



12th European Week of Regions and Cities

OPEN Brussels

DAYS 6 - 9 October 2014

an even

Towards a smarter Mid-Norway

Håkon Finne, SINTEF

Workshop: Is "smart" the right approach to achieve jobs and growth?

Brussels, 2014-10-07

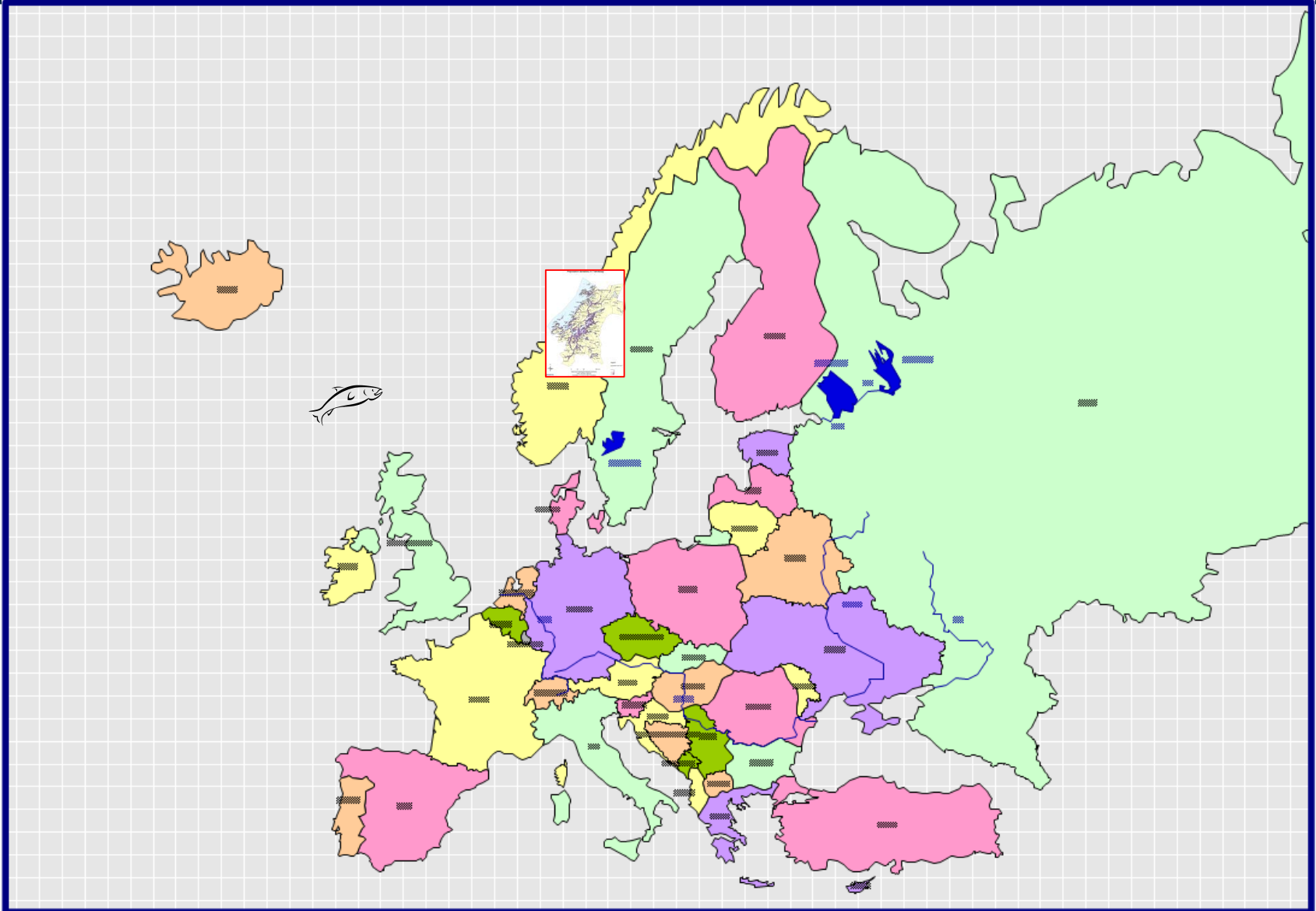




12th European Week of Regions and Cities

OPEN Brussels

DAYS 6 - 9 October 2014





12th European Week of Regions and Cities

OPEN Brussels

DAYS 6 - 9 October 2014

Specializations in Trøndelag

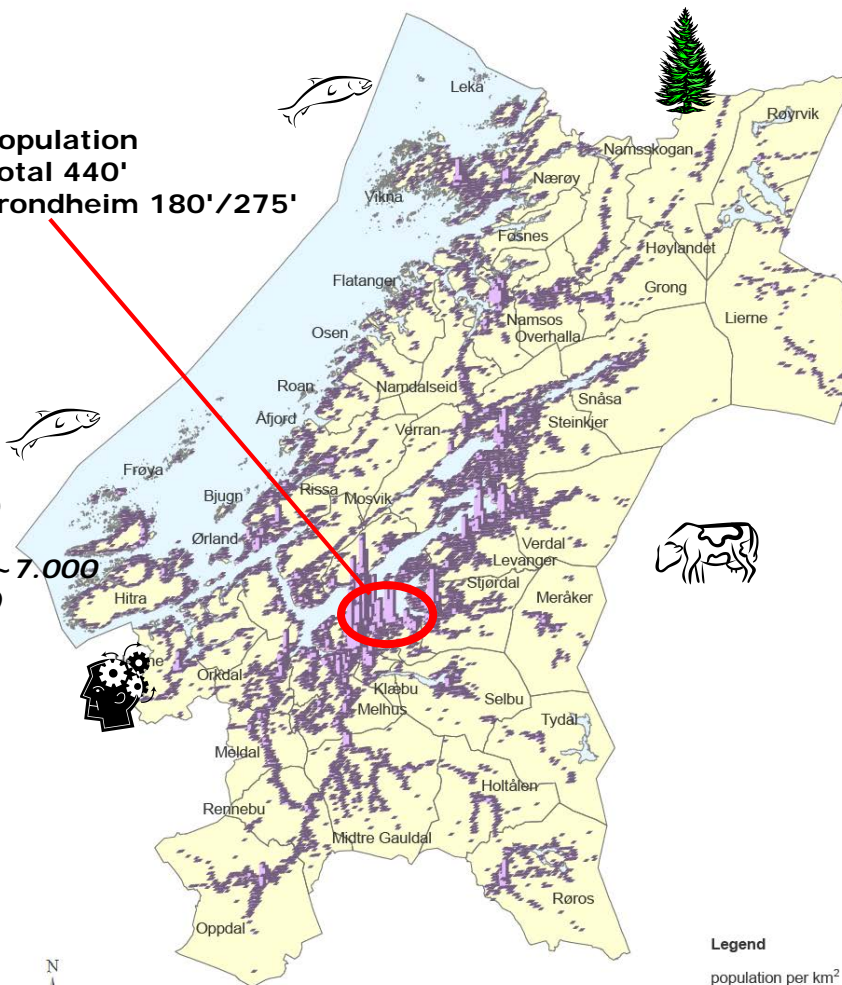
Aquaculture
Food industry
Concentration +
Employ. 2.600
Export +++
Profitability +

Population
Total 440'
Trondheim 180'/275'

Forestry
Pulp, paper, etc
Concentration +++
Employ. 1.400
Export ++
Profitability -

R&D
(+ higher education)
Concentration +++
Employ. 2.000 (+ ~7.000
+ ~35.000 students)
Export (+)
*Profitability **

Farming
Food industry
Concentration ++
Employ. 11.300
Export (+)
*Profitability **



0 25 50 100 km

Map base: Norwegian Mapping Authority

Data: Statistics Norway

Assembly: H Finne for RIS-Trøndelag

Legend

population per km²





Farming: Thinking ahead, mobilizing for local food, reshuffling R&D relations

- **Think-loft Trøndersk Agriculture:** Since 2003, informal network (6-20 people) think tank of high level administrators (triple helix); draws up strategies for lowering cost, increasing differentiation, stretching for more regionalized policies
- **Oi! Trøndersk Food & Drink Ltd:** Since 2005, SME (5-6 people) owned by ~100 firms/institutions, network concentrator & mobilizer for joint undertakings for small specialty producers, recently also active in promoting R&D collaboration
- **Green Research:** Initiative to improve R&D efforts & results in food industry, improves relations R&D/producers by transparent collaborative match-making and professional project development, introduces new actors
- **Agriculture21 Trøndelag:** Regional bio-economy innovation initiative (~20 significant partners), on template of national initiatives in more high-tech fields



12th European Week of Regions and Cities

OPEN Brussels



DAYS 6 - 9 October 2014

Aquaculture: Commercial success based on combining experience, science, technology

- *"New" industry with great expansion potential*
- ***Marine strategic plan Trøndelag:** Triple helix initiative (2007-2014) to become world leading region for sustainable aquaculture, addresses barriers to growth; technology suppliers particularly strong*
- ***AkvARENA:** Cluster initiative, fostered (2008-2012) by public support program, now membership organization, focus on knowledge, technology and joint undertakings*
- ***FornyMar:** Public sector innovation project to enable regional authorities to handle new regulatory challenges under uncertainty and fragmented regime*



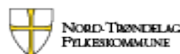
R&D and higher education: Industrial renewal and new enterprise

- **OECD review of HEIs' regional function:**  NTNU &  SINTEF together make up the most important asset of Trøndelag in the knowledge economy, but they are underutilized in the region.
- **High-tech spin-offs** to the region since 1970: 200+ firms, 2.000+ high revenue jobs; particularly strong in ICT
- **Commercialization** as a specialization now promoted by local authorities
- **Upgrading of existing firms:** Higher on the agenda, but more work required on both sides
- **Students as levers of change?** Expose students to local industry, they will provide new knowledge & fresh perspectives, may find interest in local jobs; will require commitment from academic staff & firms



12th European Week of Regions and Cities
OPEN Brussels
DAYS 6 - 9 October 2014

Experimentation and outcomes



Fylkesmannen
i Nord-Trøndelag



FYLKESMANNEN I
SØR-TRØNDELAG



- **VRI program:** National R&D program (2007-2017) pushes regions to develop Triple Helix partnerships and experiment with strategies and measures, backed by a regional innovation research agenda
- **Knowledge brokers:** Skilled matchmakers from R&D institutes visit SMEs, help develop R&D or other projects that will support firm's strategy, link up with appropriate R&D staff locally or elsewhere, facilitate funding (in operation since mid 1980s)
- **Impact on R&D behavior in SMEs:** Difficult to measure
- **Impact on support behavior in HEIs:** Yes, but more work required
- **Jobs and growth:** New, perhaps not more jobs
- **(Even) smarter through S3?** Will i.a. employ innovative triple helix gap analysis from Ostrobothnia (Finland) to leverage new opportunities



hakon.finne@sintef.no

