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Greetings to all partners and friends!

We are sharing some updates and further information about the INTER VENTURES project in Newsletter #4. Have a look at what we are working on!



Online Thematic Study Visit & Online Action Planning Workshop

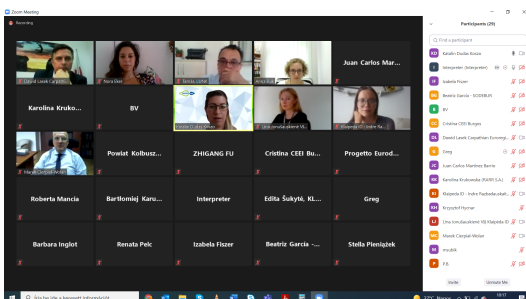
[Inter Ventures Study Visit - Rzeszów](#)

01.07.2021

We organized an online thematic study visit to discuss the situation of SMEs in the Podkarpackie Voivodeship and in the border regions of Spain, Lithuania, Hungary, and Italy, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tools and programmes supporting SMEs were discussed, with particular emphasis on those related to reducing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, the activities of enterprises in the field of internationalization as well as their experiences and/or good practices in setting up and running the international business were analyzed.

[The study Rzeszów](#) - we invite you to watch this video made as part of the meeting.



[Online Action Planning Workshop](#)

17.06.2021

During this workshop, each partner had two tasks during this workshop.

TASK 1

- At the beginning of the Workshop, each region had to present its Action Plan PPT in max. 10 minutes

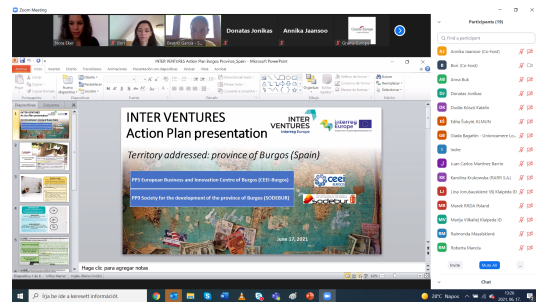
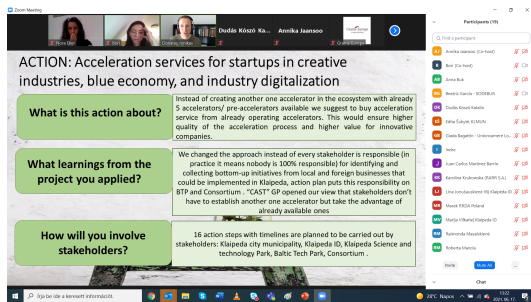
TASK 2

- The partnership was divided into 3 breakout rooms, where partners discussed the feedback and suggestions on Action Plans within the pair. Pairs were divided as follow:

1. Poland 1 (ACEP) – Spain (BURGOS & SODEBUR)
2. Lithuania (Klaipėda Mun & Klaipėda ID) – Poland 2 (RRDA)
3. Hungary (PANNON EGTC) – Italy (LOMB)

After this workshop, all partners received general feedback on the Action Plans:

- Action Plans are to be easy to read for all, also those not knowing the region or the Policy instrument, esp. Executive summary
- Formal adoption/approval by the policy-responsible body of the action plans: for which Action Plan is relevant?
- Operational and feasible actions are needed, also including who is doing what, intense monitoring is expected by Lead Partner in Phase 2
- Finalization of the Action Plan is still ahead, elaboration is a long process.
- The final version has to be designed (photos, nice outlook).



More about the events

Online Executive Summaries

POLICY CONTEXT:

HUNGARY - The region's economic performance depends to a great extent on the performance of the SME sector. The local and regional market is definitely not big enough to provide sufficiently strong demand to growing companies so that the development of the SMEs' capabilities to go international should increase in parallel with their increased

operations on international markets and some specific assistance is needed to support the initiatives to internationalization. A currently implemented pilot project (Beneficiary Light Grant Scheme) aims at supporting joint development actions of Hungarian and Croatian SMEs in the framework of the 2014 – 2020 Interreg Hungary – Croatia cooperation programme, with no real focus on internationalization. While a number of measures target at helping internationalization both in Hungary and Croatia, these schemes are managed at the central level and local SMEs are very often not capable of accessing them.

ITALY - The Lombardy Region is in charge of implementing the European structural funds according to the strategic priorities and objectives that the Region intends to pursue.

The ERDF ROP promotes a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth model in line with the objectives identified in the “Europe2020” strategy and with the regional government’s development policies promoting the productivity and competitiveness of its businesses and the entire economy of the Region.

In particular, Priority axis III Promote SME competitiveness, which is the Policy Instrument chosen for the INTERVENTURES project, aims at improving businesses’ competitiveness from the start-up stage throughout their growth and consolidation, as well as help SMEs in their business activities, with special attention to improving access to credit, and promote the Region’s tourist destinations and attractions. The specific targets are:

1. Start-up and consolidation of MSMEs (direct incentives to start-ups)
2. Raise the level of international activity in the economy (export and international partnership promotion)
3. Consolidate, modernize and diversify the Region’s production resources and arrangements (support on tourism, culture, and general attractiveness of the Region)
4. Reawaken the propensity to invest within the regional economy (help for capital spending on machinery, equipment, process innovation, and intangible assets)
5. Improve access to credit, business funding, and risk management in farming (public guarantees for the expansion of credit, innovative bonds, venture capital funds).

SPAIN - Strategic Plan Burgos Rural (PEBUR 2015-2020) is the main planning document to encourage economic activity, enhancing the quality of life, valorising human capital, and boosting the territorial image. SODEBUR is just in the middle of the hiring process of the services to draft the next Strategic Plan for the programming period 2021-2025 including new policy instruments.

The ongoing Strategic Plan has only co-funded SPORADIC INTERNALIZATION ACTIONS for SMEs. The internalization support policy for SMEs requires intervention on all strategic levels: from the objective (structural problems) to the programmes and relevant SMEs support projects.

POLAND - RRDA was established by the Marshal's Office of the Podkarpackie Region (Managing Authority of the Policy Instrument - Regional Operational Programme of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship for the years 2014 – 2020). It participates in the development and consultations of many important strategic documents at the regional and transregional level under the EU perspective 2014-2020, i.e. in the preparation of the final version of operational programmes and regional strategies, and has a direct impact on the ROP PV 2014-2020. ACEP supports institutions and environments from the Podkarpackie Region in the field of international cooperation at the cross-border and EU level. It represents the Polish side of the Carpathian Euroregion, associating local governments and natural persons representing scientific, non-governmental, and entrepreneurial entities. The ACEP is a member of the international working group for the implementation of cross-border programmes. It fosters cooperation with regional actors such as RRDA and the Marshal's Office. The ACEP promotes the improvements of the ROP 2014-2020 to support the internationalization of SMEs with cross-border relevance.

LITHUANIA - Klaipėda city municipality administration (further – KLAMUN) has an influence on the quality of administration of KEDS implementation. This role consists of the following duties: collect information from partner organizations, monitor the status of strategy implementation, analyze the implementation of strategy indicators, prepare documents, organize partner meetings. Furthermore, KLAMUN is also responsible for implementing 47 of

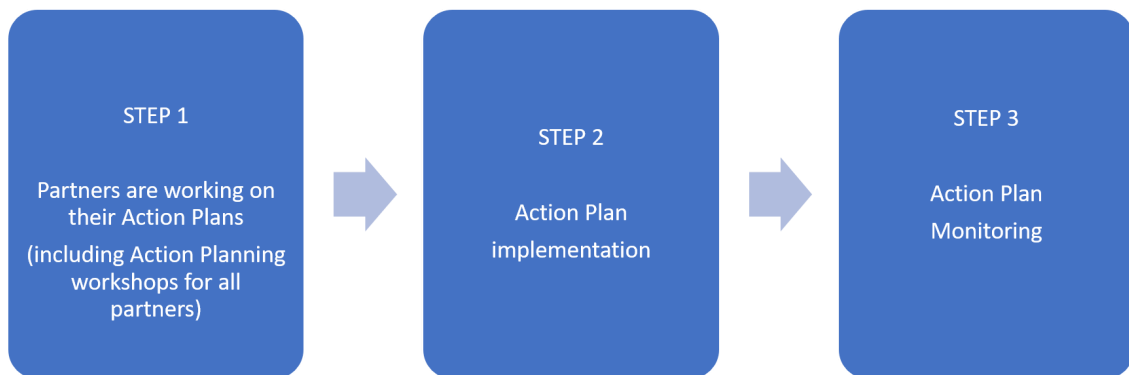
Klaipeda ID team has the main role in organizing KEDS marketing activities, as they are the leader of the KEDS Marketing Council.

[All Online Executive Summaries are HERE](#)

Update of the project

The aim of this project is to promote the internationalization of small and medium-sized businesses by improving the implementation of development directions and/or programs for regional development approved by municipal policy documents and by improving management models and support mechanisms.

At the moment, partners are working on their Action Plans. We are also preparing a **video** explaining Action Plans' context and value to our target audience. We are eager to share it with you as soon as it will be ready.



Thank you!!!

As this is the last newsletter, we would like to express our gratitude for your support.

Thanks to partners, colleagues, companies who participated in our activities, followers, friends, and the whole community. It was and still is such a journey together!

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Project Partners:



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