

Underground Laboratories as platforms for innovation and new businesses

The project BSUIN aims to develop the service offerings of Baltic Sea Region's (BSR) underground laboratories (UL) in order to develop capabilities to offer their infrastructures for business development and new innovation. Besides scientific research, the underground laboratories can provide unique environments for various businesses, such as developing technology for mining and tunnel construction equipment, radiation shielding systems or for testing of geophysical, radiation detection, and other measurement instruments. Underground Laboratories can be also sites for production, which is a new and growing field especially in the production of geothermal energy or facilitating food production.

Wider scope of services and improved accessibility

Currently the Baltic Sea ULs operate separately and their capacity to offer services to businesses is limited mostly to regional or national level. Also their service concepts and marketing activities have been targeted mainly just for scientific use. The purpose of BSUIN is to widen the service offerings of the ULs and to create a network of the Baltic Sea Region's ULs including Callio Lab in Pyhäsalmi mine (Finland), Äspö Hard Rock laboratory (Sweden), FLB-Research and Education Mine "Reiche Zeche" (Germany), KGHM CUPRUM R&D Centre in Wroclaw (Poland), the UL of Khlopin Institute in St Petersburg (Russia), and Ruskeala marble mine in Karelia (Russia) to provide all users, including SMEs, an easy access to unique environments for business development and innovation.

Joint efforts and networking

As a main outcome of the project, the BSUIN consortium will create a sustainable network organization, which will disseminate the technical, marketing, operational quality, training and other information about the BSR ULs. The web based tools and the network organization are created such, that they will provide an open innovation platform for further quality development and innovation and sharing of the best practices.

The project has a total of 14 full partners (2 FI, 2 SE, 2 GE, 3 PL, 1 LT, 1 LV, 1 EE, 2 RU) and 15 associated organizations.

www.oulu.fi/ksi-eng

www.calliolab.com

