

# **UNIVERSITY OF VAASA**

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### Outline of the presentation

- University of Vaasa
  - Facts and figures
  - New strategy and organisation
- Research activities
  - New research platforms
- Energy Vaasa
  - Largest energy technology cluster in Vaasa

# University of Vaasa

Maritime Campus



# University of Vaasa

- Location
  - 63.1°N, 21.61°E
- The city of Vaasa is located in Western Finland on the coast line next to Sweden
  - Sweden / city of Umeå is located 70 kilometers West of Vaasa
  - Vaasa is multilingual with 70 % Finnish and 22 % Swedish speaking
  - Joint degrees with the Umeå University
- Industrial base in Vaasa region
  - Largest energy and environmental industry concentration in the Nordic countries

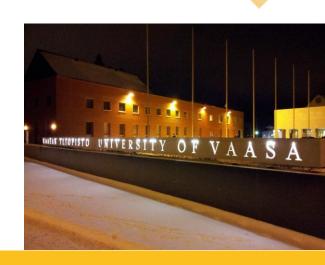




### University of Vaasa in Numbers



- **1968** 
  - Established as a public university
- ·5250
  - Students: undergraduate, graduate and doctoral
- **•**470
  - University staff
- 40 million Euros
  - University budget



# University of Vaasa



- We specialise in
  - Technology
  - Business
  - Public policy
  - Communication
- Strategic areas of research
  - Management and change
  - Energy and sustainable development
  - Financing and economic decision making



### Our organisation consists of Four Schools

**Accounting and Finance** 

Marketing and Communications

**Management** 

**Technology and Innovations** 

### Our Schools include 16 subject areas

Accounting and Finance

- Finance
- Accounting
- Economics
- Business Law

Marketing and Communications

- Marketing
- Communication Studies

Management

- Human Resource Management
- Public Management
- Strategic Management
- Public Law
- Regional Studies
- Social and Health Management

Technology and Innovations

- Electrical Engineering and Energy Technology
- Information-Communication and Automation Technology
- Industrial Management
- Mathematics and Statistics



### Our external Scientific Board

- Gives advice for the university development from the external expert point of view
  - Prof. Christoph Böhringer, Univ. of Oldenburg
    - German Federal Government Energy Advisor within the Commission of Experts for Research and Innovation
  - Prof. Ulrich Hommel, EBS Business School
    - Associate Director of Quality Services at the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD)
  - Prof. Marja Makarow, Director Biocenter Finland
    - Previously Vice President of Academy of Finland, Chief executive of the European Science Foundation
  - Prof. Tomas Kåberger, Chalmers University
    - University-Industry co-operation in energy and environment area, energy markets



### RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Multidisciplinary research platforms
Discipline specific research



### Extra investments in research 2017-20

- Additional Investments in research 6.8-10 MEUR
  - Tenure positions for additional 10-15 post doctoral researchers
  - Enables funding for new openings in focus areas defined by new research platforms
  - Recruitment for the tenure positions commences during autumn 2017

# Organising research

#### Focus on quality and impact

#### Discipline based research

- Focus on publishing, citations and societal relevance / impact
- · Based in basic academic units
- Existing core research areas; business, technology, public administration and communications
- Research needs to demonstrate renewal capability

#### **Research platforms**

- Challenge and phenomena driven e.g. global climate change, digitalization, public sector renewal
- Investment in three open research platforms
- Collaboration with industry and research partners
- Drivers of renewal and societal impact

# UVA research platforms

- Three open research platforms
  - Co-operation with research partners and business is built into each platform
  - 1. VEBIC Energy related business and innovations
  - DIGITAL ECONOMY Digitalisation of business and innovations
  - 3. INNOVATION LAB in co-operation with Muova and Aalto university
    - Develops open innovation activities with businesses and other organisations
    - Challenges, Hackathons, Start-up activities, Design, Prototyping, Piloting
    - Cross-governmental innovation, public sector renewal

# UVA research platforms

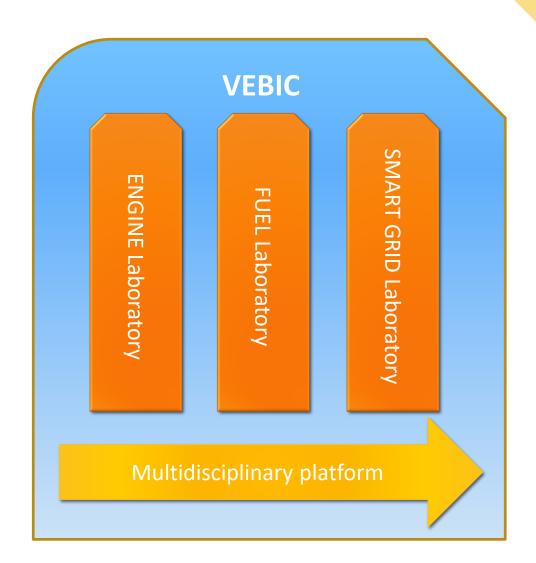
- Key criteria of research platforms
  - 1. They are multi-disciplinary and open for third parties
  - 2. They engage with industrial and research partners
  - 3. Platform mission is based on global / world changing
    - Challenges e.g. cyber security, prevention of climate change
    - Key trends e.g. digitalisation, platform economy, exponential technologies.
  - 4. Platform director approves research themes / proposals
    - Recognising feedback from
      - The Scientific Board, business partners and research partners

# **VEBIC**

Vaasa Energy Business Innovation Centre



# VEBIC = laboratories + research platform



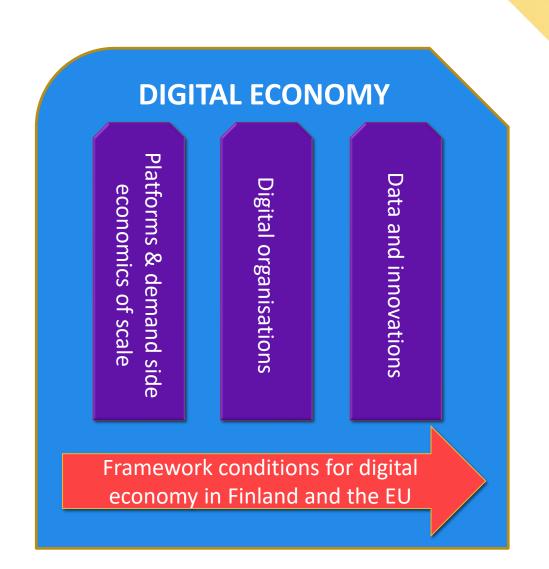


# DIGITAL ECONOMY

**Digital Transformation** 



### DIGITAL Economy = Labs + research platform

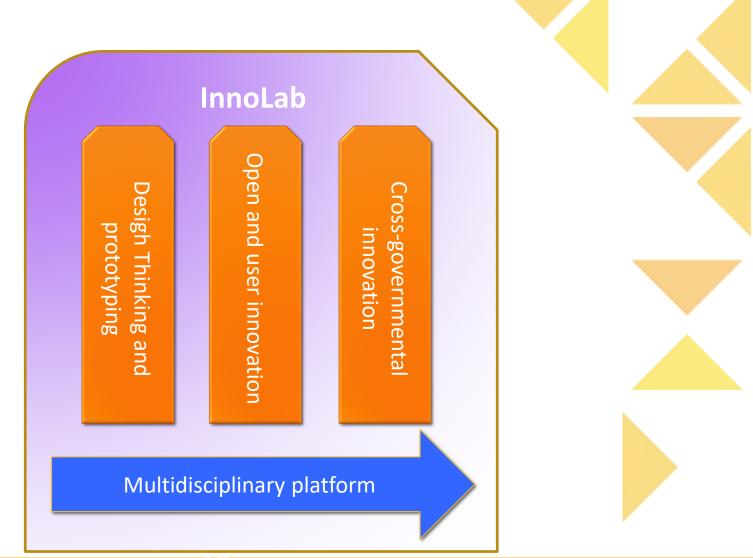


# **INNOLAB**

Design thinking, Open and user innovation, Cross-governmental innovation



### InnoLab





www.uva.fi

