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January 2021

Who we are



Called SCALE UP, the project is overseen by Interreg Europe and contributes to European competitiveness and acceleration of regional economic growth through improvement of policy and its delivery. It is designed to support SMEs' capacity to grow and to enable regional and local authorities to respond adequately to key obstacles which may hamper SMEs on their path to growth.

The seven partners are: the Regional Development Agency of Murcia, Spain; Regionalmanagement Nordhessen GmbH, Germany; Regional Development fund on behalf of the Region of Attica, Greece; Lazio Innova, the Regional Development Agency of Lazio Region, Italy; Województwo Lubelskie, a Polish regional authority; Nottingham City Council, UK; and the European Association of Development Agencies (EURADA), based in Brussels, Belgium.

SCALE UP consortium enthusiastically announces the release of the fifth newsletter! This fifth issue contains information on:

- The main takeaways of the SCALE UP final conference;
- Updates regarding the partner regions' action plans.

The road ahead: European SMEs and their path to Scaling up



Last 1st December, we held our final conference entitled, "The road ahead: European SMEs and their path to Scaling up".

This event, organised by the SCALE UP consortium with support from Interreg Europe, marked the close of the project's first phase. It also provided a platform for managing authorities, regional development practitioners and other relevant stakeholders to discuss the current support tools provided to SMEs on their path to scaling up along with future opportunities targeting their growth and recovery from the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Click here to read more

Murcia region action plan for the scaling up of businesses: Inspiration from the Nottingham UpScaler practice, Interreg Europe funding



The plan aims to improve the ERDF Regional Operational Program by including new projects through launching a new call to support SME in the growth process. It will also be integrated within the Entrepreneurship and Scaling Plan of the Region of Murcia, which is the main tool of the entrepreneurship and scaling policy in the Region of Murcia.

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Nordhessen launches Open Innovation Challenge. Securing the future for small and medium-sized enterprises



Regionalmanagement Nordhessen GmbH has been working on new approaches for solutions for the region since August 2019 through the Interreg Europe project "Scale Up - Supporting concentration and robustness of SMEs within the renewed EU industrial policy".

Regionalmanagement Nordhessen GmbH drew an initial conclusion and announced the launch of the "Open Innovation Challenge" to support SMEs.

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Attica Scale Up Project: "NKUA - Inventor of the year"



The action of Attica region is called "NKUA - Inventor of the year" and aims at: promoting technology transfer among researchers, accelerating the process from lab to market, and reacting entrepreneurial awareness

It is inspired by the German best practice "MoWin Innovation Lab" and is adapted to the Greek entrepreneurship culture and innovation ecosystem.

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Lazio Innova action plan and other activities



Lazio Innova's Action Plan aims at improving the 2022-2023 version of CLAB LAZIO & STARTUP ACADEMY Activities. CLAB LAZIO aims at realizing entrepreneurial animation actions and launching micro-innovation labs to support existing SMEs in the product innovation process.

Furthermore, last December, Lazio Innova organized the online Webinar entitled, "Impact Management, a Boost For Scaling Up" about non-financial values generated by organizations becoming a crucial issue in investment choices.

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Nottingham to implement equity support for SMEs



The Nottingham action plan has a core focus on transferring the concept of the 'Subsidies for Entry' project (based in Murcia, Spain) into an early-stage equity fund programme for high-growth SMEs in Nottingham and the wider sub-region. When implemented, we expect this to have a positive impact on increasing the volume of equity investments in our region, which are historically lower than the UK average.

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1st stage of SCALE UP project on the home stretch



After exchanging experiences, partners from the Lubelskie Region have unanimously chosen the MoWin Innovation Lab good practice as a best practice to be implementen in Lublin.

The MoWIN project is an example of well working cooperation between experts from the universities and entrepreneurs, who have ready ideas to be implemented but lack a concrete plan of action, evaluation or expertise.

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This newsletter is the result of the work undertaken in the framework of the SCALE UP project, funded by Interreg Europe www.interreg-europe.eu/scaleup/

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