

# innovation & research

## CONTACTS

### Lead Partner

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## PROJECT PARTNERS

### Romania

Regional Development Agency of the  
West Region Romania (West RDA)

### Ireland

Donegal County Council

### United Kingdom

Derry and Strabane District Council

### Finland

Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia

### General facts

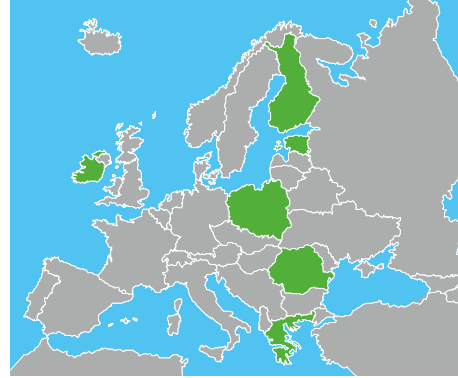
Interreg Europe Programme 2014-2020  
Priority 1: Research & innovation  
Specific objective: 1.2: Improving innovation  
delivery policies

### Project duration

April 2016 – March 2020

### Project Budget

1,330,093.00 Euro



### Estonia

Tartu Science Park Foundation

### Poland

Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship

### Greece

Region of Crete



*An interregional  
cooperation project  
for improving innovation  
delivery policies*



**NICHE**  
Interreg Europe

Building innovative food value  
chains in regions

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

Pioneer an open innovation approach in the food sector bringing together all the relevant stakeholders under a quadruple helix model i.e. research centres, universities, enterprises, policy makers, innovation agencies, final consumers, etc, at both regional and interregional level, to propose actions based on a mutual learning exercise that will improve the regional policies supporting the introduction of innovation into the regional food value changes

Establish regional open innovation ecosystems to assure the perpetuation of a systemic support to the innovation applied to the food sector

Exchange and learn from experiences among regions sharing similar challenges, opportunities and areas of smart specialization

Explore new mechanisms to transfer and apply research and innovation for new food products, services or processes



*The food sector as a whole is faced with major challenges that arise from changes in the sector's economic and non-economic environments. The availability of safe, sustainable and healthy food has taken a new and pressing dimension in the light of an ever-growing global population and increasing environmental and sustainability concerns.*

**NICHE aims at increasing the adoption of research and innovation solutions by food sector companies through an open innovation approach under a quadruple helix model and of new food products, services or processes.**



*About 85% of productivity growth in advanced economies is driven by innovation. Because of this, EU Policy concept is setting up to support sustainable growth that is increasingly related to the capacity of regional economies to innovate, transform and adapt.*