International Corridors
Global Innovation Potential
(source Richard Florida: The worlds leading nations for Innovation and Technology, 2011)
Nordic countries potentials

Nordic countries together:

- Top 10 economy in the world
- Fifth in Europe
- Covid-19 pandemic

Together we are more
Emil Gött (1864-1908)
Sayings, Aphorisms

“Borders must not create the feeling that this is where you come to an end, but rather that this is where you still need to grow”.

Together we are more
Psychological Borders and Mental Maps

Mental maps!

(Source: CESCI, Crossing the Borders Project, 2015)
Labor Force Mobility in Bothnian Arc

How can we see the cross border region as one big joint working region?

How cross border supply and demand of labor force meets better?
The ratio of unemployed persons aged 16 to 64 to the population of the same age

Source: Statistics Finland, Statistics Sweden
Unemployed persons, 2014–2018

The ratio of unemployed persons aged 16 to 64 to the population of the same age

Source: Statistics Finland, Statistics Sweden, Arbetsförmedlingen
Unemployed persons, 2014–2018

The ratio of unemployed persons aged 18 to 24 to the population of the same age

Source: Statistics Finland, Statistics Sweden, Arbetsförmedlingen
Cross Border Labor Force Mobility

- High unemployment in Finland
- Labor shortage in Sweden

- In Sweden you don´t search work force from Finland – WHY?
- In Finland you don´t search workplace from Sweden – WHY?
Cross Border Labor Force Mobility

The most common obstacles (inquiry):
- Language skills
- Family
- Social network
- Can’t find information
- No private service
Cross Border Labor Force Mobility

Obstacle helpdesk in Tornio: most common obstacles are:
- lack of information
- different competence to same kind of work
- unemployment-, health- and social insurance
- different regulations
- taxation, pension
Cross Border Labor Force Mobility

Obstacles in practise:
- wage differences
- slow bureaucracy
- no adequate services from the authorities
- short term contracts
- the costs of movement
- language differences
- information cannot be found or is not available
Recommendations

How can we see the CB region as one big joint working region?

How CB supply and demand of labor force meets better?

- more all kind of cooperation
- more services – external services
- more resources – external services
- more information – external services
- new (and better) attitude
BE OPEN MINDED
WOULD YOU TRUST THEM?

Microsoft

FOUNDING TEAM 1978
8TH INTERNATIONAL LEADERS FORUM, HELSINKI, 11 NOVEMBER 2004

Together we are more
We all work together, that’s the secret

Oulun Kärpät Finnish National Ice Hockey Champions

Together we are more
Thank You!

Heikki Aalto
Bothnian Arc
CEO