Sustainable & Inclusive Territorial Development in Coventry & Warwickshire

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Coventry & Warwickshire

- Central England in West Midlands region
- 899,400 residents, 36,000 businesses
- **Coventry**: England’s 9th largest city
- **Key sectors**: Advanced Manufacturing, Digital & Creative, Professional Services, Intelligent Mobility, Tourism
- **Global brands**: Jaguar Land Rover, Aston Martin Lagonda, LEVC, Holland & Barrett, Royal Shakespeare Company
- **Strong knowledge base**: Coventry University, University of Warwick
- Strong annual GVA growth 3.8% (national average 3%)
The ReSSI Project

- *Exploring good practice in local & regional development*
- How to promote sustainable & inclusive regional strategies?
  - Changing role of Local Authorities & range of stakeholders
- What is good practice in delivering economic development policy?
  - New governance frameworks
- **Case study approach:**
  - Coventry & Warwickshire (UK)
  - Southern Denmark (DK)
  - Piedmont (IT)
  - Oeiras/Lisbon Metropolitan Region (PT)
Changing UK Political Context

- **1998** – 9 Regional Development Agencies established
  - Regional Spatial Strategies in English regions
  - ERDF & ESF funds allocated & governed regionally
- **2010** – Regional Development Agencies abolished
  - 38 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs)
  - Strategic Economic Plans
- **2016** – West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) established
  - 18 Local Authorities and 3 LEPs working together
  - WMCA region Strategic Economic Plan
Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership

- Drives sustainable growth of local economy
- **Private sector led** public-private partnership
  - SMEs and large businesses on the Board
  - Local Authorities
  - Universities
- Growth Hub co-ordinates publicly funded business support
  - Independent Planning Advisor
- Liaison with UK Central Government & WMCA
Allocating Economic Development Funds - England

- **ERDF & ESF national programmes** for 2014-2020
  - Coventry & Warwickshire *notional* allocation €68m ERDF
    - P1 – Research & Development & Innovation
    - P2 – ICT
    - P3 – SME Competitiveness
    - P4 – Low Carbon
  - *Notional* allocation €68m ESF
  - *National competitive bidding* for major capital funds
    - Broadband, Transport, R&D infrastructure
Coventry & Warwickshire Case Study - Context

- Two sector-led sustainable economic growth projects
  - Smart growth of automotive sector
  - **UK Autodrive** – develop and test connected & autonomous vehicles
    - £10m UK government funding
    - Testing at city scale – Coventry and 3 other UK cities
  - **Electric taxis** – conversion of Coventry’s fleet to electric vehicles
    - Installing charging points in Clean Air Zone
    - £1.2m UK government funding
    - Wolverhampton & Birmingham also received funds
Coventry & Warwickshire Case Study – Key Findings

- Local authority – major facilitator & broker
  - Large automotive manufacturers, SMEs, universities as partners
  - Strong networks of co-operation – funders & industry
- Support new innovative products with export potential
- Coventry & Warwickshire – “test bed” for new products & technologies
- UK Government main funder
  - Complement ERDF & ESF – supply chain and skills development
  - Brought projects forward?
  - Scope for more regional co-operation?
ReSSI Project – Key Findings (1)

- **Common findings** despite range of Case Studies
  - Differing political structures

**Sectoral Implementation**

- Public investments should realise long-term benefits for regions
  - Develop synergies & co-ordination of key stakeholders
  - Balance economic growth and social inclusion needs
- Local & regional government holders of tacit knowledge
  - Strengthen public-private partnerships
ReSSI Project – Key Findings (2)

Territorial Communication

- Alignment of strategic planning and funding streams
  - Align local & regional strategies with national & EU strategies
  - Knowledge can strengthen regional co-operation & share good practice

Territorial Implementation

- Maintain & enhance relationships with funders
- Build momentum through “follow-on” projects
- Stronger integration of funding streams
Thank you

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