



SPEED UP START UP PASS

Interreg Europe



MEMORENDUM of UNDERSTANDING (MoU)



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

	BETWEEN
<u>City of Florence</u>	
	AND
<u>STIC-Economic Promotion for East Brandenburg</u>	
	AND
<u>City of Antwerp</u>	
	AND
<u>Greater Reims</u>	
	AND
<u>City of Warsaw</u>	
	AND
<u>Chamber of Commerce of Sevilla</u>	
	AND
<u>City of Lisboa</u>	
	AND
<u>Tallin Science Park Technopol</u>	
	AND
<u>ANCI Tuscany-National Association of Italian municipalities</u>	

ARTICLE 1 : PRESENTATION OF THE PARTIES

1. City of Florence

The Municipality of Florence is deeply committed to improving the networking activities of all actors involved in the innovation ecosystem. The Municipality is working to build a solid dialogue with the key stakeholders such as SMEs, entrepreneurs, professionals, incubators, handcrafters, co-workers, universities and public authorities. Participatory meetings with these actors have helped to better identify needs (in terms of funds, training, information, consultancy, etc.) and reinforce the innovation ecosystem of the Florence and Tuscany area.

The main results coming from the SPEED UP policy learning process and from the participatory process were adopted by the Institutional Agreement that was signed in 2018 between public and private actors: Municipality of Florence, Chamber of Commerce of Florence, University of Florence, School of Business Sciences and Industrial Technologies, Nana Bianca, Impact Hub and TSH Collab. This agreement aims to create a virtuous local innovation ecosystem able to stimulate the development of the Florentine innovation ecosystem, both at support of the start-ups of the territory and of open innovation processes generated by all sectors: industry, crafts, agriculture, services and commerce, public authorities and third sector.

2. STIC

STIC is the economic promotion agency of the district Märkisch-Oderland in the Berlin-Brandenburg area (Germany). Its main activities are to strengthen the regional economy, to foster entrepreneurship and to improve the services and performances of activities by its incubator. More than 2.800 businesses has been supporting since 2004 thanks to the projects “young companies”, “pilot service for New Entrepreneurs” and “Green Companies”. All projects are funded by the “European Social Fund” (ESF). They provide advice to young people and start-ups in the sustainable and environment sector. Furthermore, STIC is a contact point of the European programme “Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs” for Berlin -Brandenburg, encouraging German start-ups to extend their business activities to the European Single Market.

3. City of Antwerp

Antwerp’s ambition is to be a thriving city for startups and innovation. The city is known for its port activities, for having one of the largest petrochemical clusters in the world and for being a creative hub for fashion and diamonds. “Antwerp Startup City” facilitates initiatives from the private sector and promote their activities to the broader business community. The team supports local startups in four main areas: Support entrepreneurship; Incubation; Test & Commercialize; Growth & Internationalization.

4. Greater Reims

Greater Reims Urban Community gathers 143 municipalities and 300.000 inhabitants. Greater Reims is strongly committed to develop the innovation and entrepreneurship local ecosystem to boost business and job creation. Greater Reims is a significant partner of the public startup incubator Innovact, the public accelerator Grand E-nov and academic incubators (URCA Creativ’labz, NEOMA Start-up lab) It also encourages private initiatives such (Quartier Libre, Village by CA) which hosts innovative businesses and events to promote business networking. SPPED UP has triggered more collaboration and integration within local stakeholders and fruitful cooperation with public authorities.

5. City of Warsaw

The City of Warsaw has been the backbone of the creation of the Centre of Entrepreneurship Smolna (CES). The CES is an outcome of one of EU-funded project implemented by European Funds and Economic Development Department of the City of Warsaw. It is the first public incubator in Warsaw that offers various possibilities of growth for young entrepreneurs. The main asset of the CES is its incubation services. As a public institution, the CES provides helpful tools for entrepreneurs to enable them to build sustainable businesses.

6. Chamber of Commerce of Sevilla

The CCSEV is a non-profit public corporation established as an advisory body to collaborate with public authorities. CCSEV promotes services to business including internationalization, innovation and entrepreneurship and employment, in close collaboration with the Regional Government of Andalusia. The Chamber of Commerce of Sevilla has also a wide training programme addressed to companies, entrepreneurs, professionals, employees and unemployed including young people.

7. City of Lisboa

Since 2010, with the creation of StartUp Lisboa, building a strong entrepreneurship and business incubation ecosystem has been one of the main priorities of the city of Lisbon. This incubation ecosystem is the foundation of all activities and initiatives developed by the city to support entrepreneurs and investors and its reflected in the Madeof Lisboa platform to support the networking of the local entrepreneurial ecosystem. Today, Lisbon has dozens of national, international and private and public incubators supporting entrepreneurs at different stages of their development and has a vibrant ecosystem that is playing cards all around the world. Lisbon is currently one of the most dynamic and vibrant entrepreneurial cities in Europe, open to exploring new experiences, concepts and projects. The Lisbon City Council has been developing and supporting a very diverse range of projects and initiatives in the fields of entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity, with a strong focus in the areas of incubation and acceleration of startups, support to SMEs and self-employment.

8. Tallin Science Park Technopol

Tehnopol Science and Business Park aims to support state-of-art technology entrepreneurship in Estonia and help it expand to the world. Our vision is to make the Estonian economy more sustainable. As the largest science park in the Baltics, Tehnopol provides enterprises with everything they need for growth, development, and real-life test environments - from modern office spaces to top-notch business counselling and innovation testing. The smart research campus forms one big area with Tallinn University of Technology. Tehnopol Startup Incubator helps technology-based startups develop their businesses and get investments, using the best mentors from Estonia and Europe.

9. ANCI Tuscany

ANCI Tuscany is the regional body of the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI) that represents its members, 279 municipalities, before regional and national authorities. It is recognized formally as the representative body of Tuscan local administrations by the regional law 68/2011 on the system of local autonomies and as such intervenes in legislative actions, policies and operational programs on behalf of municipalities. ANCI Tuscany promotes the economic and territorial development of the Tuscan cities in all areas related to the today's urban challenges through exchange of knowledge, experience and good practices between cities and their stakeholders to scale up urban solutions as well as through capacity building to tackle current and future urban challenges.

ARTICLE 2: OBJECT OF THE MoU

The main objective of the MoU is to extend and enrich the cooperation built up between the parties in the framework of the INTERREG EUROPE SPEED UP project.

This MoU formalizes the framework of partnership between the parties. Its purpose is to establish a mutually beneficial relationship which fosters the development and growth of each of the parties' innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem by :

- Facilitating the circulation of startups between the parties thanks to the development of the «SPEED UP Startup Pass»
- Facilitating cooperation and the circulation of information between the parties

ARTICLE 3: CIRCULATION OF STARTUPS BETWEEN PARTIES

3. a. Eligibility

The acceptance of eligible startups and partners is linked to the validation of each party according to its own selection rules and targeted sectors.

3. b. SPEED UP Startup Pass

The SPEED UP Startup Pass is a tool to encourage the circulation of startups/partners between the business incubation ecosystems of the parties. The aim of the Pass is to give the possibility for startups and entrepreneurs to be hosted in SPEED UP partners cities' incubators and coworking spaces for a fixed period without additional costs. It is up to each party to determine the nature of the services to provide to the startups (length of stay, landing support services)

ARTICLE 4: CIRCULATION OF INFORMATION BETWEEN PARTIES

4. a. Promotion of the MoU

The parties agree to actively promote this partnership:

- To business incubators and startups in their respective ecosystem
- To their respective network
- Through their communication tools (website, newsletters, social media...)

Upon request, the parties can have the opportunity to present their services and ecosystem to business incubators and startups in SPEED UP partners 'cities.

4. a. Promotion of the MoU

The parties endeavour to:

- Promote, on their respective websites, social media and relevant newsletters, the events, offers and business opportunities on the basis of the provided information.
- Provide information to the parties about events, offers and business opportunities on their city.

4. b. Logos

The parties are free to display each others' logos on their own and relevant websites and marketing support.

ARTICLE 5: DATE OF EFFECT AND DURATION

This partnership shall come into effect on the date of last signature.

It is establish for a period of 12 MONTHS

At due date, the signatories will review the implementation of the partnership.

Unless otherwise stated by the signatory parties, it may be extended by tacit agreement.

ARTICLE 6: REVISION AND TERMINATION

6. a. Revision

This MoU may be changed by amendment by mutual agreement between parties.

6. b. Termination

A party can withdraw from the partnership with one month notice.

Any dispute over this MoU shall be settled by amicable negotiation.

ARTICLE 7: CORRESPONDANCE

Any notification related to this MoU must be duly made to the respective coordinates of the signatory parties listed below:

ARTICLE 8 : MISCELLANEOUS

The document should be signed in one for each party.

SIGNATURES

The lead partner

Title of the institution:

Municipality of Florence (IT)

Place and date:

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Name and function of the signatory:

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Signature/Stamp:

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The project partner [#2]

Title of the institution:

Lisbon City Council (PT)

Place and date:

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Name and function of the signatory:

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Signature/Stamp:

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The project partner [#3]

Title of the institution: STIC Economic Promotion for East Brandenburg (DE)

Place and date:

Name and function of the signatory:

Signature/Stamp:

The project partner [#4]

Title of the institution:

City of Antwerp (BE)

Place and date:

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Name and function of the signatory:

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Signature/Stamp:

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The project partner [#5]

Title of the institution:

Greater Reims (FR)

Place and date:

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Name and function of the signatory:

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Signature/Stamp:

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The project partner [#6]

Title of the institution:

Chamber of Commerce of Seville (ES)

Place and date:

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Name and function of the signatory:

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Signature/Stamp:

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The project partner [#7]

Title of the institution:

City of Warsaw (PL)

Place and date:

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Name and function of the signatory:

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Signature/Stamp:

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The project partner [#8]

Title of the institution: Association of Tuscan Municipalities (IT)

Place and date:

Name and function of the signatory:

Signature/Stamp:

The project partner [#9]

Title of the institution:

Tallinn Science Park Tehnopol (EE)

Place and date:

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Name and function of the signatory:

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Signature/Stamp:

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