

iEER

Boosting innovative Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in Regions for young entrepreneurs

Project summary

iEER is an Interreg Europe funded flagship project bringing together 10 regions around Europe. Initiated by the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, in partnership with regions awarded with the European Entrepreneurial Region label, iEER project will define smart paths and solutions to support the regional governments and authorities in supporting young entrepreneurs.

iEER works closely with the EU Committee of the Regions and the European Commission DG Grow to ensure the project results and impact to be transferred EU-wide.

Objective

Forty per cent of young people in Europe indicate an interest in self-employment. iEER aims to define smart paths and solutions supporting partner regions to build boost and orchestrate entrepreneurship ecosystems supporting young entrepreneurs. The project pays special attention to the role European Structural funds and regional authorities can have supporting young entrepreneurship.

Challenge addressed

iEER addresses the needs of the partner regions in the following sections:

- 1) Lack of awareness or entrepreneurial competence both for local and regional authorities (LRAs) and the higher education institution (HEIs);
- 2) Fragmented actions of actors either operating in silos or duplication of efforts,
- 3) Uneven development and resources between outlying and center areas of a region and
- 4) Limited funding provision or at risk of ineffective management of ESIF or other development funds.

Expected results and impacts

- 1) In total the partners of the project will invest 42 million of euros implementing the best practices (project pipeline).
- 2) Strengthening the management/governance of 11 European Structural fund programmes in the regions of Helsinki-Uusimaa, Southern Denmark, Northern Ireland, Kerry County, Valencia, Brandenburg, Hauts de France, Westpomerania and West Region Romania.
- 3) To increase the policy learning and capacity building of Europe at the local, regional and European levels and forecast the policy development needs beyond 2020.

High level Commitment

Each region nominated a high level representative to the High Level Steering committee of the iEER-project. It is a high level advisory body to the iEER project to provide feedback and to support the political agenda setting at the regional and European level. Most of the members are CoR members as well.

List of representatives

	Official	Deputy

Helsinki-Uusimaa (LP+P10)	Mr. Markku MARKKULA	Mr. Ossi SAVOLAINEN
Westpomerania (P2)	Mr. Olgierd GEBLEWICZ	Mr. Krzysztof ZARNA
West Romania (P3)	Mr. Gheorghe FALCĂ	Mr. Sorin MAXIM
Brandenburg (P4)	Ms. Anne QUART	Mr. Reiner Kneifel- HAVERKAMP
Marche (P5)	Mr. Francesco GIACINTI	NA.
Hauts-de-France (6)	Ms. Karine CHARBONNIER	
Northern Ireland (P7)	Mr. Trevor CUMMINGS	
Southern Denmark (P8)	Mr. Karsten Uno PETERSEN	
Valencia (9)	Mr. Francisco ÁLVAREZ	Ms. Regina Laguna Micó
Kerry County (P11)	Mr. Kieran MCCARTHY	

Deliverables:

Publications

- 1) 10 Young Entrepreneurship Local Action Plans
- 2) Young Entrepreneurship Handbook (best practices and Growth grid indicator)
- 3) Turning Europe young Policy recommendations, phase 2

Activities

- 1) 3 Open Conferences
 - a. Kick-Off in Brussels, 28.6.2016
 - b. Mid-term, January 2018 Brussels,
 - c. Final Conference, October 2019 Brussels
- 2) 6 high level meetings, in connection to Open conferences and CoR plenaries
- 3) 5 Learning camps with the following topics:
 - a. Entrepreneurial competence and activation in Brandenburg 27-28.9.2016
 - b. Start-up and acceleration support in Valencia, 26-26.10.2016
 - c. Pathways to young entrepreneurship in outlying areas in Northern Ireland & Kerry, 27-28.3.2017
 - d. Learning camp: Action Plan in Marche 6.-8.9.2017
- 4) Peer review visits to Westpomerania, West Region Romania, Nord-pas-de-Calais and Helsinki-Uusimaa

Project facts

Budget: 2.29 million EUR

Duration: April 2016-March 2020

Helsinki-Uusimaa	Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council Laurea University of Applied Sciences
Kerry County	Institute of Technology Tralee
Land Brandenburg	University of Applied Sciences Brandenburg
Marche Region	Marche Regional Authority
Hauts de France	North France Innovation Development

Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland Local Government Association
Southern Denmark	Region of Southern Denmark
Valencia Region	Regional Government of Valencia
Westpomeranian Region	Marshal Office of the Westpomeranian Region
West Region Romania	Regional Development Agency of the West Region Romania

Project Contact

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