

**Invitation to the Arctic Innovation Camp and the Lapland Local Event,  
16-19 November 2016**

*Dear Colleagues, dear Friends,*

It is our pleasure to invite you to the **Arctic Innovation Camp in Finland** and to the **Lapland Local Event** of the European Week of Regions and Cities, two back-to-back events to be held on **16-19 November 2016**.

**On 16 November 2016 the Lapland Local Event** of the European Week of Regions and Cities will take place. The Local Event is organised by the Regional Councils of Lapland and North Karelia and the Arctic Smartness Excellence ERDF-project under the theme "Sustainable Innovation in Less Urban Areas in the North". Here good experiences on practical implementation of Smart Specialisation will be presented. The event will interact with the audience in an open discussion on the future of Northernmost Europe.

**On 17-19 November 2016 the Arctic Innovation Camp** will take place in **Finland** under the title "The Value of the Smart Specialisation Strategy –Beyond the Boundaries in the Northernmost Europe". The Arctic Innovation camp will gather approximatively 60-70 people from around Europe from a diversity of ages, disciplines, backgrounds and cultures to co-create and support the development of the entrepreneurial and civic spirit in Europe. The debates will be structured around the following core challenges:

- Developing the strategic partnership (Cluster Partnerships) for smart specialisation investments in the territorial basis. Two subgroups will be established with more detailed challenges. More information about the strategic partnership [http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/sites/default/files/news\\_attachment/call\\_for\\_the\\_expression\\_of\\_interest\\_escp\\_s3\\_may2016\\_final.pdf](http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/sites/default/files/news_attachment/call_for_the_expression_of_interest_escp_s3_may2016_final.pdf)
- Northernmost Rural communities – nurturing the 'truffles' for the entrepreneurial discovery
- Makings of a good Arctic Policy – being an active partner

It would be an honour if you could join us for the Local Event and the Arctic Innovation Camp. [Website](#) and registration for the event will be opened 10 October 2016. Save the date in your calendar and make sure you book your place early as the number of participants is limited.

For further information please contact: Ms Kristiina Jokelainen ([Kristiina.jokelainen@lapinliitto.fi](mailto:Kristiina.jokelainen@lapinliitto.fi)) or/and Mr Harri Malinen ([Harri.Malinen@ulapland.fi](mailto:Harri.Malinen@ulapland.fi)).

Yours sincerely,



Markku Markkula  
President  
European Committee of the Regions



Mika Riipi  
Governor  
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