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Boosting Regional Development with ICT-Innovation-Strategies



Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is an inseparable part of today's life in nearly every area. It is an integral element for economic and regional development. It also plays major role in promoting innovative solutions regardless whether they are implemented by the public or private sector. However, development of ICT is so vast and rapid that existing policies and strategies are very often outdated to meet the challenges and benefit from opportunities created by its swift and widespread growth. Policymakers need an up-to-date clear overview and easily adaptable plans to develop, assess and modify policies improving quality of life in their regions while keeping regional strengths and assets in mind.

BORDWIIS+ tackles this challenge with smart specialisation strategies. Each partner's goal is to assess existing public policies and to draw up region-specific guidelines which consider local strategic strengths and opportunities.

All regional policies and guidelines will be examined and comparative analysis will be conducted so that the consortium, consisting of 10 partners from 8 regions, could create a blueprint of well-working environment for ICT innovation in their respective regions and for European regions in general.



Project activities, taking place between January 2012 and June 2014, include an analysis of regional policies, preparation of regional ICT inventories, a comparative analysis on the different regional knowledge bases and capabilities, and a final publication: "ICT Innovation Strategy for European Regions: Recommendations for Regional Specialisation". In parallel partners will exchange experiences on collaborative models for open innovation in their respective regions.

As a result all interested parties, including regional policymakers, should have a set of recommendations which not only provide an useful overview, but are also **SMART** guidelines for future actions:

Specific – custom tailored for Your region!

Measurable – You can keep track!

Attainable – it's all about attitudes, abilities, skills and capacity!

Realistic – You are able to achieve them!

Timely – applicable immediately!

BORDWIIS+ will help regions to boost their development and achieve goals which will make everyone's life better.