

Fostering innovation in SMEs

HUNGARY
SPAIN
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ITALY
NETHERLANDS

eRmis
Effective Reproducible
Model of Innovation System

Innovation

ERMIS Project Zoom: What's been happening so far!

4th Interregional Innovation Workshop held in Eindhoven, Netherlands

The Eindhoven workshop took place on the 4th April 2012. The central theme of the workshop focused on the role local & regional governments play in fostering innovation and what an effective role could be.

In the Brainport Eindhoven region, as well as in many other EU regions, governments take an important part in fostering innovation.

Brainport Eindhoven together with local & regional governments are part of a Triple Helix collaboration model facilitating leading business clusters by ensuring links between businesses, knowledge institutes & government .

Their experiences in facilitating innovation acted as starting point for 3 themes; Innovation and pre-competitive procurement (PCP), Clusters & Campuses development and Living Labs.

The workshop presented examples and best practices of effective government intervention with regards to these 3 themes, but also challenged current practices reflecting on how governments could become even more effective in fostering innovation.



ERMIS Partners



ERMIS Interregional Innovation Workshop, the 4th April 2012, Eindhoven, Netherland

ERMIS stands for Effective Reproducible Model of Innovation Systems, and aims to develop an effective governance model for local innovation systems, in order to foster increased competitiveness and sustainable growth within SME's. The workshop contributes to this aim, as it allows stakeholders, SME's and the academia to discuss and analyze the effectiveness of actions, projects and best practices carried out in different European regions. (Presentations for this workshop can be consulted on the ERMIS website www.ermisproject.eu).

The conference opened with a reflection of the ERMIS project by **Marc Daunis, the Alpes Maritimes Senator and Mayor of Valbonne, Sophia Antipolis, France.** In his presentation, Marc Daunis spoke of integrating specific ERMIS best practices to the existing innovation chain of the Sophia Antipolis technical park, largely supported by the Sophia Antipolis Agglomeration Community (CASA). He stressed, "To consolidate the technopole, stakeholders preferred to opt for strategic actions that are based on two concepts; competition and cooperation." The technical park groups 7 competitiveness clusters, 2 incubators, 8 public research laboratories with 500 PhD's and 2 business

schools. Being a flagship project, the STIC campus will welcome over 5000 STIC students, offering not only an incomparable talent pipeline but also a collaborative approach to research, federating and reinforcing centers of excellence situated in Sophia Antipolis", he added. ERMIS best practices from the Institute of Pedro Nuñez Incubator will be studied by the Sophia Antipolis Agglomeration Community (CASA) in view of integrating and reinforcing the Sophia Antipolis technopole.



**Alpes Maritimes Senator and Mayor of Valbonne
Sophia Antipolis, France**

The conference continued with an approach to government involvement in pre-commercial procurement (PCP) presented by **Mr. Maurizio Bergamini Ph.D.** Province of Bolzano, South Tirol, Italy. A region with a high level of self-government consisting of exclusive legislations "One of the key factors for success", he stressed, "is the continued political support for the use of PCP processes by the public sector". Difficulties in persuading political leaders to invest in high risk projects imply that further development of processes and policies, supporting more private R&D investments have to be made." To highlight this point, an example of a successful collaborative project was illustrated where both public and private actors shared the risks and also the profits. On a European level, he pointed out that "balancing the competition rules with regional innovation policies is a challenge that can be solved if both EU & Regional governments work together."



Mr. Maurizio Bergamini Ph.D. Province of Bolzano. Dept. of innovation, research, development and cooperatives.

Ms. Marieke van Putten MSc, Ministry of Economic Affairs, presented a Dutch programme on public procurement for innovation (PPI), Inkoop Innovatie Urgent, a programme providing 2.5% of the total budget to public innovation procurement. "PPI & PCP represent many policy areas and is vital to solving public sector challenges. Once push driven, it is now demand based, which is key for potential success." argued Mrs. Van Putten. With the LEAD Market Initiative, a procurement forum was introduced acting as an on-line collaboration platform, allowing procurement professionals to share information and exchange their experiences. It also facilitates the management of individual groups by providing an online system where information can be stored and distributed. 400 users and 7 target groups are currently involved, Ms. Van Putten explained.

Mr. Daniel de Klein, Project Mgr. Automotive Cluster development, Dept. Economic Affairs from the Municipality of Helmond, spoke of

the government's role in developing campuses & clusters in Helmond, Netherlands. 3 key success factors of the campus, he said, are "a Triple Helix cooperation, a defined focus and clear vision. The campus benefits from a cognitive proximity with other cluster themes and is able to share challenges, experiences and cross industry alliances." Additional keynote speakers were: **Mr. Peter Portheine, Brainport Health Innovation, Mgr. Cooperation for Smart Living 2020** on the elaboration of "Living Labs". **Mr. Peter Prud'homme van Reine Ph.D.** on "Innovation Culture & Change on current trends in policies regarding regional innovation systems & clusters". **Mr. Georges Romme, Ph.D. Dean of Industrial Engineering & Innovation Sciences Dept., Eindhoven University of Technology** on "Open innovation in the Brainport ecosystem & public sector involvement".

Presentations can be consulted the ERMIS website: www.Ermisproject.eu

BEST PRACTICE VISITS:

ERMIS cross transfer visits ended with a study tour of 2 Danish and 2 Romanian Best Practices (BP's).

Danish Best Practice Visit: 25 participants from 7 partner countries were able to learn more about Accelerace & Connect the 22th March 2012.

Romanian Best Practice Visit: ERMIS Greek partners visited Iasi Technopolis and the Mediaec platform the 19-20th February 2012.

The study visits were a success and well appreciated by the projects partners as it allowed a "hands-on" approach on the identification of BP's. Due to the quality and pertinence of the BP's presented 25 were chosen instead of 18.

All Best Practices may be consulted in the ERMIS Best practice Catalogue available on the ERMIS website: www.Ermisproject.eu



ERMIS Best Practice Catalogue:

The Best Practice Catalogue is a compilation of selected practices from ERMIS partner regions and illustrates innovation practices studied during the project.

The exchange of experiences dedicated to the identification & analysis of good practices resulted in the pre-selection of 25 best practices with special attention paid to the transferability and implementation of each good practice.

FINAL WORKSHOP FOR ERMIS PARTNERS:

Our final workshop was held in Mytilini, Greece, July 2012. ERMIS partners were able to overview project achievements and define the remaining issues and next steps to be carried out until the end of the project. The ERMIS model and policy recommendations have now been finalized.

AIMS OF THE ERMIS MODEL:

Basic Principles:

The ERMIS method enables the detection of successful innovation practices and their transfer to other territories sharing similar characteristics. It is a tool that will aid European policymakers to sustain innovation within local SMEs.

How will the ERMIS model aid policymakers?

Analytical tool:

- A tool that will enable policymakers to study in depth their territory's innovation potential.
- A tool that will indicate their territory's key success factors and weaknesses.

A decision tool:

- A tool that will enable policymakers to select innovative best practices from other regions to reinforce their own local innovation systems.
- A tool that will aid in the development of local innovation strategies & policies.



Ludovic Dibiaggio, ERMIS Innovation expert concludes the ERMIS Model with partners during the workshop at Mytilini, Greece 2012

The ERMIS tool Kit will be available at the Final Conference the 5th November 2012.

The ERMIS tool kit is the final communication action of the project: it contains all main documents of the project, the results and the final Brochure.

Ermis Tool Kit



- Model LIS
- 9 SWOT Analysis
- BPs Catalogue
- BPs Report
- Charter of Good practices
- Final Policy Recommendation
- Action plan

Ask for your USB key now to ermislp@cote-azur.cci.fr !!!

To learn more about ERMIS Model and Results join us at our Final Conference on 5h November in Sophia Antipolis, France!

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