

European Network of Living Labs



Living Lab Finland



Suupohja Living Lab

to promote regional cooperation on IST development between public, private and third sector and citizen-centric innovation.

Mr Jaakko Panula, Finland



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Living Lab is an IST-innovation method

European Network of Living Labs

Principal: User centered IST innovation and development in the real environment

Living Lab Finland

Co-operation method between public, private and the third sector in order to innovate and develop practical, regional, national and EU's IST applications.

Suupohja Living Lab

Regional co-operation and dedication to the active, open and long term IST development work with several partners.



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Elinkeinoitoimen
Kuntayhtymä



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Suupohja Region in Western Finland = Five towns in a rural environment



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Why Living Lab?

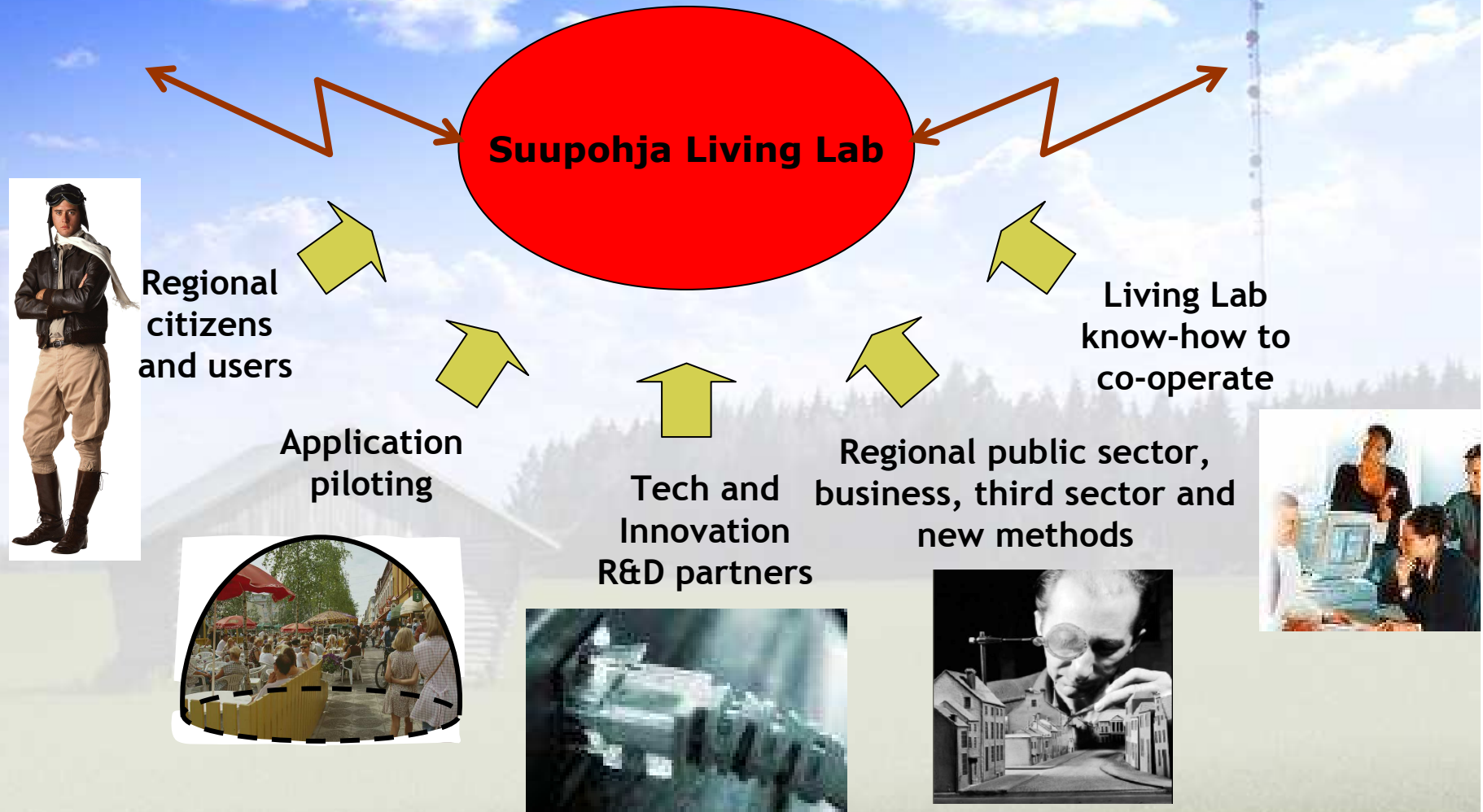
- To increase usability and practicality of new IST services
- To encourage citizens more widely to participate the innovation process
- To facilitate the collective aim to innovations
- To utilize the regional and local knowledge and piloting



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How?



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Living Lab concept is based on

- i2010 – European Information Strategy
- Finnish National Information Strategy for 2007-2015
- Information Society Action Plan of Finnish Government, 2007
- **Launch of the European Network of Living Labs, 20 Nov 2006**



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Launch of the European Network of Living Labs

- 20 Nov 2006 in Helsinki
- to support the European policy for competitiveness and innovation
- The European Network of Living Labs
 - places people at the very centre of product/service development and innovation
 - The network will provide IST-innovation services for SMEs, international corporations, public-sector agencies, NGOs and individual citizens



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What is the European Network of Living Labs?

- Establishes a European platform for open, collaborative and co-creative innovation, where users are involved in the innovation process and contributing to the creation of innovations.
- Systemic and coordinated approach will ensure that common methodologies and tools are being developed.
- With the dimension of a network across Europe, “interoperability” of the living labs will be achieved and Europe-wide reach of the innovation process ensured.
- The Network will enable sharing and exchange between Living Labs and provide a basis for Europe-wide cooperation, scale and efficiency.
- Regional clusters will provide the basis for specialization areas of living labs on top of the common European dimension.
- Their scope will encompass generation of ideas, development of new network-based services and products, piloting of new business models and societal innovation with strong public sector and citizen involvement.
- In addition, the Living Labs will be centres for innovation and co-creation and conduct research projects in these fields across Europe.
- Living Labs will leverage ongoing research in user-centric innovation and lead user concepts and develop new research areas for idea generation and co-creation.
- The aim is to create a network that attracts global companies to participate in promoting European R&D and innovation, especially in cases where rapid market entry and scalability of new services, businesses and technologies over different markets is crucial.
- However, the network aims also at inspiring people to co-create with firms and public agencies.
- The European Network of Living Labs also provides opportunities for public agencies to enter into R&D and innovation activities with citizens and local and international firms.
- The first wave of European Living Labs comprises 19 Living Labs in 11 member states
- **The second wave (deadline for applications September 15, 2007) is expected to bring the core of the emerging network up to 50 - 100 Living Labs.**



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Living Lab Finland

- Living Lab important method in the Finland's Information Society development
- Lite Open = Living Labs and Test beds is the network of the Finnish Living Labs
 - Coordinated by MR Veli-Pekka Niitamo, Nokia



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Suupohja Living Lab

- **Description:** Wide regional IST application development program emphasizing future innovation-development-piloting-validation needs of new services and products in co-operation
- **Closely connected into the Suupohja Regional Centre Programme**
- **Aim:** to develop new demand for local and regional markets, validates comprehensive methods of users and user groups and new service innovations
- **Participants:** innovative and piloting business companies, citizens, regional third sector, R&D of regional universities in small effective teams
- **Technologies:** both open and connected, real-life validation and instant feedback, based on mostly existing technologies but new and more practical applications
- **Time-span:** long-term regional commitment



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Kauhajoki area / Suupohja **Regional Centre Programme** 2007-10

International networks
of cooperation

Exporting
competency

Bio-Trade:

- Foodstuffs refinement
- Ingredient production
- Health and nutrition
- Businesses seeking growth

Logistia cluster:

- Intralogistics
- Managing the flow of information and material
- Businesses seeking growth

Habit cluster:

- The furniture and design fields
- Businesses seeking growth

SpinNet!-network

Developing dynamic competency
and innovation networks and
strengthening competency
capital

Culture
supporting
innovative
actions and
creativity

An attractive living, service
and business environment

LivingLab

LivingLab

Adequate supply of
competent employees

A developing
information society

Open social
capital

Positive
image

Growth pilots

of new openings:

- Research and development activities
- New business
- Region and people
- Business seeking growth

Importing
competency

International
culture of action

Global activities environment



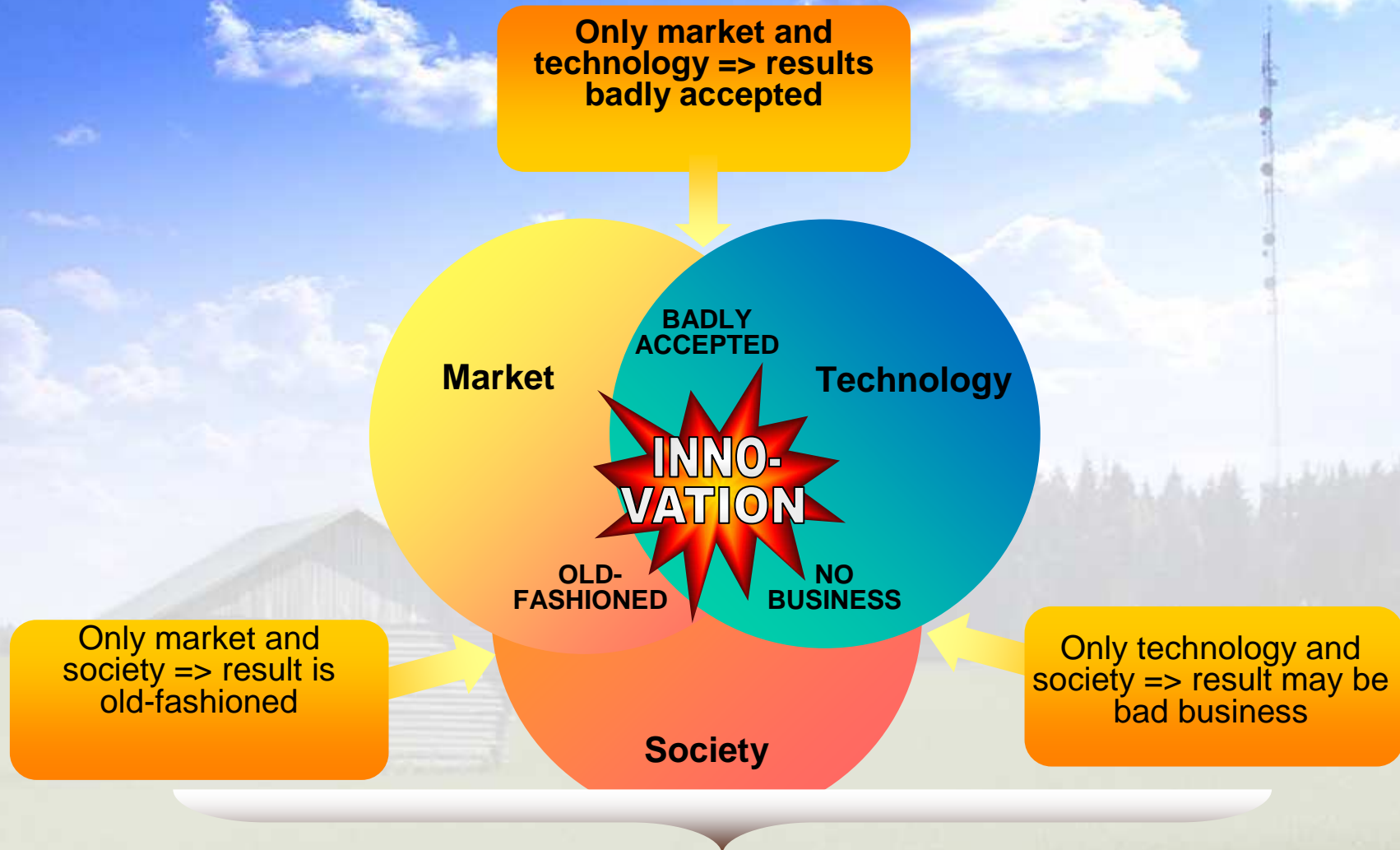
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Graphic: Timo Vesiluoma

Suupohja Living Lab = User-centered innovation with regional dedicated teams



Niitamo, CKIR/Nokia *All three circles must be effective => "Living Lab"*



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Suupohja Living Lab in practice

- **Rural Living Lab for regional IST-applications**
- **Acceptance and dedication of regional Public-Private-Partnership**
- **Several teams for innovation application development / piloting**
 - **Each SMALL team consists of selected users, subject experts and local and national tech persons**
- **Participants:** innovative and piloting business companies, citizens, regional third sector, R&D of regional universities in small effective teams
- **Technologies:** both open and connected, real-life validation and instant feedback, based on mostly existing technologies but new and more practical applications
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Examples of innovative regional pilot-projects in Suupohja, Finland

- Info-Care –project 2007-
 - Combination of mobile health-care and library services to the elderly living at home
- Local government meetings live in the open internet 1997-
 - Open citizen discussion and “voting” with a mobile phone 2007-
- Logistia.Net 2007-
 - Regional service for the eBusiness of SME-products combining marketing, sales and logistics



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Thank You!

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Federation of Municipalities for Economic
Development in Suupohja, Finland



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