



ERIK ACTION partners

Regione Toscana (IT) - Project Coordinator

Lower Austria (AT) - Technical Coordinator

Regione Emilia Romagna (IT)

ADRAL, Development Agency of Alentejo (PT)

IDEA, Agency for Innovation and Development of Andalusia (ES)

Banska Bystrica Self Governing Region (SK)

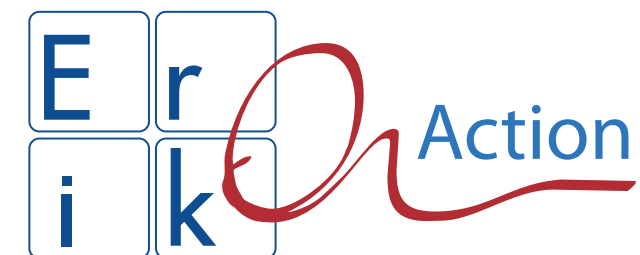
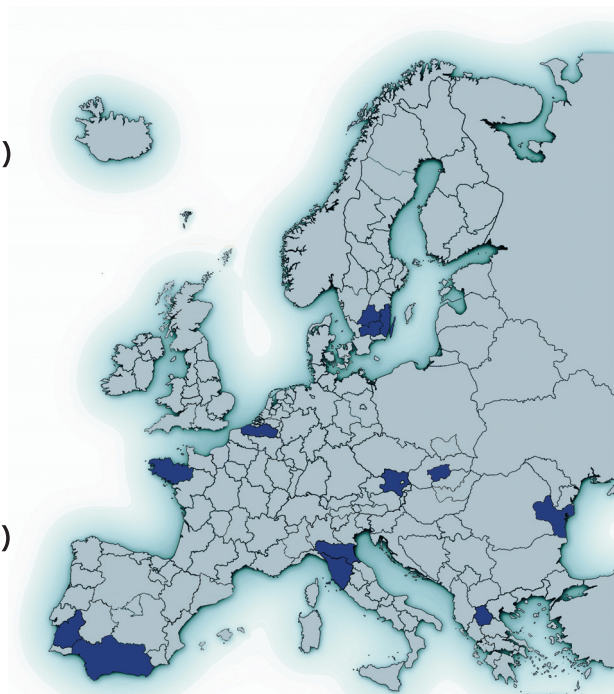
Bretagne Innovation (FR)

Flemish Government Agency for Economy (BE)

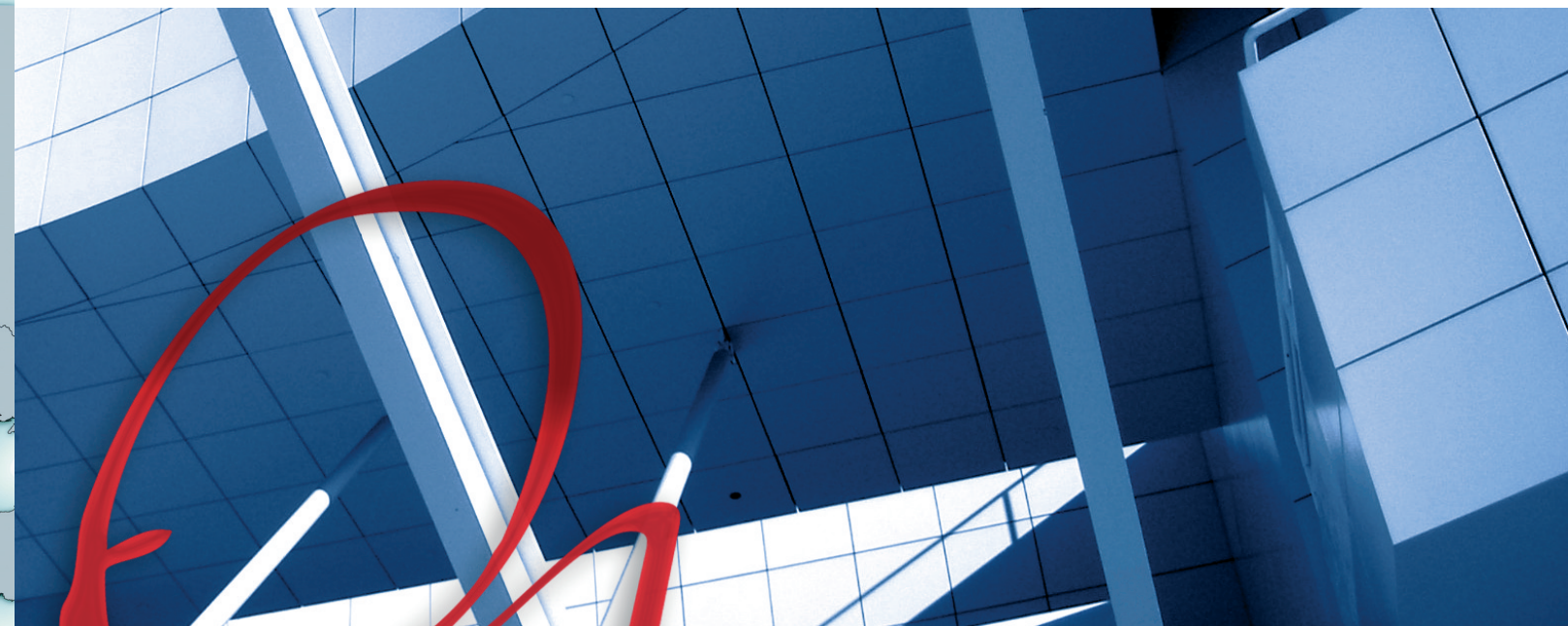
South East Regional Development Agency (RO)

LTC AB, Development Agency Jönköping (SE)

University of Western Macedonia, Department of Research (GR)



Upgrading the Innovation Capacity of Existing Firms



For further information:

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ERIK ACTION is a Capitalisation Project financed by **INTERREG IVC**, the European programme for interregional cooperation, and supported as a Fast Track Network by the **EU**.

ERIK ACTION's overall objective is to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies in the field of innovation and the knowledge economy and, specifically, in upgrading the innovation capacity of existing enterprises.



ERIK ACTION activities

The project will promote the transfer of experimented good practices from one region to another. Every region will develop its own regional action plan which will be signed by the managing authority responsible for the Regional Operational Programme.

Throughout the **24 month project**, **11 regional action plans** for the transfer of already identified good practices will be developed and approved by every region, accompanied by training sessions on key themes, transfer workshops on specific good practices, study visits to see practical good practice implementation and staff exchange in which a good practice expert will visit the region to which the good practice is being transferred. Activities will be supported by transfer help desks for each good practice. The project will also produce a mainstreaming guide for the transfer of good practices.

In addition to being an **INTERREG IVC Capitalisation project**, **ERIK ACTION** will be supported by the European Commission as a **Fast Track project**, contributing to the Regions for economic change initiative.

For further information on INTERREG IVC:

<http://www.interreg4c.eu>

For further information on Regions for Economic Change:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperation/interregional/ecochange/index_en.cfm

What does ERIK ACTION offer?

To public administrations **ERIK ACTION** offers:

- The chance to learn about innovation policy in other regions
- The opportunity to improve its own regional policy for innovation by incorporating successful practices from other regions
- The opportunity for better regional level coordination
- The possibility to develop lasting partnerships with other European regions interested in similar innovation related issues

To service providers and other stakeholders:

- The possibility to share successful experiences with other European innovation actors
- The chance to actively influence and shape regional innovation policy
- The opportunity to cooperate with other European stakeholders during the project and on a longer term
- A learning experience in terms of concrete improvements to innovation capacity

Within the **ERIK ACTION** project, partner regions have proposed a wide variety of Good Practices to be transferred to other partner regions.

The Good Practices are all available on line at: www.eriknetwork.net/database

Good practices from Alentejo:

- **Innovation Cycle** – Spreading science and technology through targeted workshops
- **FAME** – Stimulating investment in micro companies to improve products and services
- **Innovation Space** – Uniting innovation and rural world sustainability

Good practices from Andalusia:

- **HeliceNet** – Transferring technology and knowledge from Aerospace OEMs to SMEs
- **TTandalucia** – Events to promote technology transfer between companies and universities
- **CAMPUS** – Providing financial support to technology-based companies with high growth potential

Good practice from Brittany:

- **Project management training** – Supporting SMEs in the development of project management competencies through training sessions and individual support
- **RTD Bretagne** – Breton Technological Development Network

Good practice from Emilia Romagna:

- **Industrial research projects and pre-competitive development** – Promoting the evolution of research results into pre-competitive development plans, projects and prototypes

Good practice from Flanders:

- **ParentHood Projects** – Improving SME management through learning networks by and for entrepreneurs

Good practices from Lower Austria:

- **Innovation Assistant** – Stimulating SMEs to employ graduates to overcome innovation barriers
- **Expert dialogue** – Creating a platform to intensify dialogue between SMEs, science and politics
- **TIP coaching** – Consultations with regional SMEs to support innovation activities
- **R&D Funding Scheme** – Providing financial support for projects covering basic research, industrial research and experimental development

Good practices from Småland med öarna:

- **SIDEUM** – Creating a common platform for frontline development processes between academia, the public arena and the business sector
- **Trainee in TIME** – Supporting SMEs by recruiting university graduates with expertise in technology, economy, IT/computer science and marketing
- **Tekniklots** – Network of facilitators to support SMEs with Innovation Finance

Good practices from Tuscany:

- **PRAI VINCI** – Promoting Virtual Enterprise / Organisation to strengthen competitiveness of industrial systems
- **Fabrica Ethica** – Tuscan Programme of Corporate Social Responsibility

Good practice from Western Macedonia:

- **WLN** – Developing innovation capacity in the wood sector

Good Practices available