



Innova-FI
Interreg Europe



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Innova-FI overview, methodology and outputs

02 & 03 July, 2018 | Kick off Meeting in Porto

The project in brief

- Improving the design and implementation **of Financial Instruments as a delivery mode of Structural Funds**, so that they best meet and serve the financing needs of innovative and RTDI-driven businesses in all the stages of their start-up and growth.
- Learning about the **innovation landscape**, and how it is being publicly financed, in partner regions.

The project in brief

- Examining together identified **challenges**, such as:
 - designing FIs that are well adapted to the different phases of the business;
 - achieving a better alignment of FIs with other support measures,
 - creating cross-border instruments.



Issues addressed

- Difficulties in accessing finance and helping innovative SMEs in overcoming the 'valleys of death' and reaching a sustainable growth phase
- Make the most effective use of public funds and use **financial instruments help to mobilise additional public or private co-investments to address market failures.**
- Promoting qualified entrepreneurship
- Increasing use of financial instruments as a delivery mode under ESIF.

Projects' Challenges

- Designing FIs that tackle RTDI-driven and highly innovative business
- Designing FIs that are well adapted to the different phases of the business (from early stage to a sustainable growth phase)
- Moving away from a grants culture, very much established in the RTDI and innovation field
- Achieving a better alignment and integration of FIs with other research and innovation support measures
- Creating cross-border instruments and achieving synergies between funds

INNOVA-FI approach I

- 1. MAPPING TOOL** Regional identification and analysis, ‘Financing innovation in regions’ using IVACE tool, allowing to know the state-of-play and starting point in the different partner regions, and will allow to make a consistent comparison between regions
- 2. EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE** Peer-learning through study visits and thematic workshops. One per partner, 3 days duration.
 - Day 1 (one to half day) will be dedicated to the SCM and internal project management
 - Day 2 (full day) will be dedicated to analysing the situation in the hosting region.
 - Day 3 (one day) will be dedicated to a thematic workshop with the participation of renown external experts
- 3. Joint development of ACTIONS PLANS.**

INNOVA-FI approach II

*The queen saves
the policy instruments
and
the stakeholders*



Policy instruments

- Key role
- A better understanding among regional policy-makers
- Improvement of the 7 addressed policy Instruments.



The Stakeholders

Involvement of regional stakeholders:

- Each partner will **bring 2 stakeholders** to each interregional learning activity. A total of 16 external stakeholders per partner should have been involved in the interregional activities by the end of the project.
- Each semester, after the exchange of experience events, each partner will organise a **meeting with relevant identified stakeholders** or a dissemination event.

European stakeholder: Innova-FI will seek a close collaboration with the European Institutions —EC (DG Regio) and EIB/EIF—, with fi-compass advisory platform, as well as with relevant EU networks such as EBAN (European Business Angels Association) or European Association of Guarantee Institutions.

General outputs

- Partnership agreement
- Minutes of the meetings (KoM, SCM and LSG meetings)
- Reports on all the exchanges of experience events (8 reports)
- Participation in Interreg Learning Platforms

Specific outputs

- 7 thematic workshops and 7 study visits
- 1 Joint Peer Learning
- 3 policy booklets for governments, compiling case studies and recommendations
- 7 Action Plans
- 2 dissemination events in Brussels to engage with regions outside the consortium
- 1 high-level conference in collaboration with SERN
- Participation of Innova-FI partners in 12 external events



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Thank you!

Questions welcome



Project media