

## **ERMIS**

**NAME:** Effective Reproducible Model of Innovation System

**ACRONYM:** ERMIS

**FUNDING:** Interreg IVC

**PROJECT:** SME 's are a key part of the economic fabric of the ERMIS regions and it has faced tremendous social and economic transformation over the last two decades, suffering increased competitiveness in the global economy. Despite public sector financial and technical support programs to foster innovation, the return on investments from such initiatives and policies within SME' s is often considered insufficient.

Yet, SME' s represent a vital source of economic growth and innovation for a region as long as they are able to grow to a critical size allowing them to finance their development and market innovations. Today, with the financial and economic downturn and resulting job losses in large enterprises, the Lisbon Strategy's aims and objectives, notably on the importance of the EU innovative SME sector have become even more acute. More than ever, the innovation capacity of SME' s is vital to achieve economic growth again. It is this innovation capacity that is at the core of the ERMIS project.

ERMIS partners have access to innovation support structures such as knowledge centres, incubators and venture capitalists. However, the regional innovation performance depends more on the interaction between structures as on their individual performance. Local innovation policies solely dedicated to support specific tools or instruments do not generally induce sufficient dynamic to generate collective performance to support SME growth and competitiveness. ERMIS partners aim to enhance the leverage effect of their local innovation policies and systems by developing an effective systemic approach involving the whole value chain of political and economic actors dedicated to SME' s. In other words, ERMIS partners have the "pieces of the puzzle" and this project will help them fit the pieces together more efficiently. The ERMIS objective is to jointly develop effective and transferable governance models for Local Innovation Systems (LIS) dedicated to fostering value innovation in SME' s.

**TOTAL COST:** 2.152.580 €

**CESENA'S BUDGET:** 99.300 €

**START DATE:** January 2010

**END DATE:** December 2012

**DURATION:** 36 months

**COORDINATOR OF PROJECT:** Commerce Chamber of French Riviera (France)

**PARTNERS:** Cesena's Council (Italy)

CISE, Economic Innovation and Development Centre- Forli and Cesena's Commerce Chamber (Italy)

Eindhoven City ( Netherlands)

Penela City ( Portugal)

IPN (Institute Penela Nunes)- Enterprise Incubator (Portugal)

Miskolc City (Hungary)

ADEuropa Association (Spain)

Nord Egeo Region ( Greece)

Nord Egeo Commerce Chamber (Greece)

Hersholm City (Denmark)

Copenhagen's Regional Agency (Denmark)

Iasi City ( Romania)

**CESENA'S SECTOR:**

Environmental and Land Protection Office

European Project Office- Director Staff

Economic and financial Service- Service Budget