



I³SME Project

INTRODUCING INNOVATION INSIDE SMEs



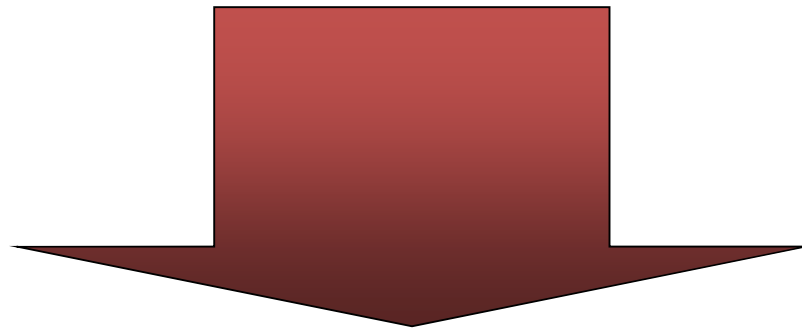
Innovation Congress
Stuttgart
14th of April 2010

Project partners

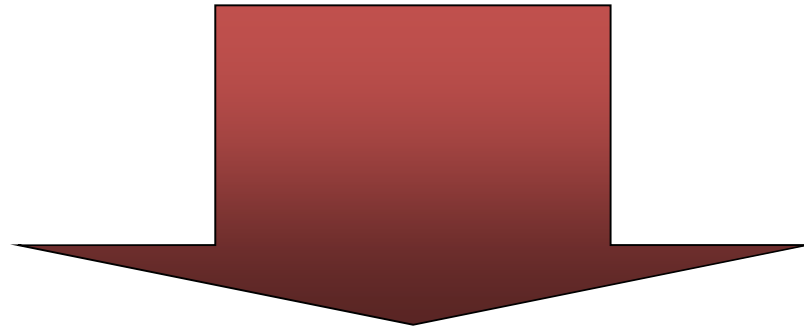
- Province of Bologna (LP, IT)
- CNA Regional Association of Emilia Romagna (IT)
- Autonomous Province of Trento (IT)
- Start-up & Service Centre Fürstenfeld (AT)
- Brandenburg Economic Development Board (GER)
- South Transdanubian Regional Development Agency (HU)
- Pannon Business Network Association (HU)
- Regional Development Agency of Bielsko-Biala (PL)
- Techno Center at University of Maribor (SLO)

Innovation: State of the art

- Central European regions are characterised by an high concentration of micro and SMEs.
- Investment in the innovation field is becoming the key element of competitiveness.
- Investment in innovation as traditionally conceived in the large enterprises are not strategically and economically sustainable in small enterprises.

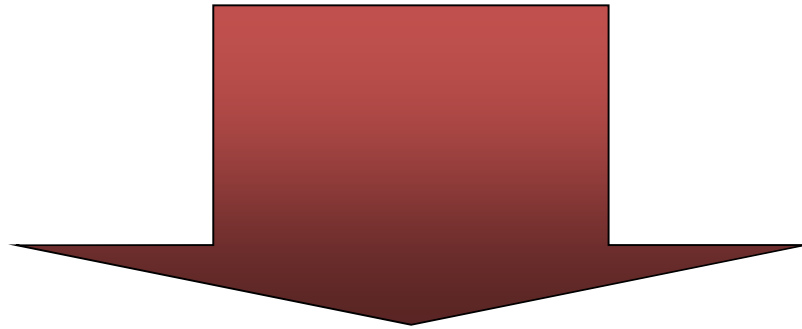


Innovation: steps forwards



- Change in the micro and SMEs culture and approach
- Exchange of best practices at international level
- Involvement of SMEs associations, local development agencies, public authorities and innovation centres
- New ICT systems and approaches

Innovation: steps forwards



- Improve investment in RTD and innovation inside SMEs
- Support the participation to international projects
- Lisbon strategy application and Gothenburg principles

Project objectives

I³SME main objective is to create a prolific environment for innovation in the economic systems of the involved regions which are mainly characterised by micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. The project aims at contributing to the micro and SMEs performances enhancement in the research and innovation fields , offering effective services in order to enable them to face the main difficulties in acceding to knowledge and innovation.

Specific objectives

- 1- analyse the different approaches and services already utilised in the involved areas individuating good practices and excellence
- 2 - defining common methodologies to be applied introducing the benchmarking approach and ICT platform as tools for assessing and improving the micro and SMEs performances
- 3 - conceiving specific action plans/guidelines to be adopted by SMEs in the involved areas with the participation of the relevant stakeholders
- 4 - training and supporting community of facilitators
- 5 - implementing pilot projects in order to test the new services and assess their effectiveness

Strength points

PPs linked to the territory and to the SMEs

Strategic Consultative Committee

Benchmarking analysis on 700 SMEs

International ICT platform

Communication activities

Guidelines on the benchmarking system

International catalogue of hidden champions

I³SME

Training for facilitators

Best practices for innovation improvement in SMEs

7 pilot actions with 70 SMEs

Research cocktails and international meetings

International network of facilitators

Study visit and international on site training

Project activities

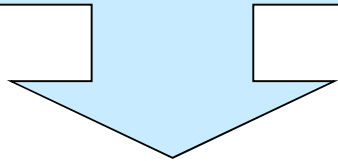
Horizontal activities

Project
coordination

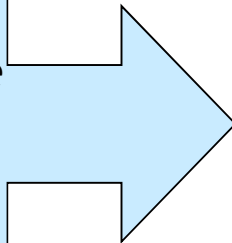
Communication
and dissemination

Technical activities

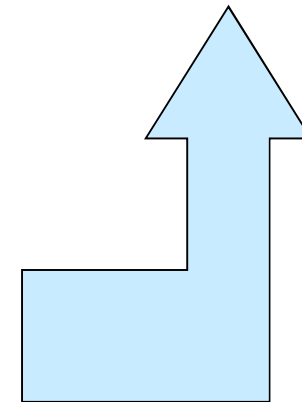
Benchmarking analysis and
hidden champions
identification



ICT Platform
Multilingual catalogue
and
Manual on
benchmarking



FACILITATORS
identification
training
network
study visit



**INTRODUCING
INNOVATION INSIDE
SMEs**

Benchmarking analysis

WHERE WE ARE?

- Definition of a questionnaire for the **innovation evaluation inside the companies**
- Set up of the web platform
- Interviews with the companies



NEXT STEPS

- Identification of the hidden champions and preparation of the catalogue
- Identification of the companies to be involved in the pilot projects


Training activities

WHERE WE ARE?

- 2 Facilitators per partners, in charge to interview the companies and insert the data in the web platform
- 4 international training sessions

NEXT STEPS


- Study tour
- Extra training



Training sessions
and direct
experience inside
the companies

Pilot projects

- Identification of 20 companies per area
- Support of the facilitators in order to improve the performances of the companies



Improve the level
of the innovation
inside the
companies

Communication activities

- Web site: www.i3sme.eu
- International conferences
- Research cocktails

- Consultative committee
- Publications





I³SME Project
www.i3sme.eu

Grazie

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