

PRESS RELEASE

NETIM AND GIDDB KICK-OFF MEETING

Funded by H2020, both projects are based on a peer learning methodology and aim to deliver design options papers focusing approaches and methods for increasing innovativeness in SMEs

ARTI Puglia (Apulian Regional Agency for Technology and Innovation) - Italy, FUNDECYT-PCTEX (Foundation FUNDECYT Science and Technological Park of Extremadura) – Spain, and IFKA (Public Benefit Non-Profit Ltd. for the Development of Industry) – Hungary will meet for the kick-off of two new European cooperation projects, NETIM and GIDDB, in Bari, Italy, on April 14 and 15 2016.

Both projects are led by ARTI Puglia and have received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme through a call addressed to national and regional innovation agencies. The participating agencies will use a “**peer learning**” methodology to design and share support mechanisms for improving innovativeness in SMEs in Europe.

A peer learning project follows a two-way approach, it is a reciprocal learning activity. Hence, the objective of a peer learning project is to be mutually beneficial. It involves the sharing of knowledge, ideas and experiences among project partners and aims at the development of new approaches and ideas through interdependent learning. The European Commission has specifically promoted peer learning for innovation agencies, that will cooperate identifying better SMEs innovation support policies that may be adopted all over Europe.

NETIM (“New Tools for Innovation Monitoring”) aims at designing and sharing a methodology for monitoring the implementation of measures supporting innovation in SMEs, with a specific focus on indicator definition and data collection systems. The project objective is to set up an easy and effective tool providing to policy makers and interested stakeholders, in effective and immediate forms, concise and targeted information that allow evaluating how innovation support measures are performing in field.

GIDDB (“New practices of Grassroots Innovation for Demand Driven Business”) aims to compare and develop policy support mechanisms for improving innovativeness in SMEs primarily founded and managed by young entrepreneurs (18-35 years of age) by applying grassroots approaches.

The final result for both NETIM and GIDDB will be a Design Options Paper. A document proposing policy models and approaches, elaborated by the three partner agencies. The Design Options Papers will be published with “gold open access” and disseminated at European level in order to inform and involve other public bodies, including other interested agencies.

Bari, April 13th, 2016

Useful links

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/>

www.arti.puglia.it

www.fundecyt-pctex.es

www.ifka.hu

