

CASE STUDY

PÄRNU COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Spearheading innovation and balanced regional development



Background & Purpose

In 2017 the governance system changed in Estonia which resulted in a two tier government system, namely central and local. There is no official layer of government at regional (or county) level. Instead cooperation at the county level is based on voluntary cooperation between institutions.

In Pärnu county, this spirit of cooperation is strong and led by the Pärnu County Development Centre. This forward thinking innovation centre started in 1994 based on a triple helix model, with a focus on supporting entrepreneurship.

Today it has evolved into a multi functional centre based on the 5-helix model (science, business, public sector, civil society and environment) supporting the sustainable development of the region by facilitating co-operation and exchange between stakeholders.

Mission

Their mission is to promote and lead the balanced development of the county by serving as a competent pioneer and a dignified guardian of Pärnu County's identity

Vision

To be a first-rate, knowledgeable and trusted partner in all areas related to the development of Pärnu County. To be the driving force behind Pärnu County's transformation into the brightest pearl of the Baltic Sea region.

More Info :

<https://parnumaa.ee>

The EcoCore Project

Green Transition in Small Cities along Transport Corridors

“BIG IDEAS ARE BORN IN PEACE
AND SILENCE WITHOUT TOO
MUCH HASTE’

Veronika Uussaar, Pärnu Resident



Purpose

The Pärnu County Development Centre guides the county's development, fostering entrepreneurship, youth entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial education, and civic engagement. It also promotes public health, internal security, international relations, and implements countywide projects.

Pärnu County Development centre is part of the nationwide network of county development centres that includes 15 development centres in each county all over Estonia.

Working with local stakeholders, the state, and international partners, the centre aims to ensure balanced development in Pärnu County. It is the primary initiator and implementer of the Pärnu County Development Strategy 2035+.

Governance & Funding Model

- The centre is a foundation, established by Pärnu County municipalities
- The building which houses the centre belongs to Tartu University & Pärnu College
- The centre currently has a team of 25 staff, part funded through EU projects.
- The centre is funded by 15 different governmental, private and EU funders

More info:

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