

BRIDGES, good practice summary 10.2.2016 – 30.9.2016

In the context of the INTERREG IVC programme, a good practice is defined as an initiative (e.g. methodologies, projects, processes, techniques) undertaken in one of the programmes thematic priorities which corresponds to the following criteria: 1) has already proved successful and 2) which has the potential to be transferred to a different geographic area. Proved successful is where the good practice 3) has already provided tangible and measurable results in achieving a specific objective. In addition, in BRIDGES project, we have the focus of the three good practice themes: 1) GP theme 1 focus is on industry-led centres of competence that facilitate RIS3 implementation, 2) GP2 theme 2 research to business, demonstrates examples of cooperation (methods, approaches) between research institutions and SMEs leading to more competitive products, 3) GP3 theme deals with multilevel synergies. These synergies refer to combination of funds to support innovation investments, innovation vouchers supporting transnational or interregional cooperation, strategic ways of cooperation between regions leading to innovation investments.

Country & partner	Good practice, GP (title)	GP theme	Is the GP on going?	BP has already proved successful.	BP has the potential to be transferred to a different geographic area.	BP has already provided tangible and measurable results.
Finland						
1	Services of Large research infrastructures to SMEs	2	Yes	The GP refers to the establishment of a network among research infrastructures, universities, innovation agencies and SMEs to better exploit regionally available RI & LRI services. Material research is often too complex or even unknown to SMEs, thus the role of an innovation agency could be pivotal. In term of number of projects, yes	The specific GP is easily transferable across Europe.	Yes, including number of users About 170 beneficiaries have profited from this GP. Quantified benefits: 66 products from 66 companies received synchrotron material measurements, 52 SMEs were screened and assessed through the NRCP, 60+ companies will be processed in the framework of the Baltic TRAM project. Significant (although not quantified) benefits to: Innovation intermediaries, LRIs and Universities, regional authorities

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2	TEKES programme Research to business	2	Yes	TEKES aims to connect Finnish universities with the business sector through the encouragement (and funding) of joined projects that focus on product commercialization. TEKES has funded approximately 300 projects so far (~ 60% funding rate).	The GP could be easily transferred to any other European region. There is a strong need to foster collaborations between academic/research and business organizations.	Since 2012, 10 calls were launched, with approximately 1000 applications, of which 300 projects approved (last update: June 2016).
Partially. Measurable results should be linked to the actual projects results themselves						
3	TEKES programme ZIM, transnational innovation partnerships	3	Yes	ZIM is a Call for Proposals for joint R&D projects on developing innovative products and applications in all technological and application areas for German and Finnish organizations. It is considered successful since it has received positive feedback over its 6 years of operation. Highly relevant	The GP is easily transferable across Europe.	219 Cooperation networks, 5245 Cooperation projects, 1372 Individual projects (the figures are modified from those submitted by PP1) (source: http://www.zim-bmwi.de/download/infomaterial/statistiken/b-in-zim-daten). Partially. Need of actual results assessment
Poland						
1	Lubelskie Voivodeship	3	Yes	Lubelskie Voivodeship is a voucher system in Poland which aims to foster business and science collaborations and fund R&D related activities. This is very important since it	The structure of the GP is rather simplistic and thus the relevant R2B cooperation can be fully transferable to other regions across Europe.	Yes (Number of projects and some qualitative results stated) ___ > 1643 projects (editions I-IV) plus 1135 projects (editions V-VII) have been implemented. About 80% of the beneficiaries confirmed that the results of their projects were applied in practice.

				provides entrepreneurs with access to pro-innovative services from leading, national institutions.		
Greece						
1	Online precise irrigation scheduling / OpIris	2	Yes	OPIRIS is a knowledge-based system for online precise irrigation scheduling. The developed tool uses advanced results from research (FP) projects on water and fertilizers productivity in fruit trees orchards and hydroponic productions in greenhouses, giving answer to the question: "how often and how much farmers should irrigate". OPIRIS consists of a User Friendly Web Program, a Remote Terminal Unit (RTU) and a set of sensors. It is a low cost autonomous system dealing with water, fertilizers and energy reduction in hydroponic greenhouses and trees orchards. The system successfully supports agricultural enterprises towards more sustainable and profitable agri-production by considerably reducing inputs (water, fertilizers, pesticides). In term of number	Technologically, the product can be easily used by farmers and researchers around the world, since the software works entirely via cloud and the system does not need any sophisticated equipment. Countries or regions with scarce water resources, where irrigation of farmland accounts for the vast majority (above 70%) of water demand, could significantly benefit from the use of the OPIRIS system.	So far, 30 agricultural enterprises have profited by the OPIRIS system, with the figure constantly increasing. BY using the OPIRIS tool, enterprises can achieve significant reduction in required inputs (30% decrease in water use, 20% decrease in fertilizers use).

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				of projects, → Weakness: 100% FP7 fund based – Total dependence)		
Slovenia						
1	Innovation voucher	3	No (??)	The GP refers to a voucher system that co-finances external expert costs for the protection of the intellectual property rights on national or international level. A significant number of SMEs in Slovenia have benefited from the GP.	The GP is fully transferable across Europe.	99 SMEs in 2011. 50 SMEs in 2012.
Hungary						
1	CENTROPE_TT innovation voucher	3	No	The GP proposes a transnational voucher system that supports SMEs to get services from international universities and R&D institutes, thus promoting international, technology oriented, science-to-business cooperations. Yes, in terms of number of co-operations	The specific GP is fully transferable across Europe. Critical parameters are the business support intermediaries and the available funding. → Weakness: 100 %ERDF based – Total dependence)	34 concrete transnational cooperation between SMEs and R&D institutions, 58 beneficiaries (34 SMEs + 24 R&D Service Providers). Partially. Need of actual results assessment.
	INNOCSEKK Plus voucher system	3	No (??)	INNOCSEKK Plus is a voucher system in Hungary that supports innovation activities of SMEs. <i>Data is limited in order to assess effectiveness.</i>	The GP is easily transferable across Europe.	<i>No data is available.</i>
Spain						
1	European Business and Innovation Cen-	1	Yes	The aim of CEEI-Burgos is to pro-	CEEI-Burgos could be transferred to	4.981 s.m. of incubation facilities (hosted approximately 50

	tre of Burgos			<p>mote innovation and entrepreneurship in the Castilla y Leon region. From its establishment, innovation and entrepreneurship are simultaneously tackled in an integrated way with the aim to support regional policy makers and the wider society.</p>	<p>any other region across Europe. It is a certificated EU/BIC and its proceedings are standardized, thus its business model can be replicated where needed.</p>	<p>start ups since 2001), support of over 2500 potential entrepreneurs and over 500 companies/SMEs</p> <p>Not quantified: Support services to entrepreneurs and SMEs services (business plan, advising and mentoring), training and e-learning sessions, national and international projects, supported SMEs, supported start-ups, microfinance services.</p> <p>However, quality report available.</p>
Netherlands						
1	Centre of Expertise Biobased Economy	1	Yes	<p>Considering the need for skilled workforce in the Biobased Industries and the targeted figure of 2500 trained workers in the next years, COEBBE has proven quite successful since the figures are already high in terms of students, Massive Open Online Courses' participants, participating professionals, teachers, knowledge partners networks, business partners, lab investments etc. → Yes (initially)</p>	<p>The BP could be easily transferred to other regions. Skilled workforce in the Biobased Industries is critical for the circular economy, thus any region could reform the educational program so as to support the biobased economy.</p>	<p>1750 students, 1738 MOOC participants, 950 participating professionals, 178 teachers, 7 affiliated lecturers, 7 minors, 2 lines of research as part of the curriculum, 20 research projects (7 international - H2020, Interreg), knowledge partners network of 35 and 114 business partners, 250 key lab investments</p> <p>→ Need of actual data related to integration in businesses of participant students/researches</p>
2	AMS	2	Yes	Yes (Initially)	Yes	Need of actual results assessment