



## Peer Review REPORT

We kindly ask each Host Partner to complete this form after each Peer Review.

<b>Host Partner</b>	Ústí Region, CZ
<b>Date of Peer Review</b>	7 – 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2016
<b>Format of the meeting</b>	
<b>PREPARATION</b>	
What was your experience in arranging the Peer review? How was the reaction of the stakeholders? Did you receive any useful inputs from the Peer Review Team/experts during that preparation period?	
Peer review preparation enabled to summarise the main existing problems, to define the questions and to mobilise the stakeholders in the region. The stakeholders were strongly interested, because number of activities are under development and under realisation in the moment and it was visible , that the direct communication and discussions with international experts were motivating for regional stakeholders, this was clear also during the non-official activities of the event.	
<b>IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEER REVIEW</b>	
(a) Description of Peer Review focus: key issues that the host partner wanted to address	
<p><b>Key question</b> – clarification of the role of the Region as an institution in enterprising support, i.e. the role of the Region in relation to firms and the state, which provides the financing and the organisation provision of the majority of supporting programmes.</p> <p><b>Role of experts</b></p> <p>Documents define number of measures, but the financial and “human” capacities for realisation are limited. The task of experts participating will be to help to answer the following questions:</p> <p><b>Supporting questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which priorities, measures is recommended to introduce as the first one and which measures as the following in the next phase? /roadmap, timeschedule/.</li> <li>• How do you evaluate the effectiveness of such measures /benefit/ costs/.</li> <li>• Which indicators would you use to measure the effectiveness of our measures</li> <li>• Please design the business models, best practices, incl. your estimation of the necessary capacities for activities you evaluate as the most important for the Ústí Region.</li> </ul>	
(b) Please list here in bullet points the activities undertook during your Peer Review	
<p>Day 1 - Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• long-term regional problems – high level of unemployment, brain drain, remaining orientation on industry and big companies, low level of skills of the working force.</li> <li>• Strategy of Structural Change and the already realised steps.</li> <li>• actions and activities focused on enterprising support - launched web sites providing services for entrepreneurs, the necessity of participation of regional companies in the</li> </ul>	



international events, fairs and the supporting services planned or already provided by the region.

- list of supporting activities to regional companies (advisory services, trainings, etc.) and the need to motivate the companies to work in the region.
- Services provided by CzechInvest Agency: start-ups support, suppliers database, brownfields listing, linking of SMS's and schools.
- Services provided by Innovation Centre of the Ústí Region support of SMEs grow in the Region, innovation vouchers, financing, projects.
- Conclusion- the Region has a good system of support, the problem represents also the administration, it is necessary to focus on the content, not on the form of the support.
- afternoon - visit of the regional University of J.E.Purkyně, where the industrial history of the region has been presented together with the teaching programmes of the university. Then the information on applied research were presented to participants in the laboratories (chemistry, physical, nanotechnologies).

Day 2 :

- meeting of experts, they summarised the findings, evaluation, key activities, opinions, discussions on measures, practices recommended, and derived the recommendations to Ústí Region aimed on enterprising support.
- Presentation of the findings and conclusions to participants

(c) Partnership: please list here the **experts**

Name	Organisation
GIOVANNI LIBRICI	City of Genoa, IT
Paola Dellepiane	Manager - Responsible for Procedures at FI.L.S.E. SpA (Ligurian Finance Company for Economic Development) a subsidiary company owned by Regione Liguria to which the Regional Authority entrusts management of EU calls for SMEs grants/funding, IT
Hugo Russell	Innovation Birmingham, UK
Parthenopi Sourmaidou	Managing Director, Ergani Center, EL

(d) Partnership: please list here the **participants from your region** (including stakeholders)

Name	Organisation
Karel Tichý	Economy and Social Council of the Ústí Region
Gabriela Nekolová,	Economy and Social Council of the Ústí Region
Petra Hrstková	CzechInvest
František Jochman	Chamber of Commerce of the Ústí Region
Martina Francírková	Chamber of Commerce of the Ústí Region
Lucie Podrápská	Innovation Centre of the Ústí Region
Tomáš Sivíček	Innovation Centre of the Ústí Region



(e) Recommendations: please list and explain the conclusions and main points of advice you received from the experts

Z.Hušek presented the summarisation of the results of the peer review by transnational experts. The main topics were stated:

**1. The role of the Ústí Region in coordination of the SMEs support**

Definition of main problems- administration barriers, necessity of “good working positions – better jobs” in the region.

These topics were commented by the transnational expert team – Mr. Giovanni Librici GIOVANNI LIBRICI (Program Manager PURE COSMOS Project and the head of the financial department of the Municipality of Genova, IT) informed on the situation in Genova, financial sources and their management, management of real estates in the City ownership, focus on ICT utilisation.

Mr. Hugo Russel (Birmingham, UK) presented the coordination of services in Birmingham, local and regional management and the work of the “Call center” monitoring the SMEs operating, the provision of the support to specific businesses, the system of SMEs support in Birmingham and support of the family business, management of funds for education and trainings.

**2. Skilled work force**

Expats – attracting and support of migrating technical work force is recommended.

**3. Administrational barriers**

Ms. Paola Dellepiane, (Manager - Responsible for Procedures at FI.L.S.E. SpA (Ligurian Finance Company for Economic Development) Genova, IT)), presented in detail the established regional (Liguria Region, IT) monitoring digital system, available to SMEs to apply for funding, informing directly the applicants on mistakes in the application and providing them with the necessary documents, information on eligible costs, open calls. She clarified the advantages of the system as time saving, transparency for applicants, better informing.

Ms. Parthenopi Sourmaidou,( Managing Director, Ergani Center (ANATOLIKI S.A., GR)), mentioned the services provided for women in SMEs support and presented the activities provided in Thessaloniki and the impact of them on the women employment rate, environment, tourist services etc.) together with the specifics of women enterprising support.

(f) Please list here the action points and next steps

- The findings of the discussion on regional one stop shop will be included in the strategy,
  - Utilisation of expert’s recommendations in searching the forms of coordination of activities and minimisation of twinning the activities
  - Focus of the work on the Regional Innovation Centre – ICUK – on the ecosystem development instead the infrastructure
- Monitoring of the best practices of partner s regions ´during study visits and other PURE COSMOS activities (focus on granting management system in Liguria, GrowthHub in Birmingham etc.)



(g) Exchange of Experience: please list and (briefly describe) any **GOOD PRACTICE RECOMMENDED BY THE EXPERTS**

Mr Hugo Russel, (Project Manager, Innovation Birmingham, UK), stressed the necessity to focus on e-services and the online administration and recommended the ways of administration realised in Birmingham, UK.

The representatives of Liguria agreed this opinion and recommended the on-line regional system on data processing providing information on projects applications.

**Please also send the agenda and the pictures of the meeting.  
THANK YOU!**

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