



FOUNDATION will provide a framework and roadmap for regions facing industrial closures, job losses and uncertainty, to develop economic resilience through collaboration.

COVID-19 SPECIAL NEWSLETTER 4 - 14/05/2020

About the FOUNDATION Project

FOUNDATION is an Interreg Europe funded SME Competitiveness project that brings together nine partners in a consortium led by Cork Institute of Technology. The project is focused on supporting regions pre and post shocks and closures of anchor tenants in their industrial ecosystems. The impacts of a closure of course go beyond direct employees and ripple, wave like throughout the regional services sector and economy. Management of such anticipated structural change requires proactive renewal of business approaches and policy supports.

In the wake of COVID-19 the FOUNDATION partnership wishes to share information, training opportunities and good practices with external stakeholders to support them in accessing information to plan for the future. Whilst our medical professionals fight this pandemic on the front line, collaborative sharing by regional stakeholders can support resilience of all regions across Europe and further afield in enabling them to adapt to what is unprecedented change.



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Developing Resilience in your Firm



Business Risk Intelligence

Information update on the issue's businesses are facing from COVID-19. Data is used to shape the local and Greater Manchester business support offer, allowing GM to lobby UK Gov for gaps in provision to be plugged. [Read more...](#)



Innovate to Survive

The eco-system of Emilia-Romagna has rallied together to produce innovative surgical masks and protective glasses made locally to support the frontline workers at the front of the pandemic, to learn more on their prompt response. [Read more...](#)

Resilience Training



Re-skilling for digital

During the crisis people will and are losing their jobs. The 'Skaitmenizuokis.lt' platform will help people upgrade their digital skills. Lithuanian start-up Bitdegree released a platform to allow mentors reskill the labour force. [Read more..](#)



Online Medical Training

A US government initiative has developed a platform to train medical personnel to improve the safety of doctors and standardise knowledge about the use of protective clothing in all US states, by the Polish startup 'Immersion.'. [Read more](#)

Good Practices from FOUNDATION Partner Regions



Irish COVID-19 Business Supports



University innovates to Join Fight

The Irish Government's Roadmap for Reopening Society & Business, sets out a five-stage plan to ease the Covid-19 restrictions and reopen Ireland's economy is supplemented by measures to support businesses impacted by Covid-19. [Read more.](#)

To support the fight against Covid-19, thousands of parts for personal protective equipment (PPE) for hospital workers are to be produced at Manchester Metropolitan University's 3D printing hub, PrintCity, over the coming weeks. [Read more...](#)



Finally Bars!!!

The Lithuanian government has lifted some Covid-19 limitations. As bars were limited to terrace sales only it was decided to turn Vilnius into one big open air café, allowing public spaces to be used by those who don't have a terrace. [Read more...](#)



Prompt Coordinated Municipal Action

The Municipality of Reggio Emilia, as one of the hardest hit territory in all of Italy, is putting in place innovative measures including a mutual aid fund to support citizens and business in the face of the Covid-19 emergency. [Read more...](#)

Clusters & Industry Sector Responses

DANISH CLUSTERS' RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS



Re-thinking Innovation



Network Clusters Problem Solving

Like the rest of the world, clusters are also affected by COVI9-19. To mitigate the sudden changes clusters are pivoting. Some services and activities change, new ones are added, and others become irrelevant. [Read more...](#)

When the usual supply chains are interrupted or there is demand for rare products and solutions, cometh the time cometh the industry clusters. Deep industry knowledge and broad cross-thematic know-how deliver. [Read more...](#)

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