

## **Innovation – subject debated within the 4 focus groups organised at regional level**

During 20<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> of April 2010, North-East Regional Development Agency organised four focus-groups dedicated to identifying the innovation local needs and collect real proposals of working instruments to encourage innovation on SMEs. These meetings were organised in the project *ASVILOC PLUS „Agencies Supporting Values of Innovation Systems in Regional and Local Economies”*, financed under South-East Europe Program and on which North-East Regional Development Agency is participating, as a partner.

The calendar of the meetings was the following:

- 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2010 – Iași
- 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2010 – Vaslui
- 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2010 – Suceava
- 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2010 – Piatra Neamț

The agenda included the following subjects:

- Presentation of the structure and role of each County Focus Group
- Short recapitulation of activities realised until now (the results of first meeting of North-East Regional Laboratory, stage of concluding of the questionnaires)
- Moderated discussion to finalise the SWOT Analysis regarding regional innovation of innovation and collect concrete proposals of working instruments in the North-East Regional Laboratory dedicated to encourage innovation in SMEs sector

Participants to the meeting issued observations / comments related to the materials presented and proposed the inclusion of National Institute of Inventics among the members of North-East Regional Laboratory, represented by Mr. Prof. univ.dr. Boris Plahteanu – as Scientific Coordinator.

Following these working meetings, there were proposed 6 pilot actions which are synthetized in the following table:

### Pilot actions proposed for the North-East Regional Innovation Laboratory

Need	Solution	Responsibilities	Deadline
Activate North-East Regional Innovation Laboratory	Sign individual agreements with each of the working groups members	NE RDA (collect and send agreements)	1 <sup>st</sup> of May 2010
	Collect proposals of working instruments	NE RDA organise county focus-groups All members are formulating proposals and agree pilot actions <b>AP1-AP6</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> of May 2010
<b>AP1.</b> Use a common web page to promote RDI regional results	Promote the following information: -contact data of the members of the laboratory - the offer of support services on innovation within our region (existing centres of technological information, business incubators, technological and industrial parks, support organizations) - the offer of the results on applied research (patents and licenses issued by OSIM for RD units in the region, grouped on research fields as per the EC classification)	All members send information to NE RDA to be posted on www.adrnordest.ro, section „Innovation” and then, IT instrument dedicated to the project ASVILOC PLUS	30 <sup>th</sup> of June 2010
	Create a forum section for the need on innovation of SMEs	NE RDA elaborate a simplified questionnaire together with National Institute of Inventics Iasi	1 <sup>st</sup> of September 2010

		Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Suceava apply questionnaires dedicated to SMEs after the training courses provided.	
<b>AP2.</b> Mediatisation of RDI results within SMEs	Edit a regional publication (newspaper format) dedicated to the promotion of RDI results as: technological solution, existing patents and good practices examples regarding technological innovation or spin-off, mediatisation of support services, events, financing sources dedicated to innovation	All members agrees the format of the publication and provide articles and news; NE RDA ensures the preparation for printing, editing and distribution of this material	Half-yearly
<b>AP3.</b> Stimulate, by support action and exchange of experience, the performance management within the Centres for Technological Information, industrial parks and business incubators	Facilitation of exchange of experience between Centres for Technological Information	NE RDA organise un exchange of experience with examples from Austria	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester 2010
<b>AP4.</b> Develop the strategic management capacity at the level of enterprises	Identify / organize offers for professional training for execution management, available at regional level – electronic newsletter	North-East Regional Centre for Studies in partnership with University „A.I.Cuza” Iași (Centre for European Studies) elaborates lifelong learning programs and professional training	Sign cooperation agreement on May 2010

<p><b>AP5.</b> Encourage new associative structures</p>	<p>Create the regional textile cluster:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- agree the working agenda</li> <li>- sign cooperation agreement</li> <li>- participate on trainings about clusters</li> <li>- initiate exchange of experience with similar structures from France, Great Britain, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NE RDA</li> <li>• ASTRICO Nord-Est</li> <li>• University „Gh. Asachi”, Faculty of Textiles, Leather and Industrial Management</li> <li>• INNOV CLUSTER</li> </ul>	<p>Permanently</p>
	<p>Promotion of good practice examples for the functioning of Local Action Groups (LAGs)</p>	<p>NE RDA organises exchanges of experience with examples from Italy</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Semester 2010</p>
<p><b>AP6.</b> Facilitation of meetings between academic environment and SMEs sector, on different fields of activity, including financing source</p>	<p>Organize one event dedicated to a field of activity initiated by one university</p>	<p>Proposal of initiators University for Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine „Ion Ionescu de la Brad” Iași, Technical University „Gh.Asachi” Iași</p>	<p>1 annual event</p>
	<p>Organize a regional event dedicated to innovation (meeting between Intermediary Bodies to correlate the financing sources and examples of implemented specific projects)</p>	<p>Proposal of initiators SC INFAST SRL Piatra Neamț and ADR Nord-Est</p>	<p>1 annual event</p>