

# How smart specialisation strategy is translated through modern cluster work?

## Cases Lapland and Kanta-Häme Region, Finland



### Keynote speakers introduction to the regional Cases

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**Mona-Anitta Riihimäki**, Ph.D., Dean, School of Bioeconomy, HAMK University of Applied Sciences - The knowledge path to sustainable growth in the circular economy, LUO Next Step, Kanta Häme

Facilitator, Kristiina Jokelainen, Regional Council of Lapland

Picture Source: EIT Raw Materials

## Panel discussion

# With smart choices towards sustainable solutions – circular economy supporting the regional development and growth

Panel discussion is aiming to open the process how the systematic clustering/networking approach can help to develop strong regional value chains. A distinct distribution of tasks in cluster/network development work lays the ground for the growth and development of the expertise. The systematic entrepreneurial governance model at place supports bold choices, the courage to take a change, multidisciplinary co-operation and use of new technology solution. Both cases are very good examples of how smart specialisation strategy is translated through systematic collaboration work into concrete business and R&D activities that promote economic development in a regions. Clusters provide good breeding ground for the new entrepreneurship and emerging industries to grow.



## Panel discussion

# With smart choices towards sustainable solutions – circular economy supporting the regional development and growth

### Panellist

- Jyri Maunuksela, Natural Resources Institute Finland
- Harri Mattila, Häme University of Applied Science
- Seppo Saari, Senior Adviser, Lapland University of Applied Sciences
- Seppo Ahola, Arctic Adviser, Arctic Industry and Circular Economy Cluster, Digipolis Oy
- Päivi Ekdahl, Development director, Regional Council of Lapland
- Discussion topics are:
  - Why circular economy - Why do we talk about it?
  - What is the role of the clustering and different policy makers while developing regional specialisation on circular economy - How it has supported the business involvement?
  - Look for the future –What are the crucial factors to develop Circular economy - Opportunities and challenges?

