



# **SmartComp WP3/Training and Consultation National Consultation Days - Finland**

**SmartComp Consultation Day  
November 26, 2013/Sari Nyroos  
CENTRE FOR MARITIME STUDIES**



**Turun yliopisto  
University of Turku**

# SmartComp WP 3 Training and consultation

- 2 international SmartComp Consultation Days

The first international SmartComp Consultation Day:

➤ 13 February 2013, Tallinn:

*Towards green & Efficient Maritime Cluster in the Central Baltic Region*

- *41 participants from all the partner countries; Estonia, Finland and Latvia*

- *presentations and panel discussion*

- *common opportunities (demand for new technologies; emerging sectors, e.g., arctic & offshore; Russia) & future challenges (global competition, rising cost levels, lack of qualified workforce, tightening environmental regulations) in the CBR*

The second international SmartComp Consultation Day:

➤ 26 November 2013, Turku: *See beyond the Sea*

- 2 national SmartComp Consultation Days in each partner country

The Consultation Days provide an opportunity for companies to network and brainstorm new, innovative ideas and find partners for cooperation.



# SmartComp WP 3 Training and consultation

## SmartComp National Consultation Days – Finland

- 27 May 2013, Turku: *Yhteistyöstä kilpailukykyä meriklusteriin* (“Competitiveness in Maritime Cluster via Co-operation”)
- 19 September 2013, Turku: *Yhteistyöstä kilpailukykyä meriklusteriin – jatko* (“Competitiveness in Maritime Cluster via Co-operation II”)



### – Participants:

- altogether nearly 100 participants in two events, presenting research institutes, authorities, large companies and SMEs covering different sectors of the maritime cluster, with major focus in the marine industry



# SmartComp WP 3 Training and consultation

## Finnish national consultation days' conclusions

- The Finnish maritime cluster's competitive advantages/strengths:
  - comprehensive, broad knowhow, including material and equipment technology
  - engineering and specialized knowhow
  - project management with smooth and reliable deliveries
  - arctic knowhow and offshore industry
  - network concept
- Weaknesses of the Finnish maritime cluster:
  - incoherence
  - even too much effort is put on the high product standards
  - companies are more and more led by foreign owners with entirely economic interest
    - SMEs are playing a larger and larger role in the Finnish labor markets
  - Employees in SMEs seem to be more motivated and innovative than in larger companies
    - » Enterpriser having a clear and determined vision encouraging the personnel to work hard with motivation for the common goal



# SmartComp WP 3 Training and consultation

- Finnish national consultation days' conclusions

## COOPERATION BETWEEN COMPANIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES

- a gap in the processes and rhythm of activities between the world of work and research institutes
- positive trends and good intensions for getting more out of business and research cooperation clearly in the air
  - fruitful ground for deeper cooperation as one of the success factors for Finnish companies' foreign expansion
- The public funding system should be developed to better support the companies.

## CENTRAL BALTIC REGION COOPERATION

- several Finnish companies operating in the Central Baltic countries and vice versa
- little attention on expanding the cooperation across the countries
- **Green and arctic technologies**, e.g., as possible areas for deeper cooperation

