**Arctic Development Environments - foundation of cooperation and innovations**

Arctic development environments cluster is serving as a supporting network to all clusters with i.e. enabling technologies and to all industries and especially SMEs. The tool for measuring the performance and effectiveness of innovations is Technology readiness level (TRL). TRL is used as a meter to indicate the level of cluster’s readiness to the produce development services to market.

Bringing out the innovation and research potential and competitiveness of region are cluster’s goals. Including the knowledge of existing funding instruments, strong stakeholder relations and cooperation between different RDI environments will create added value for SMEs and regional development actors.

Cluster has developed a model to lift the RDI skills among several actors in the region. This skillset is targeted to regional SME needs in their everyday business challenges.

Cluster is improving the substantial knowledge development and services provided in the region targeting to national and European level partnership. Development environments are physical and virtual platforms, learning and innovation environments, laboratories, research facilities, studios, workshops and simulation units where products and services can be created, tested and developed.

In total, the cluster has around 50 different development and innovation environments available for businesses and communities. The facilities are located in around vast Lapland and hosted by educational institutions, universities and sector specific research institutes.

Regional RDI cooperation as a driver for growth

Development environments is an active and dynamic network which enables versatile services for local SMEs and RDI organisations. The mission of Arctic development environments cluster is to strengthen the regional cooperation of RDI actors by implementing the Arctic specialisation programme (S3) through SME business development. The goal is to strengthen the network of existing RDI services based on sustainable and inclusive growth of local business.
Arctic Development Environments is one of the Arctic Smartness clusters in Lapland. With the five clusters Arctic Smartness is looking beyond the boundaries, cross-fertilisation, the best use of the regional expertise and strategic networking over the borders.

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