



Work Package 3 (WP3) – “The Analysis”

PROJECT

South-East European Co-operation of Innovation & Finance Agencies (SEE IFA Network)

WP-Leader: ERDF-PP6 (UEFISCDI) | Romania

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01 Description

At the beginning of the content-related work packages a thorough needs and gaps analysis in all ERDF and IPA countries of the South East Europe Programme area (14 countries) was foreseen. This was a *sine qua non* condition for the subsequent work packages and an innovation regarding the existing knowledge in the area, closing an existing gap for project partners (PP). WP3 “The Analysis” followed a clearly structured logic, starting with the definition of a methodological framework, the elaboration of country studies and finally the synthesis of the findings in a comprehensive report, and entailed the following main activities:

3.1 methodological framework - for the analysis related to structural funds (this tool defined the contents of the country analyses and good practice models);

3.2 country studies - analysing in-depth good practice models (governance, institutional capacities, portfolios of agencies, instruments), based on questionnaires and on desk research;

3.3 synthesis report.

02 Activities

Activity 3.1 – Methodological Framework

In activity 3.1 the set-up of the methodological framework for the analysis related to relevant EU policies and structural funds support was foreseen. The contents of the country analyses and good practice models were defined. Both ERDF and IPA partners made a questionnaire on national innovation frameworks. Questions on directions of development and success and failure stories were included.

The template of the needs and gaps analysis regarding SME innovation finance and support in the partner countries was designed and elaborated by ERDF-PP6 (UEFISCDI/formerly AMCSIT, Romania), incorporating the inputs of the lead partner (LP) management team (AWS, Austria). It was distributed to all PPs for elaboration during period 2 (P2).

Activity 3.2 – Country Studies

In activity 3.2 the partners produced country studies and analysed good practices (institutional capacity, portfolio of agencies, instruments) based on the template mentioned above, but also by means of desktop research. They were assisted in identifying and selecting the best of the good practices with special focus on EU policy for innovation and entrepreneurship.

All project partner organisations started working on their respective country studies as soon as they received the template and methodology, which included an analysis of the present situation related to innovation environment in each country, IFA-instruments, needs and gaps, good practice models and a SWOT analysis. Within the country studies the framework / existing conditions as well as programmes and instruments of SME innovation support were captured. For each country, needs and gaps as well as a SWOT analysis were carried out and good practice examples were identified. Despite the fact that SEE-IFA consortium has no partners from Montenegro, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Slovakia and Albania, additional country studies were carried out for those countries, which were commissioned by and covered from the budgets of SID Bank (Slovenia), TETALAP (Hungary) and GEORAMA (Greece). The collection of 14 country studies took longer than expected and their harmonisation by the LP and ERDF-PP6 (UEFISCDI/formerly AMCSIT) required more effort than was initially foreseen.

Activity 3.3 –Synthesis Report

The findings of activity 3.2 were compiled in a comprehensive document (synthesis report) containing structured information and conclusions. All findings were reviewed and assessed. An initial comparison of the findings identified possible imbalances and gaps, hence serving as a reference for

the subsequent work packages. The synthesis also offered an overview of IFA and innovation needs of the region.

On the basis of all 14 country studies, a synthesis report was drawn by the WP3-responsible, UEFISCDI/formerly AMCSIT, with the support and input from the LP. It was designed to give an overview of the SME and innovation support needs in the region and forms a basis for the WPs 4, 6 and 7. The Thematic Seminar in Bucharest (November 2009) specifically focused on the discussion of the country studies and the preparation of the synthesis report. At the Technical Meeting in Budapest (in February 2010) the implications of WP3 on WPs 4, 6 and 7 as well as next steps were discussed. The synthesis of the country studies also offers an overview of existing programmes, instruments and needs for IFA and innovation support in the region and a selection of good practice instruments. The synthesis report was revised for publication by the LP, together with external experts, and finalised in February 2011. The final version was published on the website and distributed to all PPs.

03 Output & Results

Methodological framework:

refer Annexure

- 3.1 METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK_Country Reports (template)

Country studies:

refer Annexures

- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Albania
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Austria
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Bosnia&Herzegovina
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Bulgaria
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Croatia
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY F.Y.R.O.M.
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Greece
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Hungary
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Italy
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Montenegro
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Romania
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Serbia
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Slovakia
- 3.2.a COUNTRY STUDY Slovenia

Good practice models:

refer Annexures

- 3.2.b GOOD PRACTICES Albania
- 3.2.b GOOD PRACTICES Austria
- 3.2.b GOOD PRACTICES Bosnia&Herzegovina
- 3.2.b GOOD PRACTICES Bulgaria
- 3.2.b GOOD PRACTICES Croatia
- 3.2.b GOOD PRACTICES F.Y.R.O.M.
- 3.2.b GOOD PRACTICES Greece
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- 3.2.b GOOD PRACTICES Slovakia
- 3.2.b GOOD PRACTICES Slovenia

Synthesis report:

refer Annexure

- 3.3 SYNTHESIS REPORT_Country Reports