

S34GROWTH partners & stakeholders met in the Basque Country



Mid-May was the time for another OSDD event of the S34GROWTH project. On this occasion, partners and stakeholders visited the Basque Country to learn on site about the region's innovation ecosystem. The first day of the OSDD was shared with MANUMIX and MANUNET project partners whereas the second day was exclusively for the policy acceleration and co-creation sessions of S34GROWTH.

About a hundred representatives from 20 European regions involved in two Interreg Europe projects (S34GROWTH and MANUMIX) and one ERANET project on Advanced Manufacturing (MANUNET) took part in an event on May 17th in Bilbao.

Ms Estíbaliz Hernáez, Vice-Minister for Technology, Innovation and Competitiveness of the Basque Government, gave the keynote speech. During her intervention she emphasized the need for more interregional cooperation within and outside the EU as this cooperation "can play a key role in promoting competitiveness at regional and European level". In fact, she reminded that "no more than 30% of regional growth can be attributed to local factors" so a region's RIS3 "should not be an isolated strategy."

In addition, Ms Moragues (DG RTD, European Commission) spoke about industrial technologies, RIS and synergies between Horizon 2020 and European Structural and Investment Funds.

During the rest of the meeting, representatives from the Basque Government, the Basque Business Development Agency (SPRI) and the Basque Innovation Agency (Innobasque) presented the Basque Regional Innovation Strategy and Advanced Manufacturing Strategy, a variety of R&D and Technology Transfer Instruments, the Basque STI Network and the region's cluster policy, just to mention a few things.

In the afternoon of May 17th, participants in the meeting visited the Science and Technology Park of Bizkaia and the Center for Advanced Manufacturing in Aeronautics.

Day two of the OSDD Basque Country took place in Eibar at the premises of Tekniker. This meeting was devoted to the policy acceleration and co-creation sessions for the S34GROWTH partners and stakeholders. The main objective was to learn about how to effectively put into practice innovation instruments for inter-regional cooperation, specifically with the consideration of Article 70 of the Common Provisions Regulation on the European Structural and Investment Funds.

Parallel co-creation sessions focused on two policy instruments: i) innovation vouchers and ii) joint calls, along with special session focusing on iii) the "de-manufacturing re-manufacturing demo-case of the ESM pilot.

The meeting concluded with wide-ranging discussions on the policy instruments best suited to inter-regional cooperation, the challenges in using Art 70, and opportunities for moving ahead.

On the less official side of the event, Mr Jose Ignacio Hormaeche, CEO of the Basque Energy Cluster was elected "Best Stakeholder of the OSDD". Congratulations!

For more information

Website: www.interregeurope.eu/s34growth/

Twitter: @S34Growth

[To the top](#)

<http://mailchi.mp/centralsweden/nec2vrndn3t?e=ec16e713ed%20#S34Growth>

<http://mailchi.mp/centralsweden/nec2vrndn3t?e=ec16e713ed>