



HIGHER
Interreg Europe

BENCHMARKING REPORT

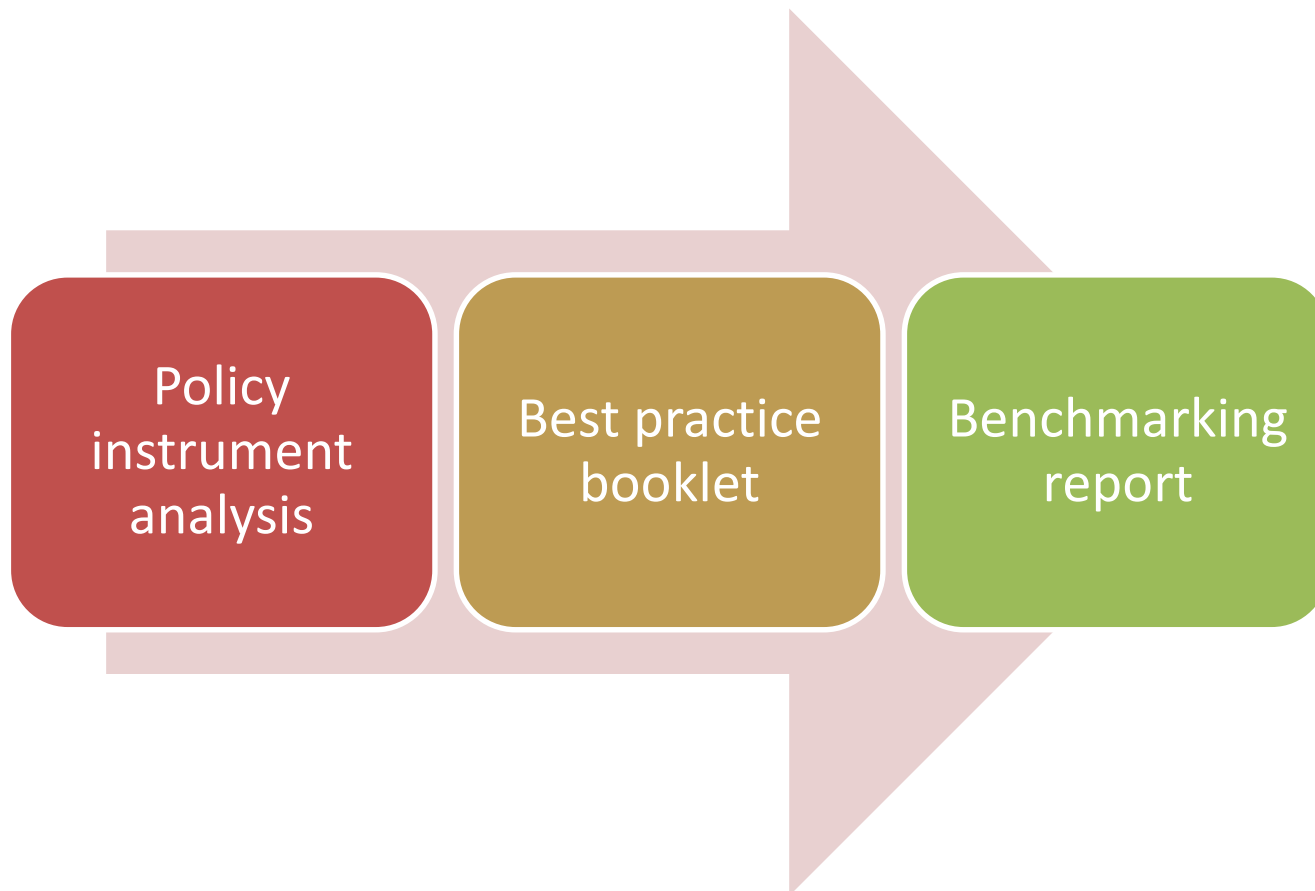
**Maja Ferlinc, Slovenian Business and Research
Association and Association of Slovenian Urban
Municipalities**

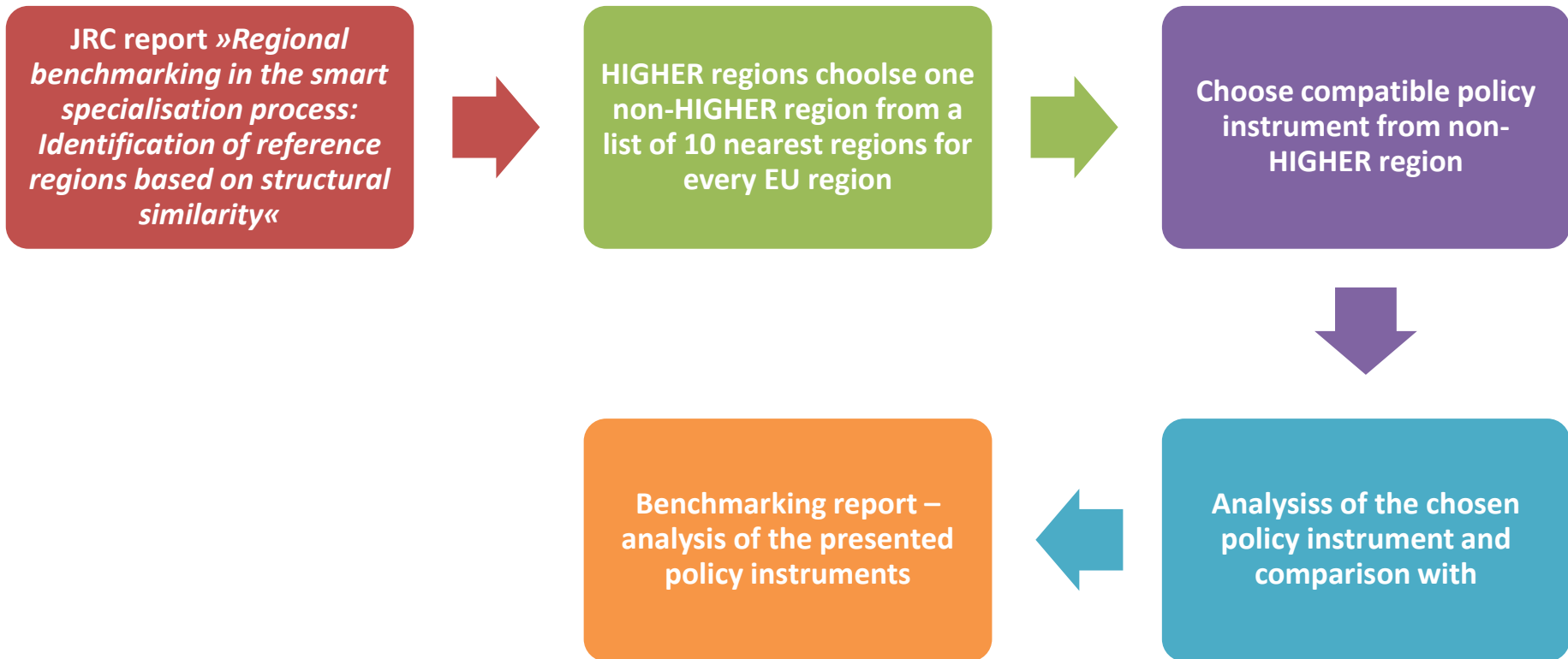
**Interreg
Europe** 
European Union | European Regional Development Fund

HIGHER meeting, 6th of October 2017, Thessaloniki



Act. 2.2. Benchmarking analysis between HIGHER project good practices and other European related policies identified by the innovation experts. A final benchmarking report summarising the best practices identified will be developed (to be published digitally, disseminated to target audiences and also uploaded at the Programme's Platform). Each partner will give its contribution in finding the useful information and send them to the activity's responsible partner through a predefined form. Activity coordinated by AUMS.





Description of the similar policy instrument in a selected comparable region

- Selected comparable region:
- Name of the instrument:
- What are the main characteristics and the objectives of the instrument?
- What are the thematic priorities of the instrument?
- What are the key implementation tools and channels for the policy instrument?
- What are the main stakeholders involved?
- Type of funding (grants, loans, other):
- What are the expected results and the impact of the instrument?
- What are expected performance indicators?

Policy learning

- What are the main similarities between your policy instrument and the comparable policy instrument of the chosen region?
- What are the main differences between your policy instrument and the comparable policy instrument of the chosen region?
- What can you learn from the chosen comparable policy instrument of the chosen region / What are the characteristics of the chosen comparable instrument that you could implement in your region?

HIGHER region	Selected comparable region
<p>CENTRAL MACEDONIA</p> <p>Axis 01 - specific priority that called 1b1 - Promoting private R&D&I investments, to develop new products and services in RIS3 areas.</p>	<p>TUSCANY</p> <p>AXIS 01 (supporting innovation and links between Knowledge and Market), Action 1.1.5 R&D investments aid scheme</p>
<p>NORTH PORTUGAL</p> <p>Norte 2020 – Regional Operational Program of North - Scientific and technological knowledge transfer - Collective actions (Action 1.2.1)</p>	<p>EMILIA ROMAGNA</p> <p>Regional Operational Program of Emilia-Romagna – Strategic industrial research projects within the framework of the priorities defined in S3 (Action 1.2.2)</p>
<p>LITHUANIA</p> <p>INOGE LT - promote technological progress and innovation by providing the innovation consulting and innovation support services</p>	<p>POLAND</p> <p>Pro-innovation BEI services for SMEs - ensure enterprises' access to pro-innovation services provided by various types of public and private entities.</p>
<p>CATALONIA</p> <p>RIS3CAT Communities - Boosting collaboration and active groups of companies and different stakeholders within the R&D&I</p>	<p>LOMBARDY</p> <p>R&D line for Aggregations - Promoting stable and long-term collaboration in the R&D field</p>
<p>STOCKHOLM</p> <p>Programme for Strategic Innovation Collaboration Between Public and Private Actors in Stockholm</p>	<p>COPENHAGEN</p> <p>CopenVirk - help local SMEs to gain greater access to public funding and increase access to global</p>
<p>SLOVENIA</p> <p>Strategic Research and Innovation Partnerships</p>	<p>LODZKIE</p> <p>Collaboration between SMEs and RTI instituts</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better support of new startups - It is aligned with the Commission's Pact with Greece and - It is also aligned with the national operational goals and programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - results); - to focus on RIS3 strategies; - to enhance open innovation dynamics (fostering also spin-off and start-ups).
Thematic focus/priorities	<p>General thematic priorities of Central Macedonia's RIS3 strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agrifood - Tourism - Material (mainly building) and - Textile (mainly asset management) 	<p>Within the general objective of promoting business investments in R&D, main thematic priorities are related to RIS3 technological axes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - photonic and ICT; - smart manufacturing; - Chemicals and nanotechnology.
Implementation tools	<p>Key implementation tool will be the calls that will be specify more policy's goals and objectives and these call will also be framed under EU general block exemption regulation.</p>	<p>Key implementation tools are call for proposals for Research and development state aids schemes.</p> <p>The R&D aids scheme, activated under the GBER (general block exemption regulation) are integrated with aids to SMEs for purchasing knowledge intensive services.</p>
Stakeholders focus	<p>All triple helix entities are and will be involved in the formulation and implementation of this policy. The main stakeholders that are going to be involved in the implementation of this policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - universities, - R&D centers, - R&D entities, - SME's - Startups 	<p>Main stakeholders involved are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - technological districts; - research centers; - universities; - Enterprises. <p>Under this action and calls proposals that partner with research and knowledge centres get more points during their evaluation phase.</p>
Funding type	Grants	Grants
Expected results	<p>The main output indicator:</p> <p>Number of enterprises introducing new products in the market</p> <p>Number of companies cooperating with research institutes.</p>	<p>The instrument has several output indicators, mainly linked to:</p> <p>number of R&D employees generated;</p> <p>number of enterprises introducing process and product innovation;</p> <p>number of enterprises introducing new products in the market;</p> <p>Number of companies cooperating with research institutes.</p> <p>Outcomes indicators are related to:</p> <p>increment of the number of R&D employees on total employees;</p> <p>Increase of the percentage of enterprises introducing new products in the market on total.</p>

- Previous good cooperation with benchmarking regions
- Benchmarking regions two cases better developed
- Similar RIS3 priorities in HIGHER and benchmarking regions, although they might have different focus (sector vs technology orientation)
- Three benchmarking regions and two HIGHER regions from Italy

- Instruments focused mostly on SMEs and their cooperation with R&D
- Importance of the learning process
 - loan system in Lombardy
 - access to EU funds in Copenhagen
 - contracts with companies in Emilia Romagna
 - funding SMEs directly rather than intermediaries like in Poland, etc



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