



OSS Newsletter No 1 (2018)



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



**SME
competitiveness**

INTRODUCTION

There are fewer start-ups in Europe compared to other regions in the world, mostly United States or Asia. There is a great need to create jobs for young people here. In the current situation, many residents leave their regions to find better life conditions.

As part of our project, we want to support creating an attractive, tailor-made ecosystem for start-ups. The aim of our project is to improve the growth of SMEs, entrepreneurs' skills and overcome numerous barriers.

As we are already in the final phase of the first semester of our project, we would like to share with you information about the events that took place in the current semester.

Enjoy your reading! 😊

PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

Seven partners from seven countries participate in a project that aims to improve policies for the competitiveness of the SME sector by improving advisory services for new entrepreneurs.

The partnership includes:

LP - [Møre and Romsdal County Council \(NO\)](#)

PP2- [WSX Enterprise, Fareham \(UK\)](#)

PP3- [Agency for Regional and Economic Development, Vratsa \(BG\)](#)

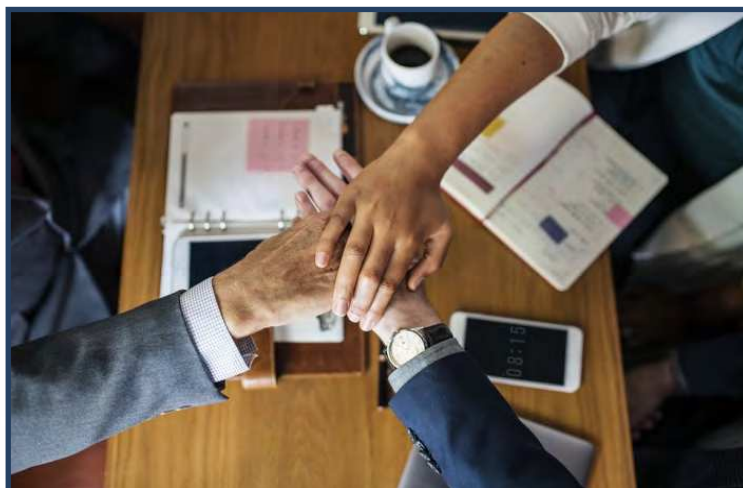
PP4- [Provincial Council of Granada \(ES\)](#)

PP5- [BSC - Business Support Center Ltd., Kranj \(SI\)](#)

PP6- Communication Manager - [Rzeszow Regional Development Agency \(PL\)](#)

PP7- Advisory partner - [Artesis Plantijn university College, Antwerp \(BE\)](#)

OSS aims at improving policies for SMEs competitiveness by enhancing advisory support services for first time entrepreneurs. One Stop Shop project wants to build a complete ecosystem for an entrepreneur starting a new business.



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KICK-OFF MEETING IN NORWAY



The first partnership meeting of the One Stop Shop (OSS) project took place on 6 and 7 June 2018 in Ålesund, Norway. The above-mentioned meeting was organized and carried out by the Project Leader - Møre og Romsdal County Council.

During the meeting, institutions that are partners in the project had a chance to present themselves and present what kind of actions they are going to take in our project, as well as goals that they want to achieve. Future project activities, financial management as well as communication and dissemination issues were also included during the meeting. Participants could familiarize themselves with very interesting Norwegian solutions, tools and methods of support for start-ups, visiting, among others, Incubator Ålesund Kunnskapspark AS and NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology. [More...](#)



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FIRST STAKEHOLDER MEETING IN SLOVENIA

On October 23, 2018, the first meeting of the regional stakeholder group from Slovenia took place. The meeting was attended by representatives of institutions working in the field of employment, science. Also entrepreneurship mentors and entrepreneurs themselves were hosted in that meeting.

Tjaša Ban and Matija Goljar also attended that meeting; Matija Goljar is an entrepreneur, mentor, TV host and one of the Slovenian experts in the field of entrepreneurial ecosystems and entrepreneurship support systems in the country and abroad. Tjaša Ban is a young Slovenian start-up entrepreneur. Tjaša has recently set up her own start-up, which at the moment shows great chances for international success.

After the presentation, there was a discussion, during which the participants had a chance to express their views on a given topic [More...](#)



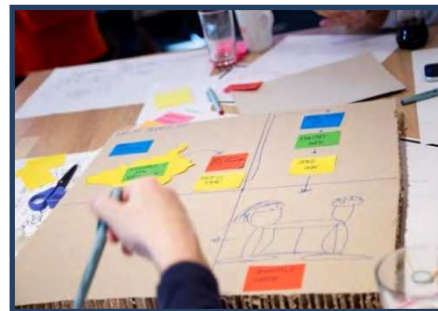
NORWEGIAN „DESIGN THINKING” WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Norwegian partners for the meeting with stakeholders, prepared workshops based on the "design thinking" method. The event was organized in the Norwegian business cluster "Protomore". Their group of stakeholders included, among others: advisers participating in the hoppid.no program, local entrepreneurs, representatives of regional authorities and a digital solutions provider in the LEAN Business first-line service system.

Design Thinking is a design methodology that provides solution-based approach to problem solving. [More...](#)

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STAKEHOLDER MEETING IN HAMPSHIRE

In Hampshire, England, the first meeting of the OSS project team with their local stakeholders took place. The One Stop Shop project has been identified as potentially giving the United Kingdom a new approach and developing new solutions to support the creation of new enterprises in the region. [More...](#)




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INTENSIVE MORNING IN GRANADA (SPAIN)

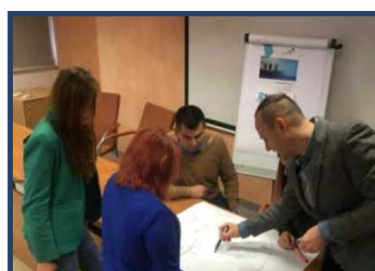
On October 25, 2018, the Spanish partner of the project organized the first meeting with stakeholders. The meeting was organized at the Edificio CIE Diputación - Avenida de Andalucía - Granada.

15 people attended this meeting. These persons are representatives of institutions operating in the areas of business, science and finance. After the presentation of the project, our partner from Spain prepared a workshop titled: "Managing a provincial entrepreneurial ecosystem, paying particular attention to first-class services for new companies: how to improve them". [More...](#)



POLISH STAKEHOLDER MEETING

On November 16, 2018, the first meeting of OSS project stakeholders took place. Representatives of regional authorities, scientific community, public and non-public institutions supporting start-ups and entrepreneurs in Podkarpackie region, took part in it. During the meeting, the OSS project discussed the situation of start - ups and possibilities of their development in Podkarpacie and in Poland as well as the activities of RRDA. RRDA also presented the new project - Start In Podkarpackie, which assumes the preparation of about 120 start-ups from the region to enter the market. As part of the workshop, there was also organized a "brainstorming" session concerning the SWOT analysis of the support system existing in the Podkarpacie region and plans for its development in the future. [More...](#)



BULGARIAN STAKEHOLDER MEETING

On November 2, 2018, the first meeting of Bulgarian stakeholders took place. It took place at the headquarters of INTER EXPO CENTER, in the capital of Bulgaria - Sofia.

The first meeting had an informative and motivating purpose, as some interested parties were more active at the stage of project preparation, while others were involved after beginning of its realization. [More...](#)



OSS AT THE STARTUP WEEKEND

On November 16-18, 2018 in the Podkarpackie Science and Technology Park "Aeropolis the event "Startup Weekend" took place. The goal of the event is to refine, verify ideas and identify the most promising ones. During 54 hours, participants together with graphic designers, programmers, marketing specialists and other fields work together to find out the foundations of the project, that later are presented to the jury. Mentors who are representatives of various industries are willing to help in the implementation.

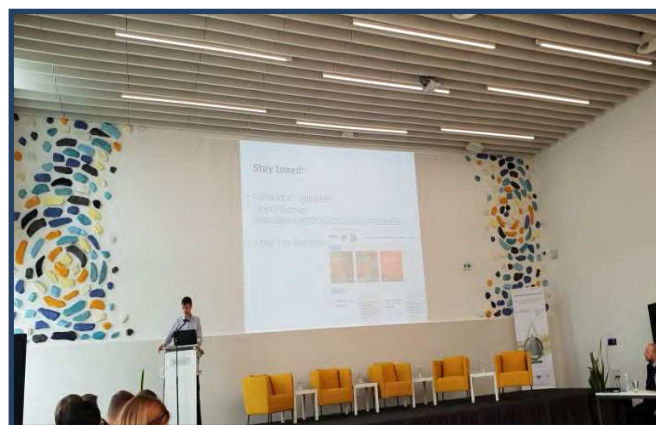
Rzeszow Regional Development Agency was co-organizer of that event, and also the OSS project – its assumptions and goals, as well as financing sources, activities and the most important challenges were presented there. [More...](#)



PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED BY INTERREG EUROPE

On November 14, 2018, in the capital of Bulgaria - Sofia, a workshop organized by Interreg Europe took place. The theme of the workshop was supporting entrepreneurship and creation of enterprises.

The partners of our project took part in the workshop. They had the chance to discover the latest trends and events from a European perspective, as well as find out what the European regions are doing to stimulate entrepreneurship and create businesses. [More...](#)



OSS AND „STARTUP SUMMIT 2018“

On 15 November 2018, in the capital of Bulgaria - Sofia, an event related to the topic of our project Startup Summit 2018 took place. Our Bulgarian project partner took part in the above-mentioned event, where he had the chance to both present the assumptions of our project and obtain other valuable information that will be useful in the implementation of our project. [More...](#)



THEN...

As the first semester of the project implementation is behind us, we can confidently enter the next semester. And what's next?

In the near future, we are preparing for a partnership meeting in the Hampshire region in the UK, which is scheduled for January 16-17, 2019. Digital solutions enabling support of newly created start-ups will be the theme of that meeting.

See you next semester 😊

Thank you for your time and feel free to follow our website and social profiles 😊



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MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT: www.interregeurope.eu/oss

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