

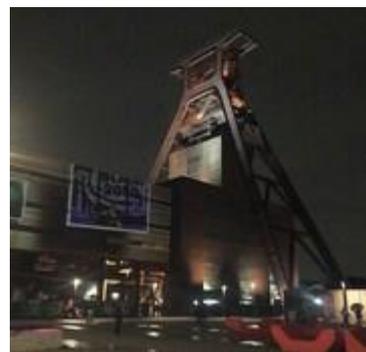


Project partners join programme to support business growth

Bringing together 10 partners from eight countries including Spain, Italy, Romania, Ireland, Germany, Sweden, Poland and Wales – COHES3ION is a three-year project which aims to promote business growth and job creation across Europe through Smart Specialisation best practice and policy. [Read more here](#)

Experts helping to transform the Ruhr

At the beginning of January, partners attended the second learning journey in Essen, Germany. They heard how the loss of traditional industries in steel and coal has led to the region reinventing itself using markets such as healthcare and cyber security. [Find out more here](#)





Spotlight on a partner

In this edition of the newsletter we introduce the project lead and host of the first learning journey, BEAZ Bizkaia.

Their smart growth strategy focuses on innovation, industrialisation, internationalisation and investment in a number of key priority areas including advanced industry and manufacturing, energy and biological sciences - health.

During the visit partners visited [BIC Bizkaia](#) an incubator centre focusing on growth in advanced technology sectors.

We also heard from [Bizkaia Orekan](#) initiative in which the Provincial Council of Bizkaia works with the collaboration of the local and regional development agents, and the technical support from [ORKESTRA](#)-Basque Institute of Competitiveness.

[Read more about BEAZ Bizkaia here](#)

Exciting programme of visits announced!

The project partners will be busy during semester 2 with learning journey dates announced in Calabria Region on 28 & 29 April 2020 and the North West Region on 24 & 25 June 2020. Keep up to date with the visits as they are announced [here](#)

Communication Training in Budapest

Representatives from 74 projects were invited to attend communications training in Budapest to learn about the publicity requirements for the COHES3ION project. We gained helpful advice on how to tell stories and shared tips with other delegates. [Find out more here](#)

Date for your diary

Vanguard Initiative Regional Conference

25 March 2020 - Cardiff Castle

26 March - Principality Stadium

The Vanguard Initiative brings together over 30 European regions who are committed to inter-regional collaboration, focused through their Smart Specialisation strategies.

This event is open to all Vanguard Initiative member regions. We also welcome participation from policy makers and stakeholders across Europe, including representatives from companies, clusters and academia involved in innovation, research and smart specialization.

[Book your place here](#)

ABOUT

COHES3ION will integrate local and regional priorities into regional innovation policies, such as Smart Specialisation, increasing their impact and performance in terms of growth and job creation.

Find out more on the web:

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