

BSHR HealthPort

Baltic Sea Health Region – Business acceleration support and training bridging innovative SMEs and health care organisations to strengthen BSR health economy

Project partners

ScanBalt f.m.b.a.,
Denmark

Medcoast Scandinavia,
Sweden/Norway

North Denmark Region,
Denmark

Oulu Innovation Ltd.,
Finland

Entrepreneurship
Development Centre
for Biotechnology and
Medicine,
Estonia

BioCon Valley,
Germany

Turku Science Park,
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Background and major bottlenecks

EU health care sector spending ranges from 5-11% of regional GDP facing further increase due to demographic development and cost increase in drug & technology development. At the same time a paradigm shift occurs: health care is not only seen as a cost factor but also as a driver of economy and an important factor of employment. However health care is split into sectors which function separately: health care providers, enterprises, research institutions, regulatory and financing institutions.

BSHR HealthPort aims at bridging the existing cross-sectoral gaps by involving the regional key actors in the value chain of health care innovations. Specifically BSHR HealthPort addresses following key bottlenecks:

1. Insufficient commercial exploitation of ideas proposed by health care researchers and practitioners,
2. Procurement practices limiting access of innovative SMEs to the health care market,
3. Insufficient innovation competencies of and cultural differences between the target groups.

Key objectives to solve the problem addressed

1. Set up cross-sectoral innovation market ("HealthPort") involving all health care related sectors,
2. Promote SME business development and facilitate their access to the health care market by identifying cross-sectoral pilot cases and increasing SME access to financing,
3. Enhance innovation competencies of the involved actors with tailor-made cross-sectoral programmes,
4. Develop regional innovation agendas and align them towards a BSR wide "health economy strategy" to improve healthcare by reducing costs and enhancing regional economic development.

Partnership

The 9 BSHR HealthPort partners plus 15 associated organisations cover all health care related sectors and comprise expertise from triple helix organizations, public authorities, health care providers, industries, universities, financing institutions, as well as owners of health care providers. Their competence and experience allow effective and fast implementation of the project's results across borders and between sectors. Transnational organisations are involved via ScanBalt members or strategic agreements with ScanBalt. Involvement of Russia is additionally provided via ScanBalt Academy. Ministries are directly involved as the partners IBT and BioConValley are mandated by their governments as BSHR flagship project leaders.

Activities and results

BSHR HealthPort forms an integrated and important part of the BSHR flagship project with the goal of Baltic Sea Region to become a globally leading and prosperous "Health Region".

More specific HealthPort

- ⇒ Transfers ideas from clinics into business
- ⇒ Enhances innovation competencies at health care providers and SMEs
- ⇒ Improves SME access to the BSR health care market
- ⇒ Opens access to international markets
- ⇒ Integrates regional innovation agendas towards a BSR Health Economy strategy
- ⇒ Disseminates best transnational practises for knowledge transfer from health care providers to SMEs
- ⇒ Promotes public dialogue of innovation issues
- ⇒ Supports match making between health care providers and SMEs
- ⇒ Promotes SME access to financing
- ⇒ Supports SMEs in procurement practises

