

Danube Transnational Programme

Project co-funded by the European Union



Interreg



EUROPEAN UNION

Danube Transnational Programme

Smart Factory Hub

**SMART FACTORY HUB - IMPROVING RD AND BUSINESS
POLICY CONDITIONS FOR TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION
IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY**

NEWSLETTER

Smart Factory HUB 1st

NEWSLETTER

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

Smart Factory Hub is a project under the framework of Interreg Danube Transnational Programme. The project started in January 2017, and it is going to come to an end in June 2019.

Manufacturing industry represents a generator of Research and Development, (R&D) innovation, growth and employment. Based on increasing pressure on manufacturers (increased production capacity in low-cost economies and increased level of sophistication of supply chains in high-cost economies), the manufacturers need to embrace **novel technologies**, principles and approaches. In other words, manufacturers need to **digitize** their production, while taking into consideration also improvement in processes and human resource management.

The main objective of the SMART FACTORY HUB project is to improve framework conditions for innovation in the area of **“smart factory”**.

Therefore, the project's goal is to develop R&D and business policy conditions for transnational cooperation in the manufacturing industry. Result is improved cooperation between R&D and business where based on RIS3 (Research and Innovation Smart Specialization Strategy) centered model, quadruple helix partners will be oriented to find novel **solutions in the following three domains**: applying novel technologies, applying effective production process and applying effective human resource management system.

As far as the expected outputs are concerned, on the one hand a common transnational Research and Innovation Smart Specialization Strategy is to be created. (RIS3 centred Smart Factory Model with Action Plan). On the other hand, two testing schemes will be elaborated - pilot implementation of innovative supply-driven (TransferLab) and demand-driven (PolicyLab) actions based on knowledge platform, cooperation profile matrix and learning hub for technology alliances.

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PROJECT PARTNERSHIP:

The project consortium consists of competent partners that are internationally recognized and with their complementarity show the possibility of achieving synergy effects at the highest possible level - at strategic and operational one.

The project is leaded by the **Slovenian Pomurje Technology Park**, and including them, 13 carefully selected competent partners from ten countries from Germany, through Austria and Hungary to Bulgaria and Romania participate in the project. All project partners have experience with the implementation of EU projects. In the selection of the partnership the financial ability of each partner was taken into account to minimize the risk of possible project inconvenience and time lags.

The project partners according to the role in the project are divided into **3 groups**. The first

group represents regions and regional public agencies who are implementing RIS3 schemes. As regards the second group, they represent intermediate partners with broader access to SMEs - national chambers, clusters and technology parks. Research and Development partners are represented in the third group.

Presented partnership structure will according to the methodology of work **allow quadruple helix approach** with the involvement of the final beneficiaries by the support scheme within the context of both pilot activities.



KICK OFF MEETING IN SÁRVÁR, HUNGARY ON 9TH AND 10TH FEBRUARY 2017

The Kick-off meeting and the Kick-off event of the project were held in the West-Hungarian city Sárvár and were organized by the Hungarian Pannon Business Network Association.

On the first day, in the beginning of the meeting, every company and organization made a short presentation about their background, and their scope of activities. Due to these presentations the participants had the opportunity to get to know each other's work. After that, the **technical and the communication work packages** were presented by the Slovenian Lead Partner and the Hungarian Pannon Business Network Association.

On the second day, the meeting continued with further discussions about **Industry 4.0 and additive manufacturing**. Then, the public part of the event was opened by Tivadar Máhr, the vice-mayor of Sárvár city who made an interesting presentation about the relationship between industry and tourism.

This presentation was followed by a **study visit to the Lenovo part** of the Flextronics factory, which can be also found in Sárvár. The program manager of the factory led round the participants in the production part and showed them the different products and processes which are used in the factory. Besides, the application of some devices, related to smart factory- robots which may replace human workforce, **data counting machines**- were also shown.

Returning to the conference room, Dr. Krisztina Bárdos, **the leader of the Hungarian IFKA Public Benefit Non-Profit Ltd.** made a presentation about Industry 4.0, which was succeeded by **good practices** and experience sharing of the University of Stuttgart and the Austrian research company PROFACTOR in the area of additive manufacturing.



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UPCOMING PROJECT RELATED EVENTS

MOVE European Strategic Cluster Partnership conference and matchmaking event on 6 March 2017, Sofia, Bulgaria



One of the main objectives of MOVE partnership is to identify **business opportunities** among clusters' companies and to foster cooperation among them. The B2B event will give the opportunity to participating companies and clusters active in the field of mobility, ICT and green technologies to meet each other and identify possibilities for **cross-industry collaboration**. The opportunities for internationalization on third countries' markets – Morocco and Brazil will be presented during the event. For further information about the partnership

and the event please visit the following website: <http://move-escp.eu>

30th Bled eConference in June in Slovenia



The Slovenian Lead Partner – Pomurje Technology Park will promote project activities, raise interest among stakeholders and build on future networking with existing and potential new partners at the **30th Bled eConference** organized by Faculty of Organizational Sciences, University of Maribor from 18th to 21st June in Bled, Slovenia. With fresh ideas and complementary themes the conference would like to establish a creative environment for researchers, government, industry/business representatives and technology providers and an attractive meeting point for discussing new R&D and project ideas, also in the spirit of new Horizon 2020.



Add+it (symposium on additive manufacturing and innovative technologies), focused on polymers, on September 28 - 29, 2017, Steyr, Austria

On 28th-29th September the Add+it event is planned to take place in the Austrian city Steyr. This event will focus on **additive manufacturing**

methods, particularly on polymers. The subtopics among others include material development, integrated electronics, micro/nano 3D-Printing, AM for medical applications as well as logistics and additive manufacturing.

PROFACTOR and the JKU IPPE are organizing the symposium for the third time. Approximately 130 internationally recognized experts from industry and academics will present and discuss the current state of research, highlights of their technology and trends in the market.

More information can be found on www.addit2017.org

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

In the upcoming few months an extensive survey will be performed by the partnership. The survey will be performed by two approaches, the bottom-up and top-down. As far as the bottom-up approach is concerned, it is represented by a questionnaire survey whose main goal is to map the current status in SMEs regarding the Smart manufacturing

implementation, expectations and challenges. The top-down survey will be performed by project partnership in order to map regional or national strategies, operational plans, studies and to collect all relevant materials and lists of potential actors (R&D departments, Innovation centres, Clusters, Smart solution providers etc.). Both approaches will be confronted and evaluated in benchmarking report which will be one of the main outputs in the first project period.

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CONTACT

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