

Activity 1.3.2 - Report on the impact of public support system for the SMEs transformation

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Interreg



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Activity 1.3.2

The report analyses public financial support systems for SMEs' transformation and provides inputs for the following support system kit to be developed and tested (WP2).



First analysis of support systems

- Source of data:
 - Internal survey – Section 5 and 6
 - Past Actions and Programs
 - Ongoing Actions / Programs / Aid and Funding



From analysis to inputs

- Methodology (from survey data to D1.3.2):

Task	Responsible	Output
Organize survey data (Sections 5–6) and share with PPs	VI	Dataset for review
Review/integrate survey data	PPs	Revised dataset
Discuss integrated data (gaps, best tools, future plans)	AB	Feedback and discussion outcomes
Consolidate discussion outcomes and finalize Deliverable	VI	Final Deliverable



Past Actions and Programs

- Rhone Alpes - Digital Transition
 - Industry of the Future Investment Solutions
 - SI PME (individual support, group support, and training for skills development)
- Rhone Alpes - Green Transition
 - Innov'R Program (R&D funding for eco-innovations)
 - Collective Actions: Rhône-Alpes ISO 14001 – CSR
 - ADEME: green production investment – EETE 2020
- Rhone Alpes - Human
 - National Employment Fund Allocation
 - ARACT (Regional Agency for the Improvement of Working Conditions in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes)



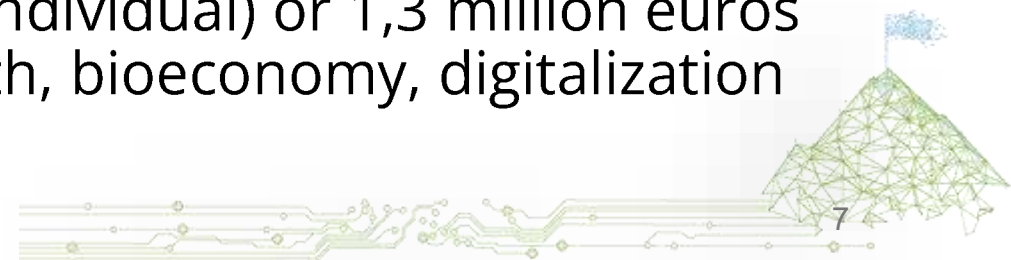
Past Actions and Programs

- Grand Est – Technological transformation
 - "Industry of the Future" Regional Plan
 - Quest for Industry
 - France 2030
 - KMØ (Mulhouse)
- Grand Est – Green transformation
 - Crédit d'impôt en faveur de l'industrie verte (C3IV)
 - DINAMHySE (Hydrogen Valley of the Grand Est)
 - CCI Alsace Eurométropole – Green Economy Services
- Grand Est – Human
 - Alsace Tech – Transitions Program and Conferences
 - Alsace Employer Branding
 - Grand Est Region – Workforce Development Initiatives



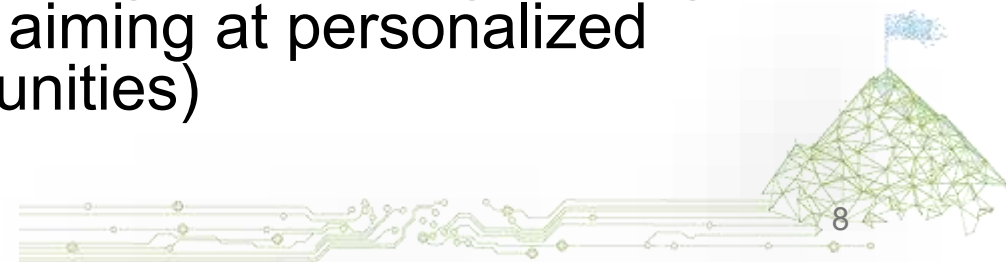
Past Actions and Programs

- Baden-Württemberg - Technological transformation
 - Innovation Voucher BW (max. €7,500 grant with a funding rate of 50%)
 - Hightech BW innovation voucher (max. 20,000 euros subsidy with a funding rate of 50%)
 - Start-up BW innovation voucher (max. 20,000 euros subsidy with a funding rate of 50%)
 - InvestBW
 - Invest BW (funding program for technological and non-technological innovation, Grants up to 650,000 euros (individual) or 1,3 million euros (joint projects), focus on green tech, health, bioeconomy, digitalization and more)



Past Actions and Programs

- Baden-Württemberg - Green transformation
 - Funding program “Unternehmen machen Klimaschutz“ (Offering consulting support (e.g. CO₂ footprint analysis, climate strategy) and investment grants for climate protection measures)
 - Green Tech BW (hub for those working on environmental, resource, and climate protection technologies, aims: visibility, networking, supply chains, funding info etc.)
- Baden-Württemberg – Human
 - Initiative “THE CHÄNCE” (statewide campaign promoting lifelong learning and professional development, aiming at personalized guidance, boosting skills and job opportunities)



Past Actions and Programs

- Bavaria - Technology
 - ZIM (R&D for SMEs), go-digital (consulting vouchers), regional cluster projects and testbeds;
- Bavaria - Green
 - ESIF/ERDF - cofunded energy - efficiency/renewables schemes, audit/efficiency vouchers, circular pilot calls;
- Bavaria - Human
 - ESF backed upskilling, chamber/cluster academies, “train-the-trainer” formats. Duration: multiannual; outcomes include pilot lines, reduced energy intensity, digital QA, and certified skills



Past Actions and Programs

- Lower Austria – R&D initiatives
 - Funding program supporting projects with a high potential for market implementation
 - Research, development & innovation - infrastructure projects



Past Actions and Programs

- Upper Austria – Climate and environmental protection
 - Inland environmental promotion (UFI)
- Upper Austria – Automotive
 - ITS Action Plan Austria
 - Pre-commercial procurement

(Programmes available for the whole Country)



Past Actions and Programs

- Veneto – R&D initiatives
 - National Industry 4.0 Plan
- Veneto – Digital
 - PID (Punto Impresa Digitale - Digital Enterprise Hub)



Past Actions and Programs

- Trentino Sviluppo – Technological transformation
 - ERDF incentives for SMEs investing in production processes
- Trentino Sviluppo – Human
 - TS Innovation Academy
 - Innovation Manager Open Call



Past Actions and Programs

- Slovenia
 - P4D-DI – Digital Transformation Support for SMEs
 - Grants up to 100,000 EUR
 - Co-financing digital transformation – purchase of equipment, digitization of processes, cyber security, ERP/CRM systems, consulting
 - Other schemes: P2, P7, RRI2, DIH vouchers
 - National instruments: Slovene Enterprise Fund (SPS) and SPIRIT Slovenia



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Rhone Alpes – Digital Transition
 - Etre accompagné dans mon projet d'Industrie du Futur: up to 50% of consulting, expertise, and study services, max €32,000 /company
 - BPI Diagnostics: data, AI, cybersecurity, digital strategy
 - BPI Digital Loan
 - ADEME – Responsible Digital
 - Relocation Pack: funding for industrial relocation



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Rhone Alpes – Green Transition
 - Industry of the Future Support: same conditions as above, applied to green transition themes
 - Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region Energy Loan
 - ADEME – consulting and investment services (eco-design, waste heat recovery, waste reduction, carbon emissions, etc.)
 - ADEME and CCI Diagnostics: Water, circular economy, energy
 - CSR Support: provided by BPI and AFNOR
 - Communities of Practice in Savoie and Haute-Savoie: support for 10 companies, 6 times per year, on circular economy topics



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Rhone Alpes – Human
 - Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region: HR support service with 12 days of expert guidance
 - Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Enterprises Agency: Workshops on future skills for industrial companies
 - OPCO (Skills Operator (OPCO – French sectoral training and funding body): Funding for training, diagnostics, and HR/CSR support
 - ADEME PACTE Industry: employee training component
 - BPI and ADEME program VTE Vert: hiring recent graduates for ecological transition missions
 - Relocation Pack: includes employee training



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Rhone Alpes – Human
 - Higher Education Initiatives: Institutions like Centrale Lyon, ENTPE, INSA Lyon, and Mines Saint-Étienne combine their research expertise and training capabilities (initial and continuing education) within the Engineering College



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Grand Est – Technological transformation
 - Industry of the Future Regional Plan (Grand Est). Grand Est Compétitivité programme: support SMEs and mid-sized companies in adopting Industry 4.0 technologies:
 - 100% subsidized industrial performance diagnostics
 - customized support linking companies with relevant economic players and solution providers
 - training of leader communities to facilitate networking and exchange of best practices
 - identification of solution providers within the Grand Est region



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Grand Est – Technological transformation
 - KMØ (Mulhouse) - Private company serve as an innovation hub focused on the digital transformation of industry. Hosts over 70 companies and 25 technical training programs. Provides facilities like a fablab and an Industry 4.0 demonstrator. Facilitates cross-sector collaboration among industrialists, entrepreneurs, startups, and educational programs
 - KTUR² – Cross-border Innovation Hub provide access to advanced research infrastructures. Develop streamlined procedures for R&D collaboration. Offer continuous training programs for professionals. Support entrepreneurship through networking events and startup programs. Identify and analyse funding instruments for innovation projects



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Grand Est – Green transformation
 - Smart Industrial Park (SIP) Program - Prepare industrial parks in the Grand Est region for the green transition. Focus Areas: achieving soil neutrality, enhancing sustainability and competitiveness, improving quality of life and governance within industrial parks. Actions: Assess company needs and experiment with innovative solutions promoting the green transition, engage stakeholders through events and collaborative projects. Over 15 projects identified, more than 120 entities engaged, and 15 events hosted.
 - CCI Alsace Eurométropole – Green Economy Services: assist companies in transitioning to a greener economy through energy consumption assessments and optimization strategies, waste reduction and resource efficiency consulting, guidance on renewable energy production and energy recovery opportunities.



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Grand Est – Human
 - Alsace Tech – "Transitions" Conferences: address various aspects of industrial transformation, including sobriety, personal development, and corporate social responsibility. Organize conferences and webinars featuring experts and researchers to facilitate discussions on the role of human factors in industrial evolution.
 - Grand Est Region – Workforce Development Initiatives: support the recruitment and training needs of industrial companies. Programs: FIFE initiative for collective recruitment projects requiring specific skills; customized training programs developed in collaboration with employment and training stakeholders, support for executive recruitment through Apec services, initiatives to facilitate the professional integration of young people and RSA beneficiaries.



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Baden-Württemberg - Technological transformation
 - Invest BW (Current call open until 10 October 2025 with €30 million budget, specific focus this time on e.g. medical innovation, use of health data, resilience, resources, materials)
 - Innovation Vouchers (see above)
 - Digitalisierungsprämie Plus KMU / „Digitalization bonus ‘plus’ for SMEs“ – small-scale financial support for digitalization efforts, either as loan or as grant
 - ERDF “Spitze auf dem Land/High-performers in the countryside” including STEP-ERDF-Funding, focusing on funding options for hidden champions in the countryside
 - Export consulting by RKW – Consulting-association with large number of associated consultants available specifically for SMEs with regard to Digitalization Leadership & organizational development, Sustainable management, Operations, Corporate succession, efficiency & innovation investment



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Baden-Württemberg - Green transformation
 - there is not really a difference between last five years and currently in place:
 - Funding program “Unternehmen machen Klimaschutz“
 - Green Tech BW
- Baden-Württemberg - Human
 - Specialist course funding by the local Ministry for the Economy/with funds of the ESF
 - there is not really a difference between last five years and currently in place:
 - Initiative “THE CHÄNCE”



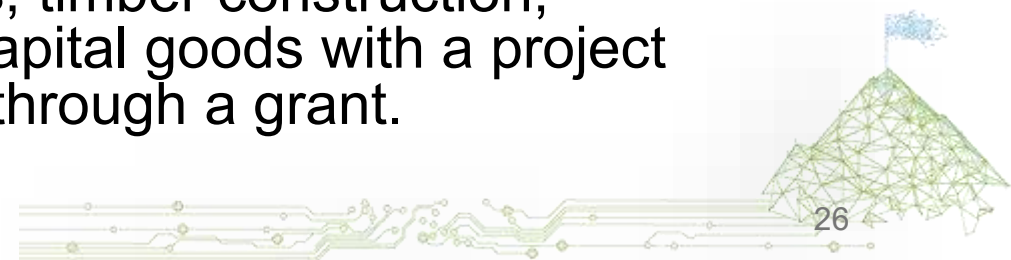
Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- BAVARIA - Technological
 - SME digitalisation vouchers/consulting, R&D grants, testbed access via clusters/centres, EEN advisory;
- BAVARIA - Green
 - Energy audits/efficiency grants, support for PV/heat recovery, circular pilot calls, climate-impact assessments;
- BAVARIA - Human
 - ESF-style upskilling funds, micro-credentials via chambers/clusters, leadership/change programmes.



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Lower Austria
 - Bioeconomy Austria under the lead of ecolpus - the Business Agency of Lower Austria - has evolved from a “project basis” to an ongoing institutional national Network with over 350 members
 - (The Plastics cluster and the) Mechatronic cluster of Lower Austria and Upper Austria cooperate and provide joint services for their members
 - JUST TRANSITION FUNDS – investment support (**technological and green transformation**). Mobilising industry for a clean and circular economy (e.g. product/material innovations through, for example, a transition to renewable, recyclable raw materials and increased use of secondary raw materials; manufacturers of recycling plants, timber construction, conversion to bioplastics). Investments in capital goods with a project volume of at least €300,000 are supported through a grant.



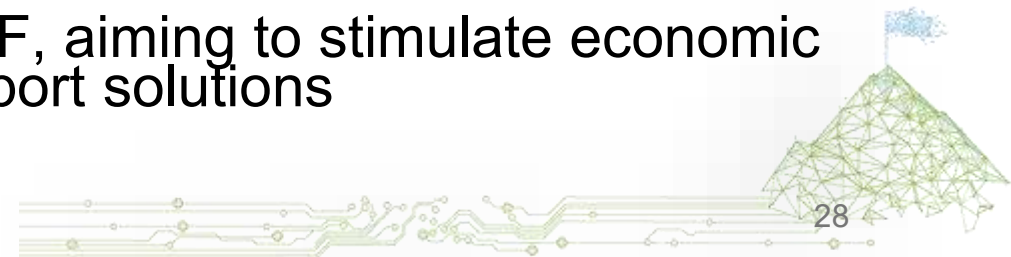
Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Upper Austria
 - #upperVISION2030: public funding measures and instruments are provided to R&D organisations, enterprises and SMEs to support their transformation (e.g. FFG - Austrian Research Funding Association)
 - Competence Centers for Excellent Technologies (COMET): fosters collaboration between academia and industry to drive innovation in key technological areas, including automotive engineering, sustainable vehicle technologies



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Upper Austria – **Technological transformation**
 - Measures are implemented along mutual FTI goals that are anchored in various national funding initiatives and are widely transacted through the Austrian Research Funding Association (FFG)
- Upper Austria – **Green transformation**
 - National Strategic Framework for Clean Energy in Transport: outlines measures for the adoption of electricity, hydrogen, and natural gas as cleaner energy sources, along with the necessary infrastructure development
 - EBIN (Electrification of Bus Fleets): supports the transition of bus fleets to electric power, including infrastructure development
 - ENIN (Electrification of Heavy-Duty Vehicles): focuses on subsidising the electrification of heavy-duty commercial vehicles and the necessary charging infrastructure
 - Both programs are co-financed by the ERRF, aiming to stimulate economic recovery while promoting sustainable transport solutions



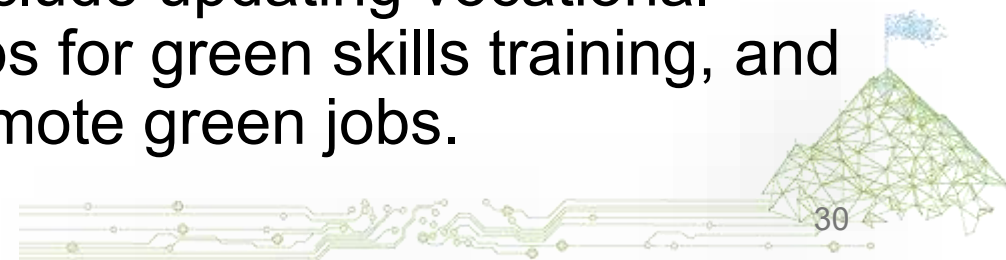
Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Upper Austria – Green transformation
 - Future Mobility Region Upper Austria by Business Upper Austria (Automotive Cluster): strategic initiative aimed at positioning Upper Austria as a leading hub for sustainable and innovative mobility solutions. Spearheaded by the Upper Austrian government and coordinated by Business Upper Austria, the initiative focuses on consolidating regional expertise in mobility and energy sectors to drive the transformation towards climate-friendly transportation



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Upper Austria – Human
 - Workplace Upper Austria 2030 (Arbeitsplatz OÖ 2030) is the strategic framework programme which underpins the labour market policy in Upper Austria. The goals of the program are to secure skilled workers for the Upper Austrian economy in the long term and to avoid unemployment as best as possible with the aim of achieving full employment.
 - Just Transition Action Plan on Training and Reskilling Austria has implemented a comprehensive action plan focusing on education, company collaboration, and communication to support the workforce during the green transition. Initiatives include updating vocational training programs, providing scholarships for green skills training, and launching awareness campaigns to promote green jobs.



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Veneto – National level
 - National Industry 5.0 Plan, aims to evolve and strengthen the digital and industrial transformation initiated with Industry 4.0, while placing a stronger emphasis on sustainability, social innovation, and long-term competitiveness.
 - Main objectives: 1. Advanced Digitalization and Automation, 2. Environmental and Energy Sustainability, 3. Social Innovation and Well-being, 4. Competitiveness and Resilience of Enterprises, 5. Digital Transition of SMEs, 6. Development of Innovative Ecosystems.
 - Funding € 6.3 billion for the 2024-2025 period, primarily dedicated to fiscal incentives for businesses investing in advanced technologies, sustainability, and innovation. The funds primarily come from the Italian state budget.
- Veneto – R&D initiatives
 - ERDF support goes to initiatives linked to green transition, digital transformation and human capital
 - Pathway to Digital and Sustainable Transition, managed by the Chambers of Commerce in collaboration with local universities
- Veneto – Human
 - ESF+ programme



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Trentino Sviluppo
 - Territorial ESG Framework: for a sustainability evaluation of the whole territory, comprehending institutions and companies. This leads companies to measure their performances along about 90 ESG KPIs.
 - InnovAction program: a support program including training and testing services for companies to support the adoption of advanced and sustainable technologies (co-funded by the Ministry of Enterprise and Made in Italy (MIMIT), the European Union through the Next Generation EU program and funds from the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRP)).
 - trentino4talent: collaboration with the territorial employment agency to recruit and attract highly skilled professionals with the competences needed by local SMEs in the manufacturing sector to enable the twin transition
 - provincial incentives law for companies: encompasses economic incentives for investments on production facilities, energy efficiency, circular economy, research and development projects, growth and internationalisation
 - call for the creation of REC (renewable energy communities)
 - 3DOP call: developing and testing innovative solutions leveraging additive manufacturing and advanced manufacturing technologies
 - manager employment call: for the recruitment of experienced innovation managers within companies
 - organisation of EBN 2026 congress in Trentino (17-19 June 2026), gathering about 250 experts in business and innovation support, on the topic “human centered innovation”



Ongoing Actions/Programs/Aid & Funding

- Slovenia
 - Same tools as in the period before

