

***Project "SME Innovation Capacity Boost" №: BMP1/1.2/2481/2017
Transnational Cooperation Programme Interreg V-B
"Balkan-Mediterranean 2014-2020"***

SMEInnoBoost Project Progress

PP2 - National statistical institute of Bulgaria

SMEInnoBoost Project Progress

- Objective & Reporting period
- Activities performed
- Procurement plan progress
- Achieved results/deliverables
- Problems faced/solutions found

Objective & Reporting period

Objective

To inform all project partners about the implementation status of the actions performed by PP2, main results, challenges faced and progress achieved on the development work of SMEInnoBoost project

Reporting period

From 01st August 2017 till 31st October 2018

Duration: 16 months

Activities performed

- Preparation of Procurement Plan, Work Plan and Financial Forecast of the BNSI - (August-September 2017)
- Participation and giving a presentation at the kick-off meeting on the project - (October 2017)
- Participation in the Info day on the Transnational Cooperation Programme Interreg V-B "Balkan-Mediterranean 2014-2020" - (October 2017)

Activities performed

- Preparation and publication of newsletter with information on the project on the website and on the Facebook page of the BNSI - (October 2017)
- Preparation and provision of comments on the draft Terms of reference for the implementation of the Information needs analysis - (October 2017)
- Participation and giving a presentation at the Opening conference on the project - (December 2017)

Activities performed

- Designing, printing and dissemination of posters with information on the project - (January 2018)
- Holding two-days Workshop with all PPs for Development of Questionnaire and Methodology for the statistical survey on innovations in SMEs - (January/February 2018)
- Preparation of first project progress report on the activities performed during the reporting period: 1st August 2017 - 31st December 2017 - (February 2018)

Activities performed

- Preparation and publication of newsletter with information on the workshop on the website and on the Facebook page of the BNSI - (February 2018)
- Elaboration of the second version of the survey Questionnaire, based on the PPs useful comments and suggestions - (February 2018)
- Carrying out written consultation on the second version of the Questionnaire with PP3 and PP4 - (March 2018)

Activities performed

- Approval by PP2, PP3 and PP4 of the final version of the model Questionnaire for conducting the survey on innovation activity of SMEs in AL, BG and FYROM - (March 2018)
- Carrying out First Level Control procedures for:
 - Reference period 01/08/2017 - 31/10/2017
(January 2018)
 - Reference period 01/11/2017 - 30/04/2018
(June 2018)

Activities performed

- Participation and giving a presentation at the interim meeting on the project in Thessaloniki - (July 2018)
- Preparation of second project progress report on the activities performed during the reporting period: 1st January 2018 - 30th June 2018 - (July 2018)

Procurement plan progress

Contracted procurements

Preparation and publication of documentation, conducting the procurement procedure and contracting:

- 1) External service provider for the organization of the workshop in Slivek, BG - (January 2018)
- 2) External expertise for methodological support for development and design of the national questionnaire - (February 2018)

Procurement plan progress

Contracted procurements

- 3) External developer of special software for the Questionnaire and for data matching with records from Innovation Capacity Self-Assessment - (September 2018)

Procurement plan progress

Published procurements

- External provider of 50 tablets for data collection by the interviewers - (October 2018)

Planned procurements

- Employment of interviewers to carry out the survey (50 persons) - (by the end of 2018)

Achieved results/deliverables

Deliverables in line with the approved Application form on the project:

- Model survey Questionnaire and Methodology developed in English
- National survey Questionnaire elaborated in Bulgarian
- Special software for the Questionnaire and for data matching - 1st stage finalized; currently still under development

Problems faced/solutions found

Problems

- Some difficulties encountered with the use of the MIS system and data entry in it
- Long lasting, heavy procedure for the preparation of the Request for Project Modification
- Delay in publishing/release of procurements for 3 activities from WP3

Problems faced/solutions found

Solutions

- Seminars on the Management Information System (MIS) will be held in Athens and in Thessaloniki
- Request for Project Modification has been approved by the Managing Authority
- Required prolongation of the period for the implementation of WP3 with 3 months has been approved by the Managing Authority

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

***QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS
ARE WELCOME!***

