Introducing of smart work – opportunity to increase economic development of municipalities in Latvia

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Abstract
Research focused on analysis of smart work, its advantages and disadvantages. There are possible to find out benefits from smart work and also disadvantages of smart work for three main society groups – employers, employees and government. The goal of the research is to verify hypothesis, that introducing of smart work will promote economic development of municipalities in Latvia and that people in municipalities are ready to do smart work. Research methods are analysis and synthesis, quantitative data analysis, comparison, graphical methods, survey. Analysis of economic development of Balvi municipality (Latvia) shows, that there are economic problems that can be solved by introducing of smart work. From survey of Balvi population it is possible to conclude, that people are ready to work smart and to do distant work in Smart Work Centers (SWC). Smart Work Centre will be real way how to increase development of Balvi municipality, it will provide new working places, decrease unemployment and help to maintain population in the municipality.

Keywords
smart work; Smart Work Centre; regional development; local municipality

Biography
Ilze Judrupa. Promotion Thesis „Evaluation of competitiveness of regions in Latvia” was defended to qualify for the degree of Doctor of Economics in 2011. From 2015 Ilze Judrupa is an Associate Professor at Riga Technical University, Institute of Civil Engineering and Real Estate Economics. Research interests are related to Regional economy, competitiveness, the EU structural funds, system dynamics models, telework. I. Judrupa was a researcher and have participated in international projects about smart work and its advantages in rural areas, as well as projects about regional development of Latvia and development of smart specialization plan for the regions of Latvia.

Maija Senfelde holds a Doctor degree in Economics (1993) from Scientific Council of Latvian University. She has been working for Riga Technical University in different positions. Since 2003 Maija Šenfelde is Professor of Faculty of Engineering Economics and Management, from 1997 to 2007 she was a Deputy Dean for Studies, since 2009 she is Director of Institute of National and Regional Economy. Main fields for research are macroeconomics, international and regional economics. She has published scientific papers and articles in peer-reviewed journals and is the author of study books as well. Maija Šenfelde is Expert of Latvian Science Council, Member of Promotion Council, Member of Professors Councils of RTU and LU etc.