



Posoški razvojni center

**BRIDGES**  
Interreg Europe



Additional activities progress and results  
1.10.2021 - 31.8.2022

# BRIDGES project

Closing meeting  
Helsinki, 27.9.2022

SOČA VALLEY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, PP6  
Miro Kristan

# Activities implemented

1. Value chain mapping
2. Good practice identification and selection
3. Policy instrument improvement recommendations
4. Meetings with stakeholders



Posoški razvojni center

# 1. Value chain mapping

- Value chain mapping timetable: October 2021 - June 2022 (finished, in additional revision)
- Value chain mapping focus: Dairy industry side streams
- Value chain mapping results

**I. Peaks: I.1. Traditional dairy products: I.1.1** Cheese with European and other designations of origins and brands (Bovec cheese, Tolminc cheese); high value added; **I.1.2.** Other traditional dairy products (butter, yogurt, cottage cheese ...); **I.1.3** In addition to the large dairy there are several smaller producers (farmers) that both produce and sell products on the market and are in a way creating a competitive (in-shoring) environment. **I.2. Side products:** Whey (a smaller part is used as the raw ingredient used in nutrition products and local cuisine and in production of whey drinks). The majority of whey is not used at all.

**II. Valleys: II.1 Traditional dairy products:** Limitations in production (organic farming, summer mountain pastures, freshness of products, the Alps are known for very good cheese products). **II.2** Side products: Extraction of proteins and use for nutrition of humans (partly already in progress by the dairy). **II.3** Use of proteins for: Production of (fish) food (spirulina algae) for local fish farms and/or bio plastics (milk in milk).

**III. Interregionality: III.1 Traditional dairy products:** There is potential in better positioning in the foreign markets with production staying in the region. **III.2 Side products:** Dairy producers are aware of the whey challenges and are already thinking about new ways of using it. Some opportunities have been identified (both R2B and B2B) in the alpine arch neighbouring countries (Italy, Austria).

# 1. Value chain mapping

- Explicit linkages to the RIS3 (or other policy instrument)
  - RIS3(S5 draft 2022) – 3.3.4 Sustainable food production (R2B, development of new products in traditional sectors), support to innovation partnership ,food` (SRIP hrana).
  - Regional development programme (Goriška) - sustainable and ecologically oriented agriculture as one of the region's development pillar
  - CLLD 2021-2027 (new measures suggested, LDS in development)
- Assessment
  - **Resilience and transformative impact:** Emphasis on real product value before PR and branding
  - **Usefulness of the approach:** Very good for sectors with many SMEs (limited R2B capacity, synergies rather than competition)
  - **Difficulties:** Inclusion of large players (sharing of data, competition)
  - **Any recommendations:** Testing on crossborder areas (mutual or different policies, systems)

## 2. Good practice identification & selection

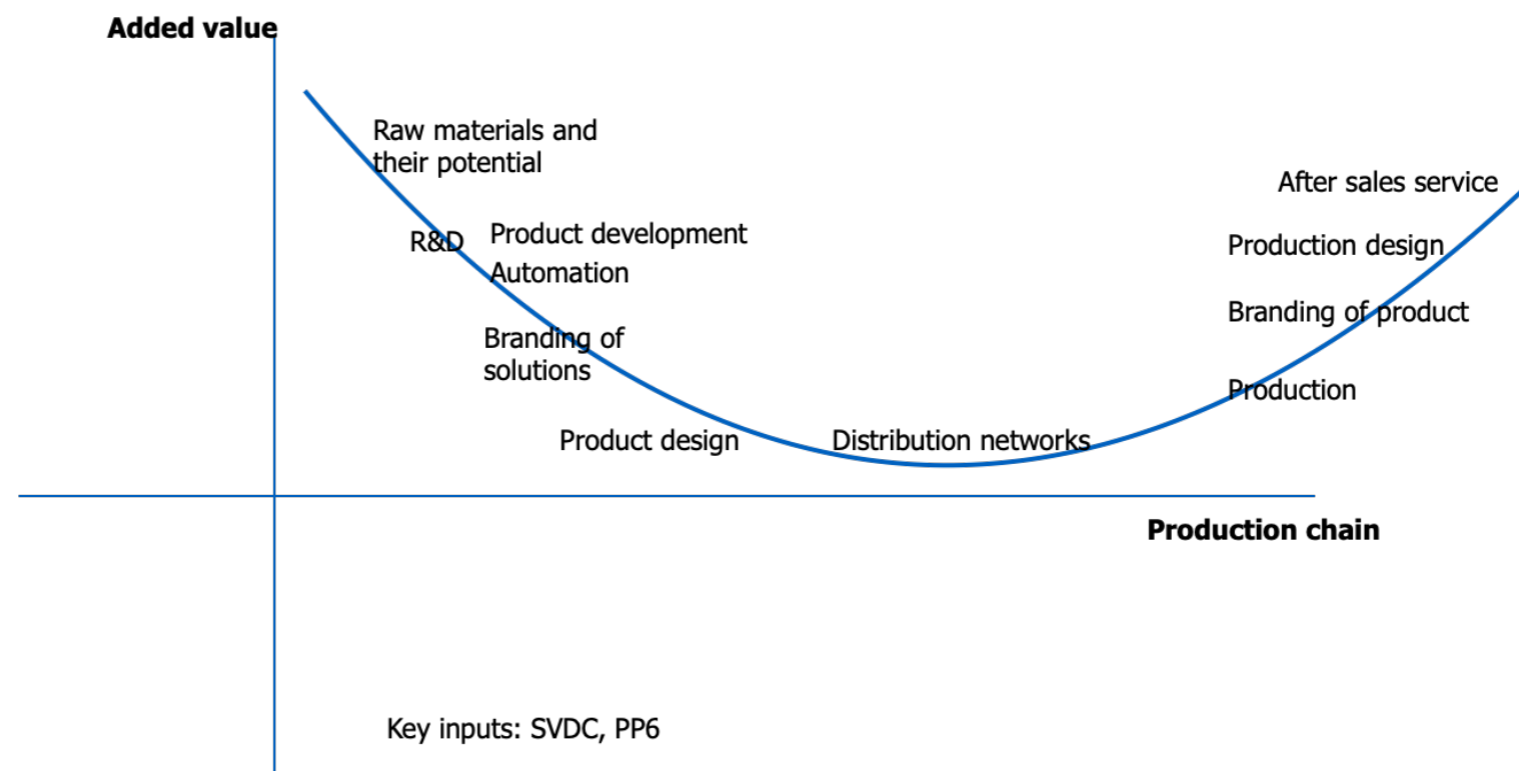
- Good practice selection: November 2021 - July 2022
- Selected good practices: GP2, GP3, GP7
- Reasons for selection
  - GP2 – resilience of regional nature based economy, change in market behaviour
  - GP3 – suitability for small players (SMEs), regional approach
  - GP7 – (inter)regional R2B, synergies for small countries
- To which aspect (-s) of the RIS3/ OTHER PI are the selected GPs contributing?
  - Interregional R2B partnerships for product development
- To which aspect of value chain-based development are the good practices contributing?
  - R&D, production
- Assessment
  - Usefulness (mainstreaming) of the GPs selected, (suggested integration – CLLD)
  - Barriers, -if any of the GPs selected
  - Any recommendations

- Policy instrument improvement recommendations: June 2022 - September 2022
- List of proposed recommendations
  - Interregional cooperation projects within CLLD (the EU CLLD system allows it, but it has to be clearly mentioned in LAG strategies)
  - Small scale R2B (regionally adjusted scheme to focus on selected sectors, supporting mainly SMEs)
  - Funding of initiatives building on side flows from processing of (regional) natural resources
- Reasons for selection
  - Diversification, new products
  - Innovation system, a more complete, a more effective innovation system
- Assessment
  - Has the issue of increasing region's resilience been answered? Is reasearch-to-business a plausible options for your region? What is the role of interregionality?
    - ☀Diversification of existing strengths (traditional, organic, )
    - ☀Reinventing regional strenghts (sidestreams included)

### 3. Policy instrument improvement recommendations

#### — Assessment

- From where to where in the VC smiling curve?
  - ☀️ Adjustment (raw materials, larger AV in materials and R&D)
- Is there an economic model?
  - ☀️ Economies of scale are hard to attain due to critical mass challenges (new economic paradigm glocalisation of products - interregionality of R&D)



## 4. Stakeholder meeting

### REGIONAL STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

**Date (-s):** 19.11.2021, 22.11.2012

**Participants (departments):** Hakim El Khlar (microfiltration expert), Anka Miklavič Lipušček (director of Planika dairy company), Miro Kristan and Jana Podgornik (PP6)

**Results:** Agreement about mapping of dairy sidestreams, participation of the dairy

**Date (-s):** 25.2.2022

**Participants (types and number of organisations):** Dr. Bojana Bogovič Matjašič and Dr. Petra Mohar (Institute of dairy science and probiotics, University of Ljubljana), Miro Kristan and Jana Podgornik (PP6)

**Results:** Presentation of status quo in Slovenia regarding R2B in dairy, identification of mapping experts.