Lapland
factsheet

- The northernmost region of Finland and the EU
- Border with Russia, Norway and Sweden
- Total area 100 366 km^2
- 180 000 inhabitants, density 1,8 people/km^2
- Largest residential centres Rovaniemi (administrative capital), Tornio and Kemi

NORWAY

RUSSIA

SWEDEN

LAPLAND

The Arctic Circle

Rovaniemi

Tornio
Kemi

FINLAND

Cornerstones of economy

- Forest industry
- Metal industry
- Mining industry
- Forestry
- Tourism

Arctic Smartness
Vision for Lapland

"Lapland is a unique arctic region that strives to be the most innovative and business-driven sparsely populated area in the EU and Circumpolar Arctic by 2022.

The future aims are high, but the actions taken to reach this goal are concrete and remain close to the actors."

ARCTICSMARTNESS.EU

Arctic Smartness
RDI-Excellence (ASR)

Project partners
University of Lapland, project leader
Geological Survey of Finland (GTK)
Lapland University of Applied Sciences
Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)

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ARCTICSMARTNESS.EU/ASR

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GTK

LAPIN AMK
Lapland University of Applied Sciences

Luke
NATURAL RESOURCES
INSTITUTE FINLAND

European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Leverage from
the EU
2014–2020

Towards
research, development and innovation driven Lapland

ARCTIC
Smartness
RDI-
Excellence

ARCTIC Smartness RDI-Excellence

Boosting smart regional development

Lapland was one of the first regions in Finland to adapt Smart Specialisation (S3). The systematic approach and strong strategic focus has led to recognition by the European Commission in good practice of governance.

ARCTIC DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENTS CLUSTER

ARCTIC SAFETY CLUSTER

Civil safety and security

Tourism safety and security

ARCTIC SMART RURAL COMMUNITY CLUSTER

De-centralised energy

Natural resources

ARCTIC TOURISM ECOSYSTEM

ARCTIC DESIGN CLUSTER

Mining

ARCTIC INDUSTRY AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY CLUSTER

Sustainable timber construction

Industry

Arctic Smartness Clusters

Photo: Lapland Material Bank I Terhi Tuovinen

THE ARCTIC SMARTNESS RDI-EXCELLENCE (ASR) PROJECT launches the **Lapland Regional Research, Development and Innovation Centre of Excellence**, offering businesses and other regional actors tools to

- create innovations and bring them to market with the help of research
- identify and access financing opportunities
- cooperate both locally and internationally.

The Centre of Excellence brings together

- the Smart Specialisation Arctic Smartness Cluster actors
- joint research, development and innovation capacities
- growth seeking enterprises and companies
- regional development authorities and actors.

The project introduces a **roadmap** that defines the RDI operators, cooperation models and RDI infrastructure in Lapland, creating a cooperation structure that serves enterprises, research organisations as well as individual researchers.

The project also develops the **Lapland Innovation Ecosystem**, which empowers regional RDI actions across traditional organisational boundaries and supports and meets the needs of industry and commerce. Its key features are

- an RDI-based innovation cycle management
- the identification of Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) and Innovation Readiness Levels (IRL)
- advancing the maturation of ideas, products and services towards the market.

Networking with other European Centres of Excellence and thematic innovation development networks is a vital part of the project.

Our vision is, together with local and international collaborators, to boost economic growth and wellbeing in a sustainable way. Ultimately, this has an impact that reaches far beyond regional boundaries.

Read more: **ARCTICSMARTNESS.EU/ASR**