

TEMPLATE

Output factsheet: Strategies and action plans

Version 2

Project index number and acronym	CE1393 - ECOS4IN
Output number and title	O.T4.1 Action plan for Industry 4.0 implementation into regional innovation strategy in partner areas
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	Usti Region (ULK), LP01
Project website	www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/ECOS4IN.html
Delivery date	03 / 2022

Summary description of the strategy/action plan (developed and/or implemented)

The Action Plan (AP) was designed in accordance with the WP1 Analysis, WP2 Ecosystem model and WPT3, Pilot actions results. The AP includes the SWOT analysis, the general strategy and a list of several activities/projects divided into six pillars.

- 1) **Shared infrastructures** divided according to the technological areas (IoT, cybersecurity, robotics, etc.), which involve research, testing, educational and also promotional centres. This pillar is represented, for example, by the Decin Lab of the Faculty of Transport of the Czech Technical University and the infrastructure shared in the future in the Transformation Centre or the Portabo project (open data).
- 2) **Connecting activities**, conferences, seminars, etc., their task is to connect the critical mass of people who work in the area with potential users and other stakeholders (in the quadruple helix framework).
- 3) **Intermediaries** – organizations promoting the introduction and networking, innovation agencies and especially Digital Innovation Hubs (DIH) hosted by ICUK.

- 4) **Knowledge agents** (knowledge providers), i.e. universities, research centres, schools and companies with well qualified and skilled staff and experts. DIH is in charge of the expert database.
- 5) **Funding instruments** cover the needs of companies for the development of new solutions (equity financing, R & D grants), and the area of introducing digitization into companies (digitization vouchers, soft loans). The programme will be funded by the Just Transition mechanism.
- 6) **Job tools** – implementation of Industry 4.0 will have a fundamental impact on the labour force.

An increase in demand for specialised positions is expected, these will be shared by several companies, also the need for soft knowledge development (communication, meetings) and the necessity of retraining of the work force so far providing routine operations for new working areas.

NUTS region(s) concerned by the strategy/action plan (relevant NUTS level)

Czech Republic, NUTS II Northwest, NUTS III Usti Region. Some results were also presented to other regions, especially our neighboring region in NUTS II, the Karlovy Vary Region.

Expected impact and benefits of the strategy/action plan for the concerned territories and target groups

The Action Plan describes the main actions for development of the digital ecosystem in the Usti Region. Beneficiaries are all the stakeholders of the regional innovation ecosystem, especially regional universities and companies concentrated as stakeholders of the Digital Innovation Hub and also municipalities and public bodies (especially via open data from the Portabo platform). Due to delays in preparation EC funds, we still have no final figures, but we assume that the plan will support around 50 SMEs and municipalities annually with different actions in the implementation digital tools.

Sustainability of the developed or implemented strategy/action plan and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders

The ECOS4IN results, especially the Action Plan, will be incorporated into the Regional Innovation Strategy action plan and Transformation plan, the key documents for utilization of the EC Just Transition mechanism for regional decarbonization and economy transformation. It opens the door to institutional and project funding from different sources. The main ecosystem orchestrator - the Digital Innovation Hub - was allocated the institutional funding from the Regional Authority and we have also applied to the Digital Europe programme.

Lessons learned from the development/implementation process of the strategy/action plan and added value of transnational cooperation

Information was collected from stakeholders during the preparation of the model, ideas were also obtained from other regions. The analysis prepared by the Czech Technical University branch in Decin plays an important part, as it evaluates available technologies and know-how in the local RaD infrastructure and proposes new directions for improvement (the Portabo data centre etc., research centre for robotics and additive technologies in the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, etc.). During the preparation of the Action Plan, we also started negotiations on project/ideas with international partners, not only from ECOS4IN but also with Silicon Saxony, ICM Chemnitz (D), University of Passau (D), University of Brescia (IT), Robotics centre in Turku (Finland) and RDA in Toruń (PL), so our international network has been expanding.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links If applicable, pictures or images to be provided in an annex

Outputs references to deliverables:
T 1.1.3., Report on the existing infrastructure
T 1.2.2, Report of the existing tools, best practices
T 2.1.2 Development of the ECOS4IN model
T 3.1 Contact point for the regional innovation ecosystem
T 4.2.3 Final Action Plan

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