

Rural Innovation ecosystem in Vestland

Case: Tech Hub Fosshaugane Campus

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P-IRIS

Policies to improve rural areas' innovation systems
by professionalising networking activities
and use of innovation tools

A P-IRIS position
presented and adopted
P-IRIS final



7 important messages
for policy makers

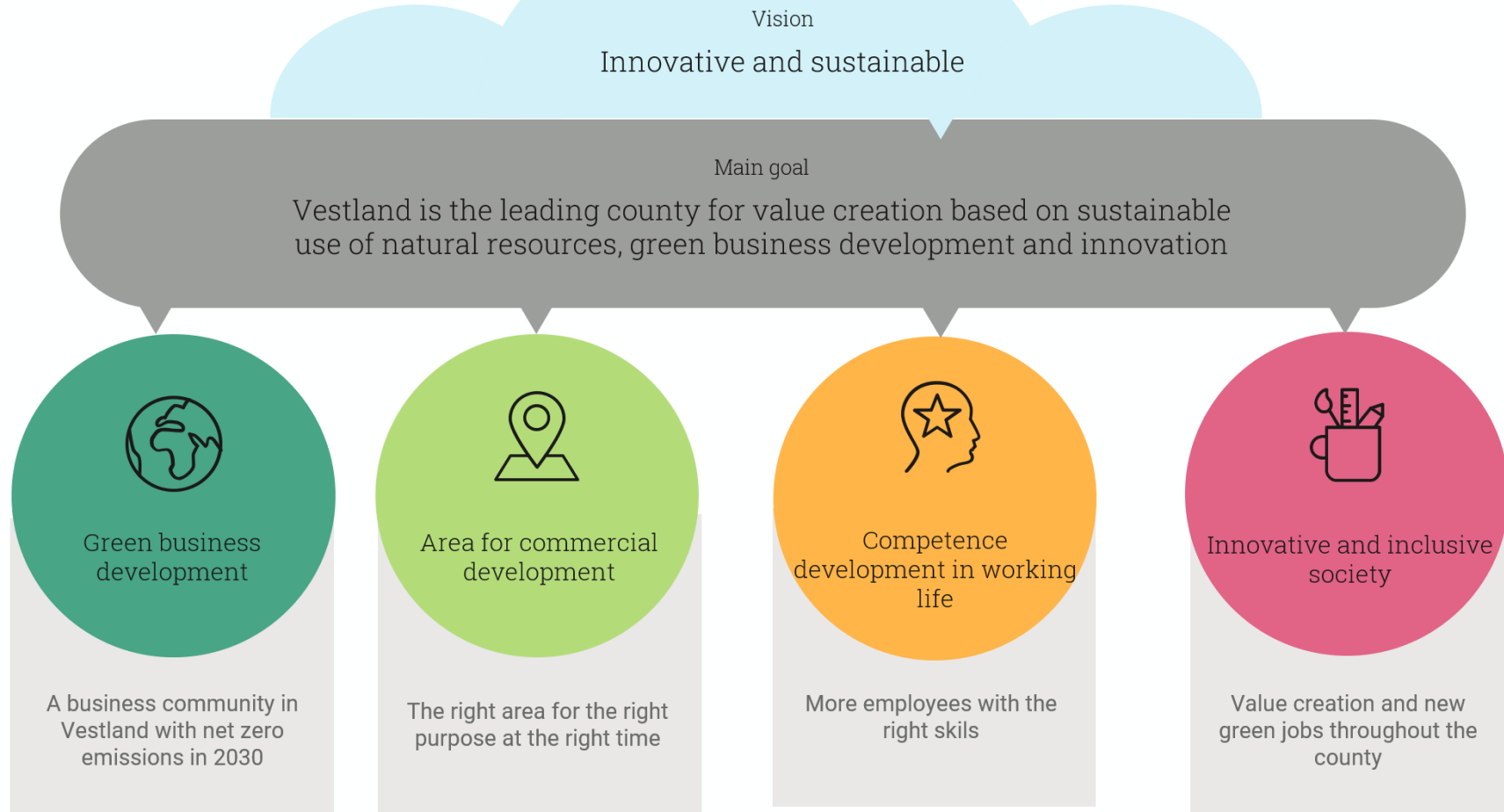
P-IRIS project (2017-2022)

Policies to improve rural areas innovation systems by professionalising networking activities and use of innovation tools

1. Youth – a key target group
2. Living labs and the smart village future
3. Remote working and coworking space
4. Connect rural innovation networks to the outside world
5. A holistic support system
6. Develop skills in innovation-network management
7. A proactive public sector

Sustainable value creation - Regional plan for innovation and

Goals and efforts in the Regional plan



From fotball stadium to a rural innovation ecosystem

- started back in 1960
- escalated from 1996 onward
- To be able to play in the top league they needed to develop their arena
- Were able to identify and fill both public and private needs and there through raise both public and private funding
- Key elements
 1. *Strategic choice of tenants*
 2. *Shared use of physical infrastructure between football, education and businesses*
 3. *Cross-sectorial use of competence between actors*



Photo: Tor Yttri Sogn Avis 8.5.1999



Photo: Sogndal Fotball

Tech hub Fosshaugane

- Network between tech startups – Part of Fosshaugane campus
- Informal
- High degree of knowledge co-creation and sharing
- Difficult to engage R&D
- Common recruiting strategy
 - Rocketfarm Camp



Sogn Næring



Sognefjorden næringshage



Høgskulen på Vestlandet VESTLANDSFORSKING

Sogndal vgs. Vestland fylkeskommune



Tech hub Fosshaugane

Infrastructure

- Business facilities for (tech) startups
- Campus Fosshaugane
 - FuS – office and work spaces
 - Incubator offices
- RocketHouse
- Sufficient Internet connection
- Housing for in movers
- Nature – for «play» winter and summer

Innovation infrastructure

- First line of service: Municipal/ Sogn Næring
- Business garden: Sognefjorden næringshage
- Incubator: Kunnskapsparken Vestland

Research and education

- Sogndal Highschool
- Higher vocational college
- Western Norway University of Applied Sciences
- Western Norway Research Institute/ Vestlandsforskning

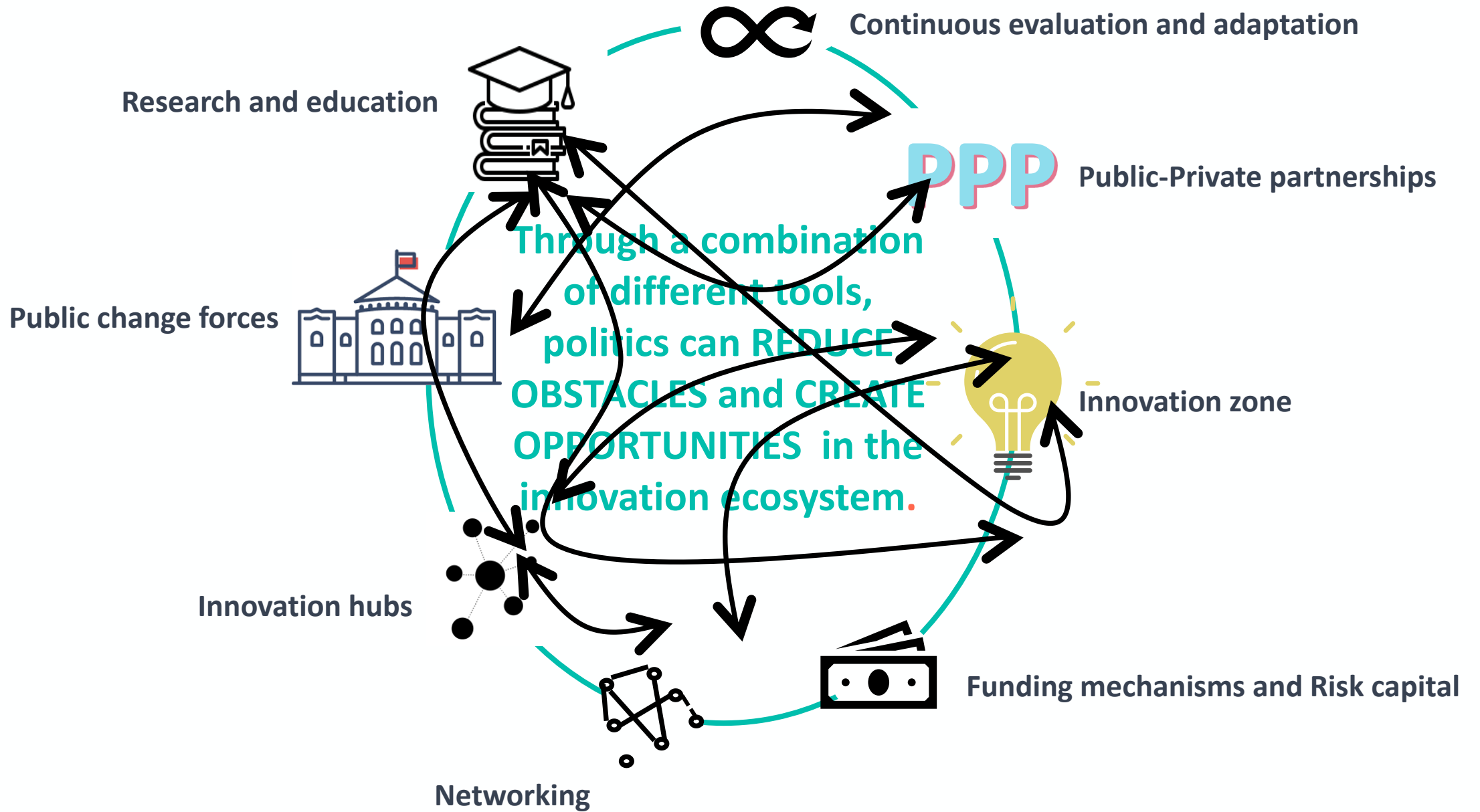
Funding / Risk funding

Public actors

- SIVA – Company for industrial growth
- Innovation Norway – Helps startups and companies grow sustainably
- Vestland County council



Innovation ecosystem – As we see it...



Vestland County Council supports the development of the innovation ecosystem in Vestland

■ Thank you!



Vestland
County Council