

The project “Research Based Competence Brokering – REBASING”

The REBASING project intends to develop a comprehensive work program to improve the cooperation between universities, research centres and enterprises, thus empowering the capacity of companies to exploit innovation and introduce it in their working routines.

The modernisation of universities’ system and the development of the relation with the productive world are the main challenges of the project .

A practical approach developed in Norway within the context of the “*Regional Programme for Innovation Research and Development*” has been identified as a tool to attain the two objectives.

The core of the transfer action is the research based competence broker: this professional figure is able to analyse the enterprises’ needs in terms of technological and organisational innovation and link needs to universities capacity to provide for innovative solutions. REBASING trusts that the broker can significantly operate to improve the quality of cooperation between two environments (university and enterprises) which is often fragmented and inefficient.

The REBASING consortium includes four universities from different European countries – Norway, Estonia, North Italy, South Italy. The Norwegian one is the source for innovation, while the others have outstanding experience in dealing with enterprises as catalyst of empowerment and development. The other partners, including the leading one, are service organisations expressed by Enterprises associations daily in contact with the business community, to provide companies with training, services and innovation development.

The foreseen outcomes are:

- an analysis of the success factors of the Norwegian experience and their comparison with the characteristics of recipient countries will set the stage for the transfer action;
- the adaptation of the broker profile to local conditions. Moreover, the profile will be structured according to the ECVET and EQF scheme (knowledge, skills, competencies) in order coping with transparency and applicability criteria EU-wide;
- the profile will be transferred in recipient countries by experimenting it with key professionals and by exploiting their capacity within the context of Open Innovation networks.

The consortium

Lead partner:

CONFINDUSTRIA
Veneto **SIAV** S.P.A.

Confindustria Veneto SIAV Spa – Italy

Partner:



- Høgskolen i Bergen / Bergen University College – Norway
- Treviso Tecnologia – Azienda Speciale per l'Innovazione della Camera di Commercio di Treviso – Italy
- Dipartimento di Innovazione Meccanica e Gestionale / Department of Innovation in Mechanics and Management – Università degli Studi di Padova – Italy
- CEFORALP – France
- August Horch Akademie- Germany
- Tallinna Tehnikaülikool / Technology University of Tallinn – Estonia
- Dipartimento di Ingegneria Economico-Gestionale /Department of Economic and Management Engineering – Università Federico II di Napoli – Italy

Silent partner:

- CFC – Conferenza per la Formazione Continua / Conference for Continuous Training – Switzerland

The Norwegian experience: Research-based competence brokering

- Bergen University College – Bergen, Norway -

Research-based brokering is a sub-programme of the Programme for Regional R&D and Innovation (VRI), organized by the Research Council of Norway.

Research-based brokering has two equal goals:

- Linking the SMEs needs to research opportunities

By promote greater focus on R&D activity in companies with little or no R&D experience in order to increase their internal innovative capacity, thereby enhancing value creation and competitiveness (stimulation of R&D demand).

- Research institutes as partners to SME

By strengthen the role of the research institutes as partners in collaboration with industry. The competence mediators should contribute to a heightened awareness of the possibilities and potential of the SMEs demand for research (stimulation of R&D supply).

Through organization in regional coalitions, competence mediators should contribute to a heightened awareness of the possibilities and potential offered regional development by research.

The competence broker shall act as conveyors of knowledge, know-how, technology and funding resources. The profile will contribute in networking companies and R&D-/knowledge suppliers, keep an overview of current funding sources(national and regional), help in connection with organizing projects, agreements on research and development, project definitions and applications.

He will contribute to strategy and business development and guide in connection to market development and internationalization.

The methodology, developed with support of public stakeholders, will be transferred to service organizations and companies supporting industry and innovation.