

Innova-FI 8th Exchange of Experience

Dear Innova-FI Partners,

Welcome to the 8th Exchange of Experience of Innova-FI: Financial Instruments for Innovation project, organized by the Greek INNOVA-FI partner, Business and Cultural Development Centre (KEPA), from 28 to 30 September 2021, in Thessaloniki.

Attendees	Organisation Name	Position	Country
Alexandre Almeida	ANI – National Innovation Agency	NS3 Coordinator	Portugal
Ana Lopes		Project Manager	Portugal
Américo V. Bento		Programme Manager	Portugal
Jan Sienkiewicz	ARRSA – Regional Development Agency in Bielsko-Biala	Director of International Projects	Poland
Patrycja Węgrzyn		International Project Specialist	Poland
Małgorzata Pęcherska	Marshal Office of Silesia Voivodeship	Officer	Poland
Małgorzata Kwiatkowska		Senior Specialist	Poland
Francisco Loras	IVACE – Valencia Institute for Competitiveness	Innova-FI project manager	Spain
Roberto Algarra		Unit Manager European Projects and Financial Assesment	Spain
Francesca Pozzar	Friuli Innovazione – Research and Technology Transfer Centre	Project Manager	Italy
Selina Rosset		Assistant Project Manager	Italy
Stefano Ferrando	Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region	Responsible of financial engineering instruments	Italy
Antonella Della Bona		Policy Officer	Italy
Inga Beiliuniene	INVEGA – Investment and Business Guarantees Ltd.	Deputy Director	Lithuania
Ausma Bartkute		Chief Project Manager	Lithuania
Asta Slapsiene		Head of Marketing Division	Lithuania
Rasa Maciulyte	Ministry of Economy	Chief Specialist	Lithuania
Chiara Frenca	SERN – Startup Europe Regions Network	Board Member	Belgium
Carolinne Silva	SERN – Startup Europe Regions Network	Head of Communication	Belgium
Angeliki Barakli	KEPA – Business and Cultural Development Centre	Head of European Programmes Department	Greece
Poppy Oikonomou		Project Coordinator	Greece
Lina Mavroudi	Region of Central Macedonia	Innovation Support Department	Greece

Innova-FI 8th Exchange of Experience Agenda

Time	Day 1: Tuesday 28.09.2021	Location
10.00-10.30	Welcome words - Angeliki Barakli , Head of European Programmes Department, KEPA - Costas Tramantzas , General Manager, Alexander Innovation Zone - Nikolaos Tzollas , Regional Councillor for Innovation, Region of Central Macedonia	Alexander Innovation Zone Filikis Etaireias 12 & Tsimiski I., Thessaloniki, 54621
10.30-13.30	Interactive workshop “After Innova-FI project: Future actions and collaborations. Towards next Innovation Funding tools, methodologies, and inter-regional collaborations” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Trends and challenges • Common vision and goals • Ideation process – Several robust strategic projects for next programming period Moderator: Stavros Mantzanakis , Emetris S.A.	
13.30-14.00	Break	
19:00	Networking Dinner	“Lola Ouzeri” Agapinou 10, Thessaloniki, 54621

Time	Day 2: Wednesday 29.09.2021	Location
09:00	Depart to the meeting venue by coach bus	Pick-up point: in front of the Royal “Vassiliko” Theatre (White Tower square)
09:30-10:00	“ERDF Financial Instruments for entrepreneurship in Greece” Managing Authority of Operational Programme Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Innovation (EPAnEK) Sophia Liappa , , Unit A1 – OP Programming and Evaluation and Horizontal Issues, Officer Maria Chrissaiti , Unit B2 – Monitoring of State Aid Schemes & Financial Instruments for Entrepreneurship, Officer	Noesis Science Center & Technology Museum 6th km. Thessaloniki – Thermi, 57001
10:00-10:30	“EIF managed, State supported equity initiatives in Greece” Vivi Papasouli , EIF Programme Manager for EquiFund and BA fund in Greece	

10:30-11:00	<p>“Elevate Greece: a new framework for the startup ecosystem of Greece”</p> <p>Michael Dritsas, Ministry of Development & Investments, Head of Cabinet of the Deputy Minister responsible for Research & Innovation</p>	<p>Noesis Science Center & Technology Museum 6th km. Thessaloniki – Thermi PC 57001</p>
11:00-11:15	Break	
11:15-11:45	<p>“HDB’s role during COVID-19 crisis. What’s next”</p> <p>Rozalia Thalassinou, Hellenic Development Bank, Guarantee Manager</p>	
11:45-12:15	<p>“RIS3 One Stop Liaison Office of the Region of Central Macedonia: supporting the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem”</p> <p>Constantinos Michailides, Head of Directorate of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Support, Region of Central Macedonia</p>	
12:15-12:45	<p>“Microfinance Institutions Legal Framework in Greece”</p> <p>Neoklis Stamkos, Project Manager, microSTARS</p>	
12:45-13:00	Conclusions	
13:00-14:00	Break	
14:00-17:00	<p>Study visits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Noesis Science Center & Technology Museum - Centre for Research & Tecnology Hellas – CERTH - ACT Entrepreneurship Hub – Venture Garden 	Transfer will be provided by KEPA
20:00	Networking Dinner	Restaurant “Agioli” Nikis Avenue 15, Thessaloniki, 54623

Time	Day 3: Thursday 30.09.2021	Location
10.00-13.00	<p>SC meeting</p> <p>Communication task force (led by SERN) Update on communication activities</p>	TBC