **BSR – a world class macro region**



**Economic growth and prosperity in the BSR macro region, by investing in transnational cooperation between research&innovation milieus, clusters, and SME-networks**

## **Challenges of the BSR region and all of it's countries**

- All countries and companies subject to global competition
- Services and products will be more and more knowledge intensive
- Critical mass and unique competence needed to be globally competitive
- Recognised brandnames to attract capital, people and companies



## **Together, the BSR region has a large potential**

- 110 million people in 10 countries
- Strong and dynamic research base
- Globally recognised, innovative companies, both small and large
- Potential to achieve strong innovation capabilities



## **A globally competitive and recognized region through:**

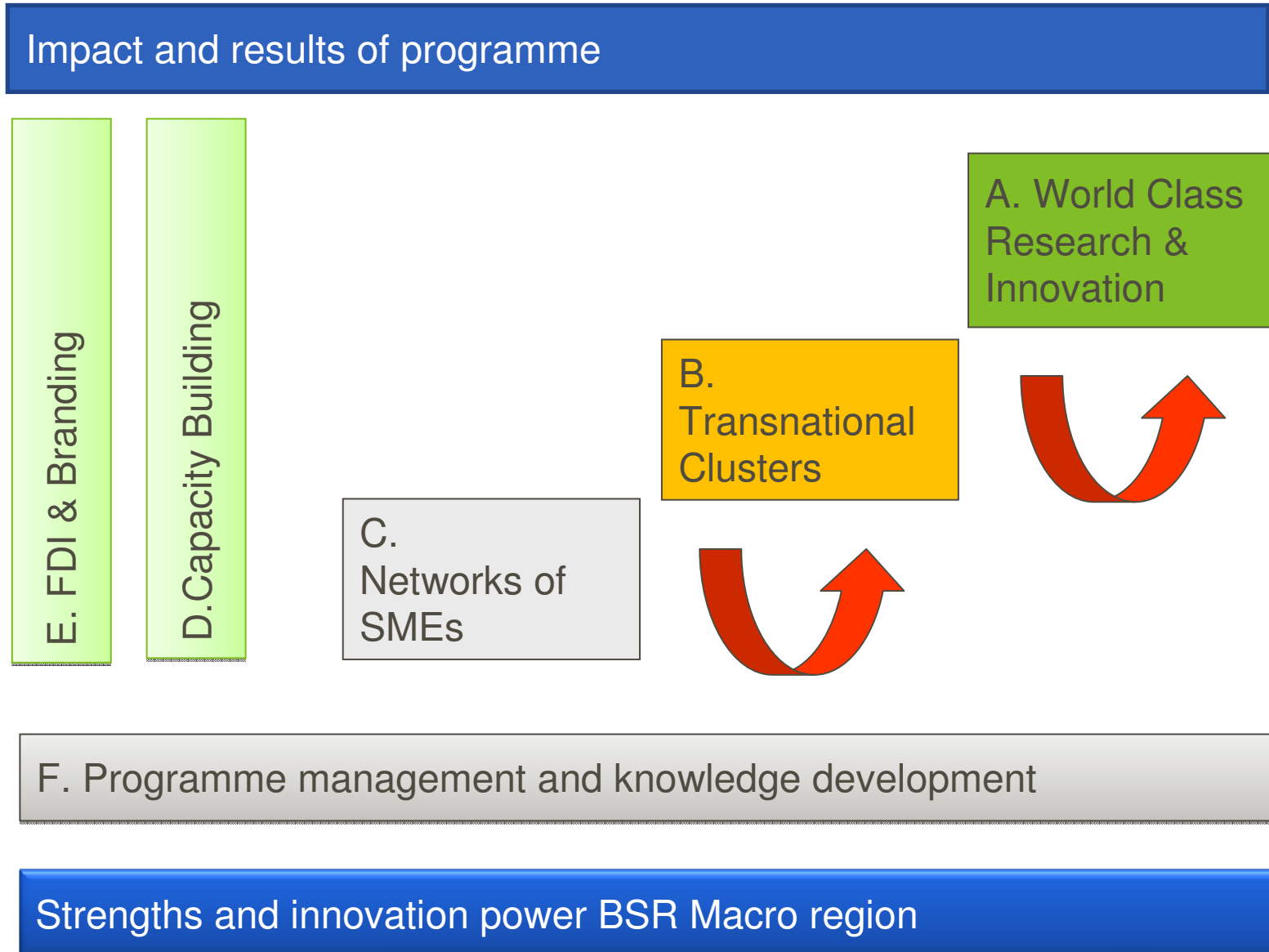
- Business cooperation between small, large and multinational companies
- Critical Mass in Research and Innovation
- Close linkages and interactions between strong milieus for research, innovation and product development
- Mobility of competent people



# **Program for transnational cooperation on Research & Innovation, Clusters and SME networks.**



## Programme components structures





## **Areas of Interest for future growth?**

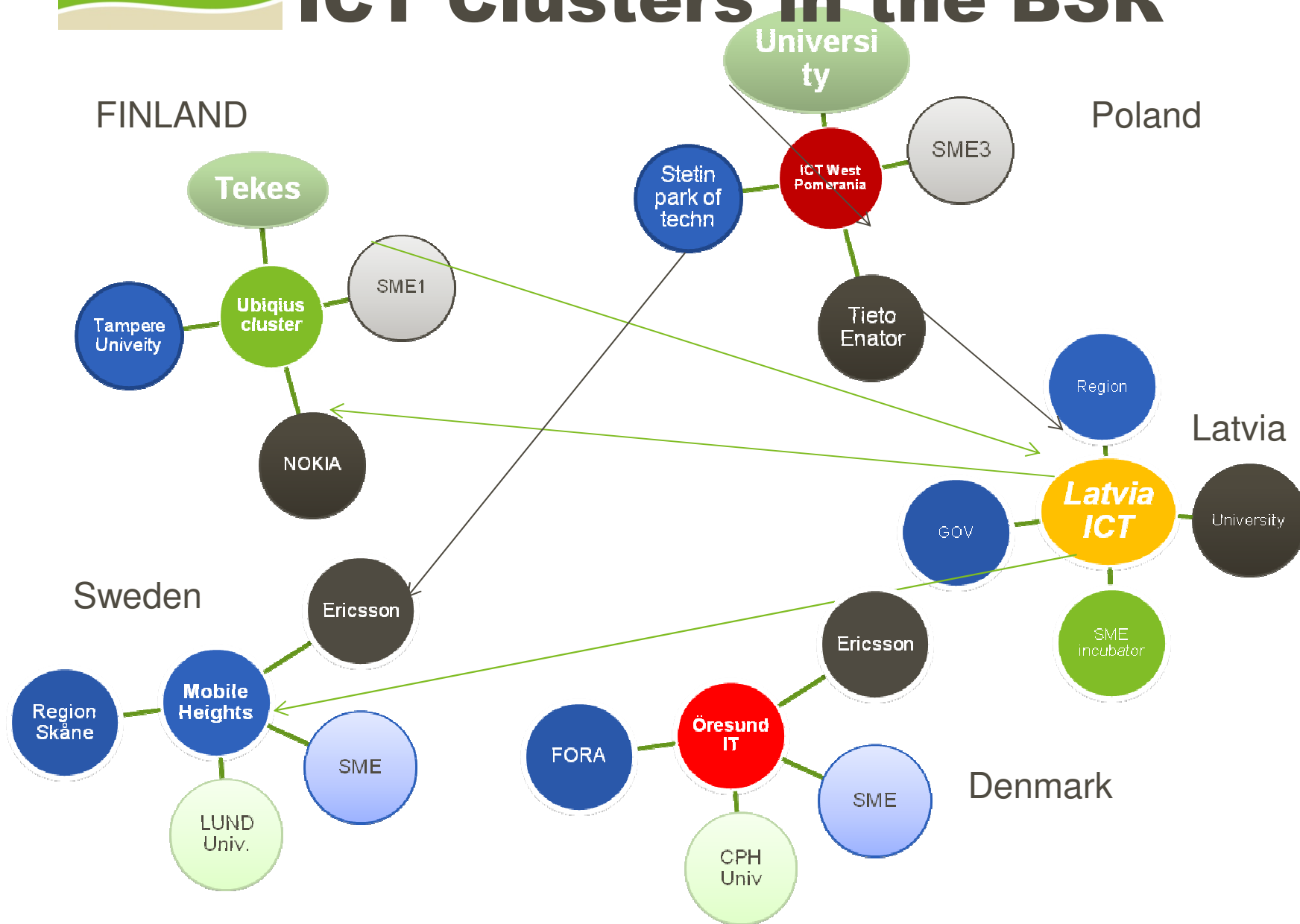
- Energy and Environmental Technologies
- Food Processing
- Health, elderly needs
- Information and Communication (ICT)
- Biotechnology
- Forestry based products
- **New cross border initiatives**



## **Current activities**

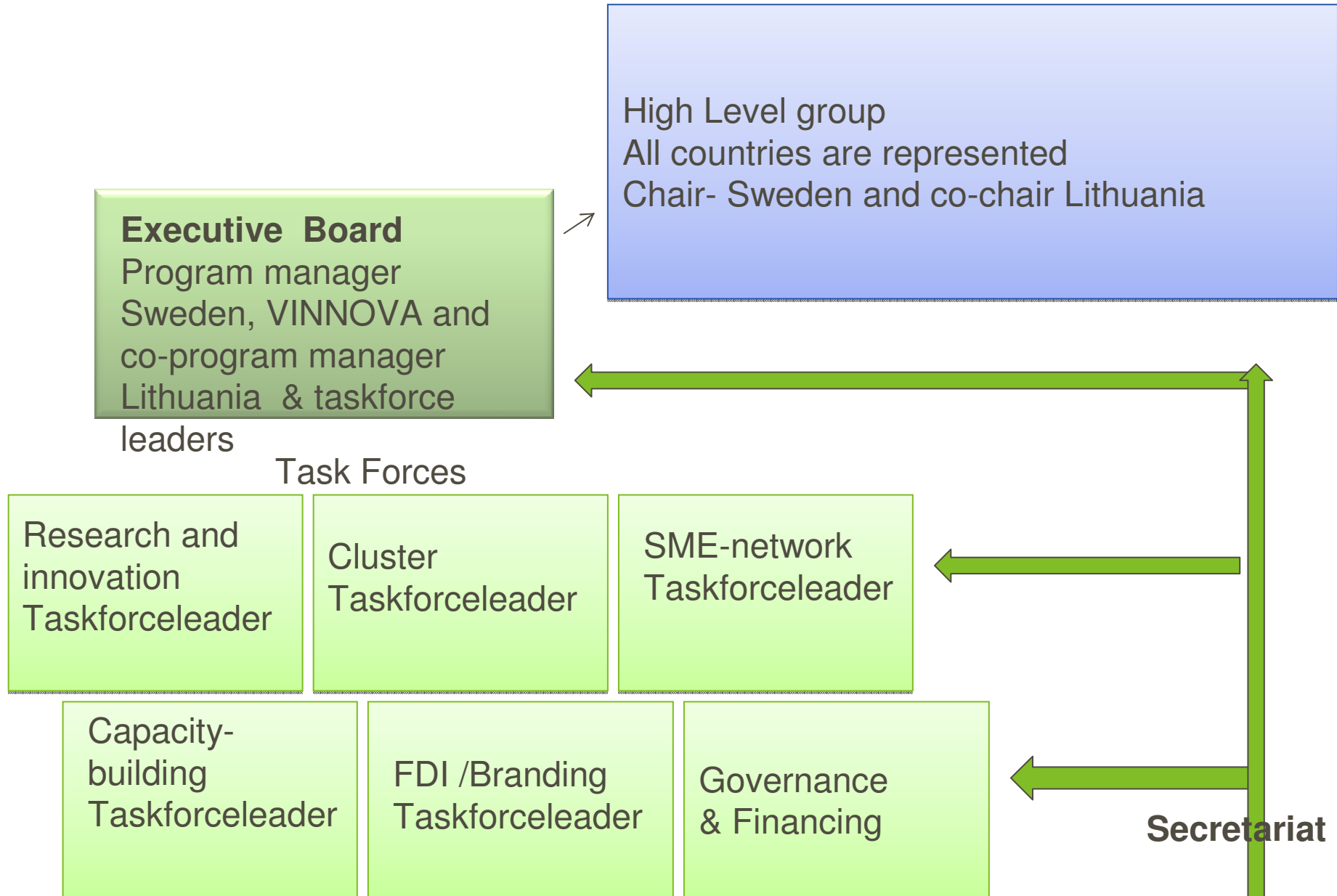
- BSR-InnoNet; 3 years used to create trust, networks and knowledge
- 4 pilotprojects – experiences now documented
- Design of the transnational flagship program has started

# ICT Clusters in the BSR





# Development Structure





## Expected results

- To exploit the full potential of the region in research and innovation
- At business level, to develop knowledge-intensive products and services to compete on the global market
- At policy level (countries, and particularly regions), to develop efficient innovation systems that offer entrepreneurial dynamism and intensive linkages between top-level knowledge institutions, private investors, incubators and related business services



## **VISION**

- The long-term vision is to establish the Baltic Sea Region (BSR) as a functioning macro region with an internationally competitive position in a number of strategically-prioritized areas. The BSR will be globally-recognized for its multi-disciplinary research and education, attractive business conditions, open and internationally-collaborative innovation environments, and high quality of life.