



NEWSLETTER 3

**A knowledge Alliance
in Eco-Innovation Entrepreneurship
to Boost SMEs Competitiveness.**

Project co-funded by the European Union
and National Funds of the participating countries





3rd Coordination Meeting

Conference Room at Hotel Kristal Palas,
Prilep, January 16, 2020

Review of progress after the 2nd coordination meeting

On 16.01.2020 in Prilep the 3rd Coordination Meeting of the SMecoMP Team was held, to which it was given SMecoMP Project – Review of progress after the 2nd coordination meeting. Professor Sartzetakis, as Lead Partner coordinator provided a detailed account of all actions taken during the period from the second coordination meeting. He underlined that during the last period, after the Surveys, Current State and Best Practice Reports are prepared, Three EU Universities worked hard on preparation of Curricula in the framework of the Four Modules. In this moment all Curricula are in final version. He emphasised the role of Faculty of Economics - Prilep which contribute to the Topics and Curricula development. As it was agreed all training materials will be ready in English and translated in the national languages, face-to face trainings and pre-incubator program should be realized during April.



Progress on Working Packages

- Project Website is active and being regularly updated,
- Informative Materials are in progress,
- All materials from the Informative Workshops in Prilep, Stara Zagora and Thessaloniki have been sent by the partners and uploaded to the web site,
- Social Media pages are active and being regularly updated,
- In the all partner countries is created the Network with business, students and colleagues and it should continuously be enlarged,
- Development and content of the Curricula and Training Modules is in progress.



CURICULLA

of the four training modules

The SMecoMP project was built on the premise that in all countries of the program area, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that dominate economic activity, face the following two common challenges: inadequate entrepreneurship education and environmental and resource management knowledge and skills. The SMecoMP project's contribution in addressing these challenges is the development of a comprehensive framework of training curricula which include four tailor-made training modules that combine theoretical knowledge on the resource and environmental regional and global problems with practical tools on how business can change their behavior in order to take into account these problems. The theoretical information and practical tools contained in the training modules are focusing on eco-innovation and eco-entrepreneurial knowledge and skills required by SMEs staff.



Four training modules

TM1. Environmental and Energy Economics - Cost Benefit Analysis - Environmental Finance and Accounting.

TM2. Environmental Management - Environmental Impact Assessment - Corporate Social Responsibility.

TM3. Eco-innovation and technology transfer.

TM4. From a green idea to a sustainable business.

In preparing for the curricula development, the SmecoMP partnership has conducted an extensive set of surveys in all four participating countries (Greece, Cyprus, North Macedonia and Bulgaria) in order to get businesses' opinion on knowledge and skills that SMEs require and on formal and non-formal educational training processes. The data collected have been analyzed and presented in a Current State and Best Practices Report produced in each country that also presents a review of relevant literature and case studies. The final version of the Current State and Best Practices Report that combines all relevant information from all four countries has been published in the project's electronic site and is available at: <https://www.smecomp.eu/studies-publications>. Based on these data four topics were selected and a preliminary short description of them was made available. These short descriptions received comments and suggestions from experts and stakeholders and were extensively discussed in the laboratories organized in all four countries receiving further valuable input.

Upcoming activities



Face to face trainings

The next activities in the project are **Face to face trainings** that will be provided by experts/trainers from academia and from business sector. Previously mentioned Modules will be the topics during classes.

There will be two trainings:

- one for group of 15 students (5 days, 3 hours per day) and
- one for 15 SMEs professionals and young entrepreneurs (7days, 3 hours per day).



Pre-incubator programme

From Eco-innovative Idea to a Concept

SMecoMP Pre-Incubator programme will support potential 15 interested entrepreneurs or students or trainees to present their eco-innovative ideas and further elaborate them to develop new eco-innovative ventures and business.

It will be provided counseling and mentoring support by experts from academia and business sector.

Pre-Incubator services will be hosted in the EIE Laboratory at the Faculty of Economics Prilep.