

## **Startup Passion in Baltic Sea Region (STARPABS)**

Programme Priority: P1 Competitive economy

Programme Specific Objective: 1.1. New Central Baltic knowledge intensive companies

Sub-programme: Central Baltic

Duration: 01.09.2015 - 31.08.2019

Total funding: 1.761.262 EUR

ERDF funding: 1.392.073 EUR ERDF

### **Project Summary:**

While it is widely acknowledged that an entrepreneurial career path is a viable avenue for employment in the times of economic restructuring, many Central Baltic regions have limited resources and knowhow to support the creation of cross-border companies. The project STARPABS aims at raising awareness and interest towards entrepreneurship among university students and helping them to build international teams around their business ideas. The project will also attract new entrepreneurial talent into the Central Baltic region as well as create a model for supporting creation of student-based international companies.

The project combines competences of higher education programmes, student populations and enterprise development agencies to encourage the best students to take up international entrepreneurship. This is done by organising e.g. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) of entrepreneurship, hackathons and business idea development workshops for students. The training process is based on proven business development models and tools including a business idea competition.

By the end of the project 10-15 new knowledge intensive cross-border companies and 5-6 cooperation agreements have been established. Additionally, wide idea of a student-based entrepreneurial ecosystem is disseminated and a competence and network model is created for supporting the creation and growth of knowledge-intensive cross-border companies in cooperation with universities, enterprise development agencies and private actors.

## **Map of Partners**



## Partners

Lead Partner

### **Cursor Oy,**

**Country:** FI

[www.cursor.fi](http://www.cursor.fi)

**Partner budget:** 510.000 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 382.500 EUR ERDF

Project Partners

### **Tallinna Ülikool**

**Country:** EE

[www.tlu.ee](http://www.tlu.ee)

**Partner budget:** 412.982 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 351.035 EUR ERDF

### **Kymenlaakson Ammattikorkeakoulu Oy**

**Country:** FI

[www.kyamk.fi](http://www.kyamk.fi)

**Partner budget:** 540.000 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 405.000 EUR ERDF

## **Stockholm School of Economics in Riga**

**Country:** LV

[sseriga.edu](http://sseriga.edu)

**Partner budget:** 298.280 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 253.538 EUR ERDF

## **Results**

### **Expected results**

10-15 student-based knowledge intensive cross-border companies and 5-6 cooperation agreements. This result is what is measured under the relevant programme result indicator, ie. number of knowledge intensive cross-border companies. Established companies have also prepared export and expansion plans for the next few years. An interactive educational MOOC (massive online open course) on idea generation and entrepreneurship which continues to attract entrepreneurial talent into the Central Baltic region also after the project and which promotes Central Baltic as a technology intensive startup ecosystem in the world. Cross-media based international startup competition which attracts investors to the Central Baltic region and facilitates cross-border networking of other enablers of the startup ecosystem in the region.

### **Achieved results**

## **Project Visibility**

### **Social media links**

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