

# Antti VALLE



Antti VALLE Head of Division, Innovation Department, Finnish Ministry of Employment and the Economy. Mr Valle is currently responsible for policy on innovation environments and networked innovation communities. His team is managing the Centres of Expertise Programme, which involves over 5 000 companies annually. He is also directing the network of FinNode innovation centres in China, USA, Japan and Russia.

Mr Valle is chairing the innovation working group of the Finnish-Russian Economic Commission. From his previous position as Director of Regional Development at the Ministry of the Interior, Antti Valle has experience in the competitiveness and innovation policies at regional and community levels. He has also worked with urban policy matters, especially with developing governance of the Helsinki Metropolitan Region. Mr Valle worked at the European Commission in 1996-2000 dealing with the Structural Funds. He acted as the chairman of the EU Council's Structural Actions working group during the Finnish Presidency in 2006.

The EU Strategic Guidelines for Structural Policy were negotiated under his chairmanship. Mr Valle has also worked as an expert in OECD reviews on regional competitiveness. Before entering the public sector Mr Valle worked as a managing director of a housing investor company. Antti Valle holds a Masters in Public Administration, with a specialisation in regional studies.