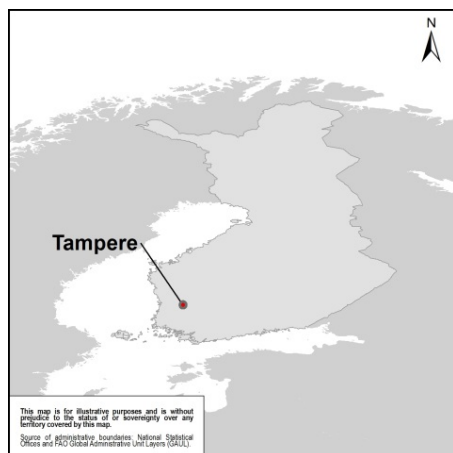


TAMPERE, Finland

Overview of Tampere

Tampere



Tampere region



Tampere's administrative structure

Tampere region is a NUTS 3 level unit, consisting of 22 municipalities. The city of Tampere is the major municipality in the region.

Key figures

	Population (2015)	Unemployment rate (2012)	GDP growth (2013)
Tampere	223 292	14.2%	-1.2%
Finland	5 486 830	7.7%	-0.8%

Source: Statistics Finland

Challenges for Tampere's resilience

- *Leading innovation amid technological change*

The innovation system in the Tampere Region was initially structured by a focus on a few core cluster areas, principally mechanical engineering and information and communications technologies (ICT). The most significant single private sector actor in the regional innovation system is Nokia in the ICT area. The technological change in the mobile phone industry obliged Nokia to change its business strategy and to downsize globally. A major wave of redundancies occurred in 2011 (Newcastle University, 2014). The decline of Nokia and its related industries has highlighted the need for Tampere to develop a new innovation policy, encouraging a move away from the previous cluster-based emphasis on sectoral specialisation towards a focus on cross-cutting platforms that support more open innovation processes.

Elements for building resilience in Tampere

Economy

- The city's overall strategy "Tampere, working together for a bright future" (2013) supports *cross-sectoral innovation*
- *New open innovation platforms, support new sources of economic growth.* These platforms are designed within the new Open/Smart/Connected (O/S/C) and based in the universities.

Society

- *Tampere's universities play a key role in advancing innovation.* The O/S/C strategy closely involves the city's three universities which are key operators at open innovation platforms on campuses.
- *Universities help train a highly skilled workforce* and produces highly skilled graduates in information technology, media and engineering.
- *Primary education plays an important role in promoting an entrepreneurial culture* notably through the Finnish education innovation project "Me & MyCity". Tampere was awarded the "Finnish Schools on the Move" award in November 2015.

Environment

- *Tampere's urban development projects encourage innovation.* The "Oma Tesoma" innovation platform's integrates is the first from the O/S/C strategy to integrate its activities into urban development policies and projects.
- *Tampere's plans to encourage sustainable mobility* through the promotion of efficient public transport systems.

Institutions

- *Tampere's budget reflects its overall strategy and monitors its performance* with annual reports and financial statements.
- *Tampere collaborates with the Council of Tampere Region and with neighbouring municipalities,* notably through the Tampere Region Economic Development Agency, the Baltic Institutes of Finland, and the O/S/C strategy to partner with European cities and regions.
- *National policies* such as "INKA-Innovative Cities" (2014) and "The Six Cities Strategies – Open and Smart Services" (2014-2020), support Tampere's innovation-based economy

Conclusions

- Moving away from a sector-specific innovation strategy to more cross-sectoral innovation enables Tampere to break down silos and improve the exchange of expertise, contributing to the development of more adaptive and flexible innovation.
- Tampere's approach to promote innovation in co-operation with universities in the city has proved successful, particularly in terms of skilled human resource attraction and retention. Its new Open/Smart/Connected (OSC) strategy has led to the development of open innovation platforms such as Demola and fostered a culture of entrepreneurship, enabling university researchers and students with different areas of expertise to form a cross-sectoral innovation policy.
- Working closely with the Tampere Region enables the city to develop an integrated approach to advance innovation and sets a good example of multi-level governance.
- Further efforts could be made in order to take advantage of innovation and related industries to create more jobs and reduce unemployment in the city.
- Tampere should consider further to reduce the high unemployment. Measures to encourage unemployed residents to take part in the labour market could be further developed and promote social cohesion in the city.