

Looking for partners:

**Growth and export programme for sustainable
micro- and small companies**

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Existing challenges

Only in some regions of Northern Finland has high microenterprise export activity

Low growth-orientation (national problem)

Low launch rate of new companies (national problem)

At the same time, several entrepreneurs looking for successors

Too many of small companies do not utilize responsibility and sustainability as competitive advantage

Need for CSR reporting and branding in whole value chains

Implementation of growth potential in low-carbon industries as the Arctic strength (wood construction, nature tourism...)

Special competences of local business support services underutilized in cross-border collaboration

Need for more systematic growth incubators

Role of small companies for regional and national security of supply inadequately recognized

Critical industries (food, infra, energy, transportation..)

Access to critical materials

Relevance for geopolitics, e.g., transportation, trails and roads

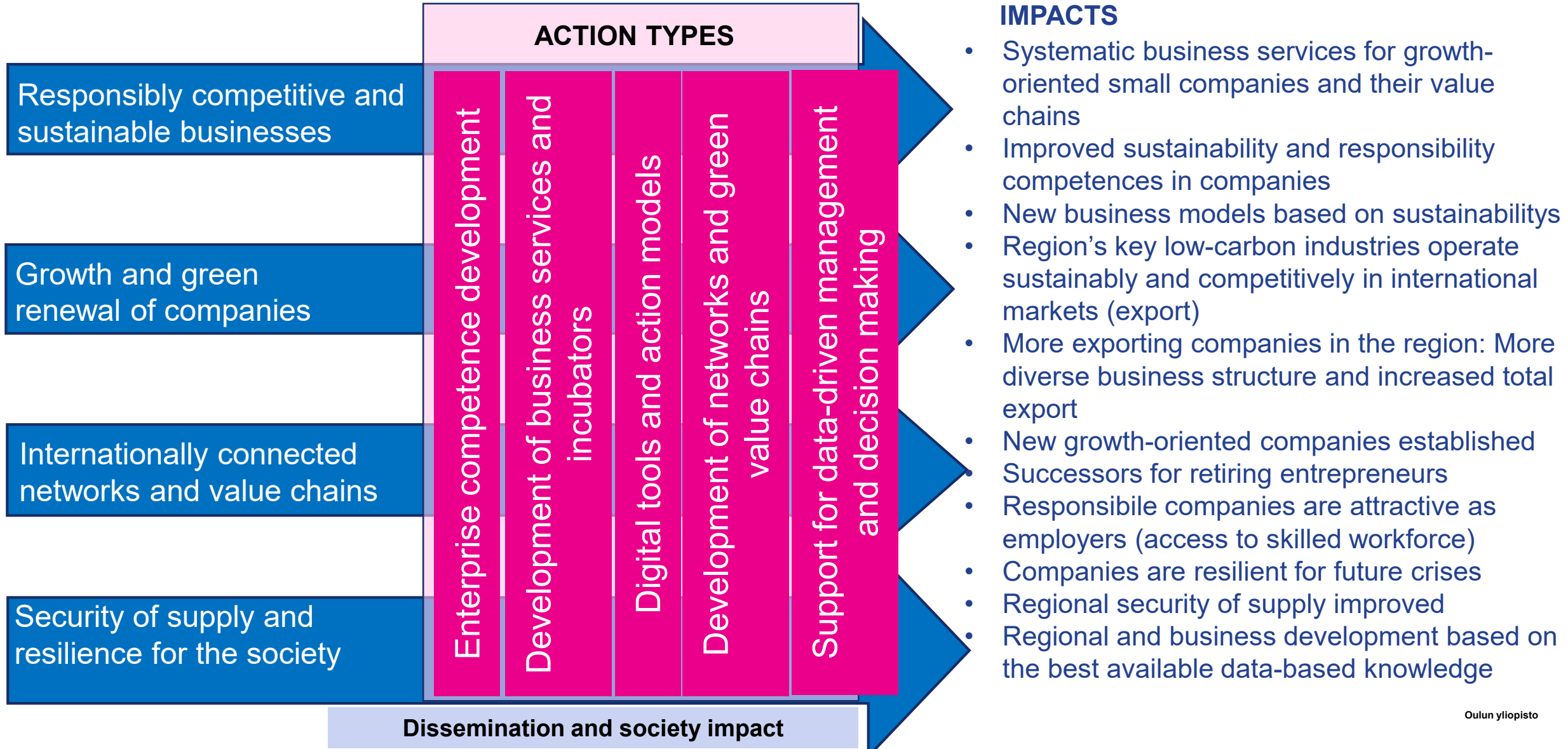
Lack of systematic and regionally comparative data-driven management tools in the context of small companies

Identification of regional strengths

Policy Briefs and joint lobbying activities

Scaling across the Baltic Sea Region

Growth and export programme for sustainable micro- and small companies





Interested in joint Interreg Aurora / NPA project related this theme

- University of Oulu / Kerttu Saalasti Institute willing to contribute as partner or coordinator
- Special competencies: microentrepreneurship, growth management, internationalization of microenterprises, collaboration with process industry (Industry 4.0), responsibility practices and reporting, statistics data-based analytics (register data)
- Strong experience on project writing and management, e.g., Interreg and Horizon programmes



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