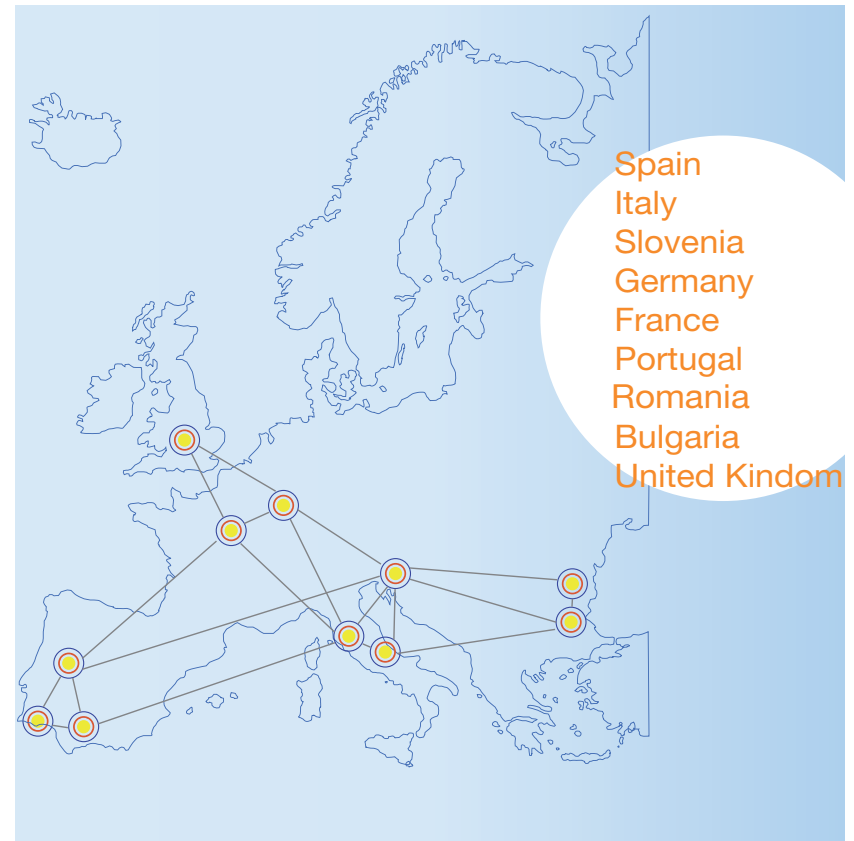


*Connecting the territory
through the innovation network*



N° 1

www.inolink.eu



11 Entities from 9 European countries participate in the European project “INOLINK”, led by RETA

➤ The project “INOLINK” framed in the Interreg initiative, promotes the experiences exchange on innovation within the European regions.

A total of eleven entities from nine European Countries such as Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, and United Kingdom, participate in the European project INOLINK, led by the

Andalusian Technology Network (RETA).

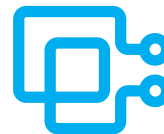
The INOLINK project has been approved in the framework of the INTERREG IVC Programme, co-financed by the European Union through ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) with a budget of 1.97 million Euros.

INOLINK is a three years project, whose overall objective is increasing the reach of regional

innovation policies, through a better connection within the regional innovation systems, especially of those located in the most peripheral and backward areas.

To achieve this objective, the INOLINK project proposes the exchange of experiences in the setting up and functioning of public structures and networks, which support innovation and the participation in R&D cooperation and knowledge transfer of actors in peripheral areas and less innovative sectors, within the regional innovation system.

The Project expects results on the transfer of good practices between the participation regions, and on the improvement of skills and competences of staff in charge of the definition and implementation of innovation policies in all participating regions. Besides, The Andalusian Technology Network – RETA (Spain), as Lead partner, ten partners from nine EU Member States take part into the INOLINK project.



Entities involved in the “INOLINK” Project

- The Andalusian Technology Network - RETA (Spain)
- University of the Algarve (Portugal)
- Foundation for the Development of Science and Technology in Extremadura - Fundecyt (Spain)
- Regional Agency for Entrepreneurship and Innovations - Varna (Bulgaria)
- Maribor Development Agency (Slovenia)
- North-East Regional Development Agency (Romania)
- Coventry University Enterprises Limited (United Kingdom)
- Etruria Innovazione (Italy)
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Essonne (France)
- NanoBioNet (Germany)
- Abruzzo Region (Italy)

The Andalusian Technology Network (RETA) - Spain



➤ The Andalusian Technology Network (RETA) is a non-profit organisation that was incorporated in April 2005 at the initiative of the Regional Ministry of Innovation, Science and Enterprise to foster R&D&I in Andalusian companies.

RETA is a network formed by the actors of the An-



dalusian Knowledge system which has to fulfil a dual responsibility; to link up and integrate the various elements of the Andalusian framework of expertise, generating synergies and acting as an interface between these diverse elements and to facilitate and pave the way

for this expertise and innovation to filter through the commercial sector as a whole, overcoming traditional obstacles such as the size and geographical location of the business.

At the present time, RETA is made up of 67 associate members distributed across the length and breadth of the province of Andalusia, comprising principally the Technology Parks, Technology Centres, Innovation Centres, European Business Centres and the Universities in the Andalusian region. ■

For more information:

••• www.reta.es



University of the Algarve Portugal

➤ The University of Algarve (UAlg) is a young higher education public institution located in the southern region of Portugal. With around 750 permanent teaching and 450 research staff, and evidencing a growing commitment towards R&D and Innovation, the main research and teaching areas are: Earth and Marine Sciences, Health, Management and Tourism, Engineering and Technology and Social Sciences and Humanities. UAlg's Research Performance (measured by publications per researcher holding a PhD) was ranked 2nd among Portuguese universities. The history of CRIA begins in 2003 from a partnership with the University of Algarve, CCDR Algarve (Regional Authority for Planning and Coordination), ANJE Algarve (Youth Business Association) and NERA



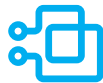
(Regional Business Association) to create an operational organization to solve identified problems in the region: distance between research and firms and adverse institutional environment to innovation. Today CRIA is formally established as a functional division of the University of Algarve, the Division for Entrepreneurship Technology Transfer, with five main

areas: Knowledge and Technology based Entrepreneurship; Technology Transfer, Research and Networking; Intellectual Property Rights; Science and Technology Infrastructures; Studies and Projects. ■



••• www.cria.pt

Fundecyt Spain



➤ The Foundation for the Development of Science and Technology in Extremadura (FUNDECYT) was created in 1995, launched with the support and guidance of the Regional Government, the University of Extremadura and two regional financial Institutions: Caja Badajoz

of Fundecyt has been to serve as a link between Corporations, the University and Society, establishing a dialogue and co-

and it has always distinguished itself by being at the forefront of technological innovation, leading past and present changes which



and Caja Extremadura. Since its creation, the aim

laboration between them and thus contributing to improving its area of action, creating wealth

d the integral development of the Autonomous region of Extremadura.

The activities of the Foundation have been very intense

have transformed this region, without forgetting its national and international influence through participation in international networks.

The support of Society in Extremadura and the confidence deposited in it by national and European Community institutions for the implementation of countless projects are proof of the specialisation and professionalism of the staff and services ■

For more information:

••• www.fundecyt.es



Regional Agency for Entrepreneurship and Innovations - Varna - Bulgaria



RAPIV
REGIONAL AGENCY FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP
AND INNOVATIONS - VARNA

➤ The Regional Agency for Entrepreneurship and Innovations - Varna is a non-governmental utilitarian non-profit organization, carrying out its activities in public benefit, for stimulating regional economy, through the development of entrepreneurship and innovations. RAPIV follows three trends for development: High-Technology Business Incubator; Centre for Innovations and Technology Transfer and High-Technology Park - Varna.

Activities are directed to improve innovation environment in the region;

- Providing of preferential conditions for the development of technology oriented SMEs;
- Commercialization of scientific research;
- Know-how and technology transfer;
- Rendering assistance in the finding of markets, partners for technological and business collaboration, financial sources;
- Active ad-

vertising and marketing policy on the domestic and international markets; -Organizing and participation in national and international multidiscipline teams, meetings, conferences and seminars ■



For more information:

••• www.rapiv.org

Maribor Development Agency Slovenia



➤ Maribor Development Agency (MRA) was established by the Municipality Maribor in 1993 in order to foster business and economic activities of Podravje region. The purpose of MRA is to foster economic develop-

ment and regeneration, to promote business efficiency, investment, competitiveness and employment, to enhance development and application of skills relevant to employment and to contribute to sustainable development. MRA acts mainly on three development axis:

regional development, human resources, labour market development as well as economic cooperation. In the framework of regional development the main occupation

is preparation of Regional Development Plans and their implementation, acting as technical assistance to the Regional Development Council and the preparation of the Strategic Plan for the Maribor City Municipality. In the framework of economic cooperation MRA plays the role in internationalization of Podravje's SME, marketing of the region and is actively involved in the European Enterprise Network.

MRA is also the owner and the main stakeholder of the Štajerski Technology Park, one of the most promising projects in the pre-accession period that acts as regional incubator of Podravje region.

For more information:

• • • www.mra.si



North-East Regional Development Agency - Romania



➤ The North-East Regional Development Agency is a non-governmental, non-profit making organization of public utility established on April 1, 1999. The agency is the executive body of the North-East Regional Development Board body held responsible for elaboration and implementation of regional development policies.

This agency elaborates and promotes strategies, attracts resources, identifies and implements funding programs and provides services for stimulation of sustainable economic growth, partnerships and entrepreneurial spirit. The agency has a staff of 91 employees, and

the organizational structure consists of the following operational departments: 1) Planning, Programming Directorate, 2) ROP Intermediate Body Directorate, 3) PHARE and Romanian Programmes Directorate, 4) Regional Communication and Promotion Directorate, 5) Economic Directorate, 6) Legal and Human Resources Directorate and 7) Internal Audit Directorate. The regional-

level agency's services coverage is provided also through the 5 county branch offices (with 2 employees each) that are operational into the municipalities of Bacau, Botosani, Iasi, Suceava and Vaslui.



For more information:

• • • www.adrnordest.ro

Coventry University
United Kingdom



Coventry University Enterprises Limited



➤ Coventry University is one of the most successful UK organisations for supporting knowled-

ge based enterprises, establishing and developing successful technology businesses and supporting high - growth international trade. It has offices in five continents. It delivers practical support, help and guidance to a wide range of technology and high growth businesses each year. It's part of the

University's Business Development Group and It's clear focused on business development and business support. Coventry University Enterprises Limited one of the largest UK and European University enterprises organisations. CUE has been instrumental in developing and launching for future looking institutes; Institutes that are already delivering benefits to the economy; The Serious Games Institute, The Institute for Creative Enterprises; The Health Design Technology Institute and The Institute of Applied Entrepreneurs-hip ■



For more information:

- • www.coventry.ac.uk

Etruria Innovazione
Italy



Etruria Innovazione SCpA (EI) is a publicly owned, non-profit company which promotes innovation and technology transfer in Tuscany. EI operates in thematic areas such as promoting and creating networks, ICT

developed numerous instruments for knowledge and content management, e-government, business intelligence and data transmission. EI has also participated in innovation projects in various thematic sectors

number of different regional, national and European projects finalised towards the creation of cooperation networks, which include participation from public administrations, local entities, public and private subjects and enterprises.



Etruria Innovazione can bring to each project initiative: technical expertise; a wide experience in regional and European project management and participation and a national and european wide networks of contacts ■

systems, e-government, knowledge management and enterprise support. EI is a structure with high level, specialised personnel, including ICT experts, specialists in financial administration including European projects, and experts in European project management.

(economic development, life sciences, energy and environment, info-mobility and transport, e-government). Etruria promotes, elaborates and participates in a



For more information:

- • www.etinnova.it

CCI Essonne France



➤ Department of the Essonne (1804 km²) is one of the most innovative territories in France: in fact, this Department positions itself as the second one after the department of Paris in the framework of private and public research. The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Essonne works with more than 34 000 companies specialized in technological fields: ICT, biotech, optics, etc. Two worldwide clusters are located in the Essonne: System@tic and Medicen and three national clusters are also located in the Essonne (As-



tech, Mov'eo, Cap Digital). Two international projects are implemented in the Essonne: Paris Saclay Innovation and Biotech Valley. The Essonne is divided into 3 different districts: Evry, Palaiseau and Etampes.

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Essonne supports SMEs in their business development (Finance, Export, Business Intelligence, Sustainable

development, etc...). Their service (Innovation and Technological Development) facilitates and promotes innovation and strengthens the collaboration between public labs and companies.

Globally speaking, 50 advisors work at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Essonne, of which 10 are dedicated to innovation.

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Essonne supports SMEs in their business development (Finance, Innovation and Technological Development, Business Intelligence, Sustainable development, etc) ■

For more information:

• • • www.essonne.cci.fr

NanoBioNet Germany



➤ NanoBioNet e. V. is a network of universities, research institutes, clinics and businesses from the areas of development, production, industry and commerce and technology transfer. The members come from various sectors such as biotechnology, the chemical nanotechnology or medical technology. All of the members are interested in research and development, as well as the practical applications of nanotechnology and biotechnology for the creation of marketable products and new jobs – and achieve this through an ethically justifiable technology. The non-profit association was founded in 2002 with the Saarland Ministry for Economics, Science and education as a founding member with the aim to promote interaction between research, commerce, politics and society. The network consists of more than 100 partners and is one of the main pillars of the Saarland Innovation Strategy. NanoBioNet assists and



promotes research as it progresses from its initial stages through to the finished product. The intermediate stages along the way, such as the quest for funding, for profitable cooperations or for possibilities for raising the public profile of the research, are handled energetically by NanoBioNet.

With options ranging from joint appearances at trade fairs to presentations within brochures, the network

provides its participants with a diverse selection of possible platforms for establishing contacts and letting people know what skills they have to offer. – NanoBioNet is all about networking – both internal and external ■

For more information:

• • • www.nanobionet.de

Abruzzo Region Italy



➤ Abruzzo Region is the political and administrative government of the region, its leading role is to plan and implement the activities needed to join the targets fixed by the local parliament. The Region has authority and departments in all the sectors as Health, Culture, Social affairs, Vocational formation and Education, Energy, Environment, Infrastructures, Agriculture, etc. Abruzzo is a small region in the middle - east of Italy on the Adriatic Sea. It has an area of 10.800



REGIONE ABRUZZO



squared kilometres and a population of 1.300.000 inhabitants. It has 4 provinces (L'Aquila, Chieti, Pescara and Teramo) and the capital is L'Aquila. It has 133 Kilometres of coast, and at the same time has the highest mountain of the Appennino chain. The territory of the region is for 65% mountainous, hilly for 34% and lowland for 1%. Moreover there are 3 National Parks, 1 Regional park and 38 protected areas. Abruzzo is considered the Green region of Europe. Abruzzo Region has 3 Universities and centres of excellence known at the international level. The strength points are a favourable geographic position, a good social tranquillity and absence of organized crime, very favourable environment and a good trend toward innovation ■

For more information:

• • • [www.regione.abruzzo.it/portale\(idex.asp\)](http://www.regione.abruzzo.it/portale(idex.asp))

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