



**ESSPO**  
Interreg Europe



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund

## Europe's Innovation Voucher Schemes: What makes them successful and for whom?

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Online discussion: Innovation vouchers - Policy learning platform –13<sup>th</sup> July 2021

# Europe's Innovation Voucher Schemes

## Introduction



**POZNAŃ SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY PARK**

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# Structure of the presentation

Innovation  
Vouchers



Case Studies

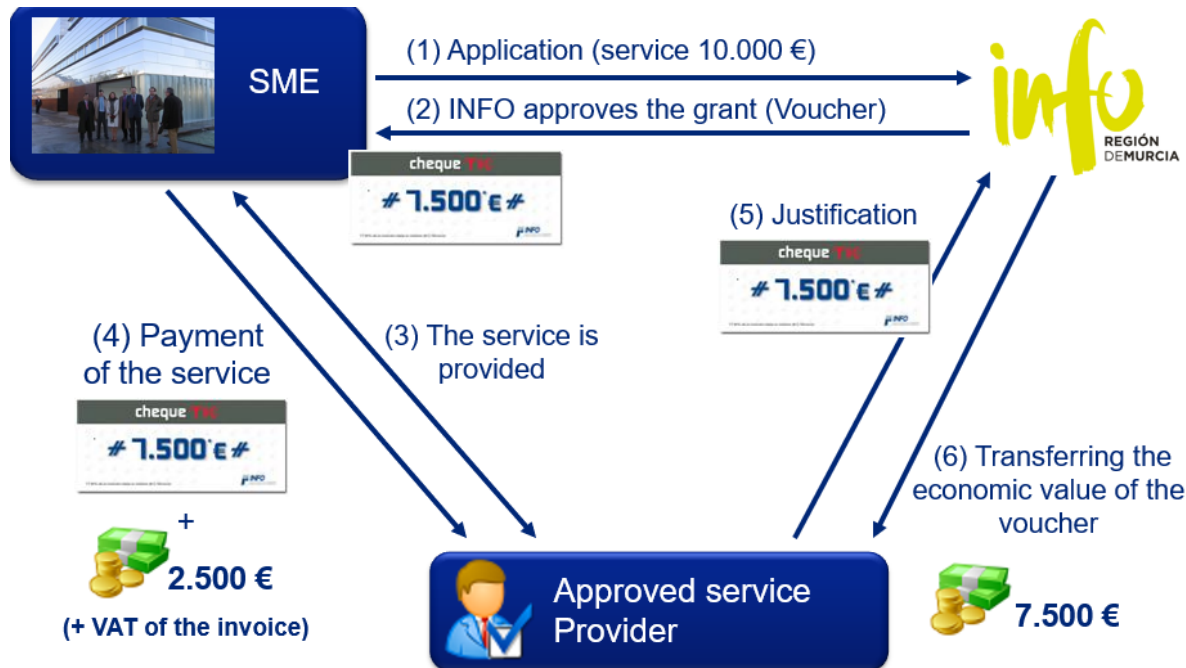


The future of  
voucher schemes

# Innovation Voucher Schemes?

- A simple and effective instrument of regional and territorial development (a direct government support).
- A small line of credit for Small-to-Medium Sized Enterprises (c. €50K).
- First introduced 20 years ago and now counting at least > 50 across the EU.

# How does a Voucher Scheme work?



## Observations from regional developers

- Simple, 'fast and light'
- Needs conscious
- Responsiveness
- Going beyond

## A successful instrument?

- **Promotes innovation in regional SMES**
- **Boosts regional market of innovation services for KSPs**
- **Low level and bureaucratically simple tool of economic development for delivery agencies/development agencies**
- **Allows development agencies to foster new relationships - a 'wedge'.**

## 3 Examples

- **INNOVOUCHER:**  
INFO-Murcia  
Sviluppo Marche
- **Vouchers for sustainability**  
GAIN
- **Cascade funding:**  
Interregional Innovation  
investments (I3) initiative



- **Purpose**

- Incorporation new actors to the innovation ecosystem
- Develop the relations in the ecosystem (local technology providers)
- Twin transition (sustainability and digitalisation)
- Internationalisation

- **Means**

- Use of intermediaries
- Policy mix
- Leverage ERD Funds and combine other mechanisms





# Thank you!

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