

FIDIBE International Newsletter N° 1

Dear Reader,

I would like to welcome you on behalf of the Partnership of the FIDIBE project!



FIDIBE is the acronym of the „Development of Innovative Business Parks to Foster Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the SEE Area”, a project funded by the [SEE Transnational Programme](#) and co-funded by the relevant national or regional governments and the Partners themselves.

In our international e-newsletter we will regularly inform you about the outputs and results of our project until September 2011, the closure of the project. We would be more than pleased to receive your feedback.

If you wish to know more, please visit our website: <http://www.fidibe.com>, which is regularly updated and it will contain all the studies, manual, databases etc. prepared during the implementation of the project. If you wish to unsubscribe, please send your request to unsubscribe@fidibe.com.

The first issue focuses on general project information and provides a description of the members of our Partnership. In the next issue – due to come out in February/March we will present you the first studies within this the project and we will also provide in-depth information on next steps.

Best regards,



Csaba Sebestyén
Managing Director
Mid-Pannon, Lead Partner

■ Why we started our project?

The [SEE area](#) has a low performance with respect to R&D. The majority of the countries in the area are facing low levels of innovative activity and thus of competitiveness. Therefore it is crucial to establish frameworks to motivate SMEs for innovation activities, to bring them closer to R&D activities and to provide a favourable environment for them. As a respond to that, many national and regional innovation policies in the [SEE area](#) aim to develop technology parks, incubators, research centres etc. – in one word innovative business parks. However, the effectiveness of the attempts to create or further develop such parks varies – there are well established institutions, good practices, but also weak initiatives seeking further assistance. We have realized that there is a strong need for transnational mechanisms, reference materials, models, sharing of best practices that could promote the coordinated development of these parks.

Objectives of FIDIBE

The main objectives are to increase the innovative potential and competitiveness of the SEE area with the development and support of competitive and innovative small and medium-sized enterprises, to facilitate innovation, promote entrepreneurship and the development of knowledge economy as well as to decrease the substantial disparity in economic development. These objectives will be achieved through developing and improving support networks and services for innovative SMEs in the area.

Specific objectives are:

- to introduce operational structures that enhance transnational cooperation among existing innovative business parks and such new initiatives in the SEE area and to create a network among them which allows sharing and dissemination of effective approaches in innovative business park development for the better provision of support services for innovative enterprises (second level clustering);
- to develop standards and location requirements for innovative business parks in the form of a Manual in the programme area in order to provide an effective solution for the development problems of innovative SMEs, and to create a favourable environment for them in terms of physical sites and a range of support services;
- with the transfer of best practice and exchange of common knowledge to encourage the establishment of new innovative business parks and facilitate the further development of existing ones;
- to capitalize the results, influence policy level and seek for financing of the establishment or extension of parks in the mainstream ERDF funded OPs or national funds via the involvement of relevant MAs and IBs, policy makers, national and regional stakeholders.

The main objectives of the project are to develop standards, provide mechanisms of cooperation and exchange of experience, demonstrate best practice in the area of Business Park development. Main outputs and results are: the Manual of Business Innovation Park, which can be used as a guide to establish new and further develop existing parks, regional analyses and feasibility studies for the foundation of new parks or of the enhancement of old parks coupled with the in-depth analysis of needs of SMEs, forums for exchange of best practice, knowledge and experience in the framework of training, study tour, international seminar and final conference. The Partnership will use a wide range of instruments – internet, brochures, media, regional and international events – to communicate and disseminate the results of the project not only on SEE but also on EU level. Our aim is to ensure sustainability and capitalisation of the results and outputs during the lifecycle and in particular after the closure of the project.

Our overall project budget: 2.220.000,00 €
Including ERDF contribution of: 1.887.000,00 €



Presentation of the Partnership

9 Partners from 7 different countries joined the project. Each partner plays a leading role in the field of innovation and business park development in its region and sometimes even on international level.

All of the Partners are main institutions in the area of innovation and business park development in their regions, in some cases even on national level, too. Most of them are the owners and operators of different form of Business Parks (incubators, technology centres, industrial parks etc.) meanwhile the others are aiming to establish such institutions. Old Member State Partners have a wide range of experience in this area (Greece and Italy) with more established institutions, which shall facilitate the exchange of best practice and learning curve. Slovenian and Hungarian partners have relatively newly established entities, meanwhile partners from Slovakia, Romania and Croatia are rather in the planning and start-up phase. Among the regions represented in our Partnership there are forerunners (Veneto or the capital regions) and less developed (Centru, Basilicata), which provides an adequate mix of partners for transfer of knowledge and experience. All the Partners have the necessary capacities to manage transnational cooperation in terms of staff, office and equipment and experience working in inter(trans)national project environment, which shall help the smooth operation of the Partnership. All the partners have been and will actively be involved in the design and implementation under the leadership of selected Responsible Partners. This is crucial for the sake of achieving the planned results and outputs and cost-efficient implementation. Partners as competent and adequate institutions in Business Park development will be able to ensure sustainability and capitalisation of the results of FIDIBE.

Please, click on the name of a partner in order to receive more detailed information:

- [Mid-Pannon Regional Development Company](#)
- [Centre for Research and Technology Hellas](#)
- [Alexander Dubček University of Trenčín](#)
- [Sviluppo Basilicata S.p.A.](#)
- [West-Pannon Regional Development Company](#)
- [Technology Park Ljubljana Ltd.](#)
- [Venice Gateway for Science and Technology](#)
- [Harghita County Council](#)
- [Business Innovation Centre of Croatia](#)

