

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2015

CORNET is a funding programme that helps to increase the competitiveness of SMEs by funding international pre-competitive Collective Research projects. CORNET combines existing national funding schemes and supports new funding organisations to introduce pilot actions and schemes.

NEWS FROM THE CORNET FUNDING PROGRAMME

19TH CORNET CALL OPEN

The next CORNET call for proposals is open. Project submission is possible until 27 March 2015, 12 p.m. (midday). Detailed information about application, participating countries and regions, budget, guidelines and templates are available in the call section of the [CORNET website](#).

SUCCESSFUL PARTNERING EVENT IN WARSAW



More than 100 participants joined the CORNET and IraSME Partnering Event on 18 November 2014 in Warsaw, Poland. Target groups of the event were SMEs, groupings of SMEs and research organisations interested in conducting a CORNET or IraSME project. The objective of the event was to facilitate partner search for the upcoming call for proposals. Project ideas and partner profiles presented at the event are available [here](#).

CORNET MONITORING MEETING

Following the Partnering Event, coordinators of running CORNET projects have reported on project results and collaboration aspects, focussing on practical aspects of project implementation. The audience learned from good practice and got new ideas for project management, communication and other aspects of project coordination. The corresponding Power Point presentations can be downloaded from the [CORNET website](#).

CORNET SUCCESS STORIES

CORNET PROJECT SMART FLOWER PACK



The Dutch-Polish CORNET Project “Smart Flower Pack” tries to use innovative bio-based technologies for packing flowers. Examples for such bio-packaging systems are antifungal systems for flowers packaging application. Three major steps are foreseen in the work plan: screening of new technologies, integration with bio-based packaging and implementation on the market. The first and second steps have already successfully been performed. [Read more...](#)

HOW THE POLISH FUNDING ORGANISATION NCBR JOINED CORNET



CORNET is a reliable and stable network of funding organisations and ministries that welcomes new members. The recent success story describes the admittance of the Polish funding organisation National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR) to the CORNET network in 2011. Mr. Adam Kazmierczak, Head of the so-called “Section for Commercialisation of the Research Results” at NCBR: “NCBR uses general national rules for funding CORNET projects. Implementation was easy and natural.” The success story can be downloaded from the [CORNET website](#).

CORNET PROJECT “ADAPTIVE GRINDING PROCESS” – AGRIPRO



Nital edged gear with a thermal damage in the peripheral zone on the flanks of the teeth on the right.

The CORNET project Adaptive Grinding Process” (AGriPro) has held its Kick-off Meeting on 14 January 2015 in Chemnitz. Grinding as precision machining is usually realized at the end of the process chain. Problems are the geometrically undefined cutting edge of the abrasive grain and the non-constant conditions of contact. Objective of the CORNET project AGriPro is to significantly increase productivity of the grinding process while simultaneously increasing process reliability and quality. The project will realize a controlled adaptive grinding process that will open up significant savings potentials. [Read more...](#)

EUROPEAN SUPPORT FOR SMES

LAUNCH OF FAST TRACK TO INNOVATION ON 9 JANUARY 2015

The European Commission held the launch event of Fast Track to Innovation on 9 January 2015. The Fast Track to Innovation pilot is a new funding scheme in Horizon 2020. It provides funding for close to market, business driven projects and is open to proposals in any area of technology or application. Unlike the SME Instrument, it is not restricted to SMEs. It will support small consortia of three to five organisations with strong business participation to give promising ideas help towards entering the market. The Fast Track to Innovation scheme is open for applications as of 6 January 2015. Proposals can be submitted at any time as of that date. The indicative EU contribution per action is expected to be up to €3 million. [Read more...](#)

SME INSTRUMENT HORIZON 2020



The dedicated SME Instrument scheme in Horizon 2020 has been designed to fill gaps in funding for early stage, high risk research and development. It targets all types of SMEs and provides support across all areas of innovation, science and technology. Provided with about € 3 billion in funding over the period 2014-2020, the SME Instrument helps high-potential SMEs to develop groundbreaking innovative ideas for products, services or processes that are ready to face global market competition. [Read more...](#)

EUROSTARS DELEGATION AGREEMENT SIGNED



Head of EUREKA Secretariat, Pedro de Sampaio Nunes and Eurostars Programme Manager, Michel Vanavermaete together with Peter Droell, Acting Director, Innovation and ERA and Maria Kayamanidou from DG Research and Innovation signed on 18 December 2014 the Eurostars-2 Joint Programme Delegation Agreement. This Agreement defines the EUREKA Secretariat’s responsibilities towards the European Commission in the context of Eurostars-2 joint programme between EUREKA and the EU. The cut-off deadline is 5 March 2015 at 20:00 Brussels time. [Read more...](#)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION: GUIDEBOOK ON SME INTERNATIONALISATION



The European Commission has launched a guidebook on „How to support SME Policy from Structural Funds - Supporting the Internationalisation of SMEs“. The brochure

- gives insight into the barriers entrepreneurs face when they plan to go international;
- describes the challenges and tasks of public support service providers;
- provides a broad range of good practice examples from EU Member States;
- presents the services managed or supported by the European Commission that can help SMEs internationalise;
- is available in 13 EU languages. [Read more...](#)

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES – SAVE THE DATE

EARTO & EIRMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON 28-29 APRIL 2015



EARTO & EIRMA will organise a joint Annual Conference for the first time on 28 and 29 April 2015 in Luxembourg. The aim of the conference is to bring together key representatives of Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs), Industry and EU institutions to discuss the industry's strategy and research needs linking them to what RTOs are doing and can do in the future to support the European industry. [Read more...](#)

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