HIGHER Interreg Europe

The HIGHER project: main achievements

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European Union | European Regional Development Fund





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HIGHER Interreg Europe

Title: Better Policy Instruments for High Innovation projects in the European regions

Duration: 2016-2021

Total Budget: *1,498,656* €



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Objectives



Overall objective:

To achieve **innovative models of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)** suitable to mobilise investment in target **smart specialisation areas** and fostering an **entrepreneurial discovery process** in driving innovation process of the **policy instruments addressing RIS3**.

Main sub-objectives:

- To set up of a Learning Process starting from the identification and exchange good practices related to ESIF programs management, interregional and transnational actions, types of priorities, project selection...
- To support the implementation of action plans targeting different policy instruments and smart specialisation areas.
- To promote the engagement of all actors, quadruple helix approach, for improving the policy instruments.
- To promote the role of the Public Administration as innovation demand drivers starting from public procurers' needs.



Partners















10 Good Practices identified:

- Baltic Sea Region Stars S3 (BSR Stars S3): cross-border and transnational collaboration
- Stockholm Innovation & Growth (STING): tech startup ecosystem
- Strategic Research and Innovation Partnerships for S3 (SRIPs): companies/R&D institutions cooperation in 9 S3 priority areas
- **RIS3CAT Communities:** Multidisciplinary associations as core players for S3
- Innovation Stockholm: collaborative platform for regional innovation, with representatives from public sector, academia and business
- **Cross cluster collaboration**: collaboration between different clusters from different regions
- Regional Scientific Council for Research and Innovation: support for planning and implementing the regional RIS3 strategy
- Entrepreneurial Discovery Process: strengthen cooperation and coordination of enterprises, R&D centers, existing public-private aggregations
- **RIS3CAT Monitoring System:** coordinate the ERDF's monitoring with a learning process of the 4H dynamics and economic transformation ensuing
- Consolidation of National innovation consultancy services: contribute to increased Business expenditure on R&D

https://www.interregeurope.eu/higher/good-practice/





300+ Stakeholders involved in :

- > 20 local/regional meetings
- 4 workshops, focused on different thematic priorities: Agrifood & Tourism (Thessaloniki), Innovation Public Procurements (Ancona), Circular economy (Ljubiana, Brussels)
- 3 Innovation Summits
- 4 study visits (success stories, science and business cooperation "Valleys")

Representatives from Large Companies, SME, R&D centres, universities, associations, public administration / policy makers





7/8 Action Plans implemented:

- **Catalonia:** Introduction of Innovative participation processes for a 4-helix oriented instrument
- **RCM:** Improvement of EDP and RIS3 monitoring processes
- **Slovenia:** Internacionalization of SRIPs
- **Marche:** New PPP based on S3, integration of new initiatives with EU funds
- Lithuania: New methods to monitor instrument efficiency
- Região Norte: Establishement of a RIS3 Monitoting system, launch of S3 regional platforms
- Abbruzzo: Improvement of EU funds impact, Financial Innovation
- **Stockholm Region**: Building Effective Smart Specialisation Governance Structures

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Conclusions



- Direct impact on 4 target policy instruments
- Influence on next programming period
- High stakeholder involvement: adoption of a 4-helix approach
- Improvements on monitoring and EDP
- Identification of main barriers to S3 implementation related to: actor engagement, leadership (e.g. political commitment) and timing

Thank you!





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More information at: <u>https://www.interregeurope.eu/higher/</u>