

Service Innovation Processes for SMEs

Project SIP-SME

Background

Due to the increasing global competition, the companies have to expand their innovative product and service offer in order to stay competitive. Service innovation processes are in the focus of Upper Austrian and South Bohemian politics, science, and businesses, as a mean to increase the competitive potential of SMEs. In both regions, innovation impulses have been identified, however, their potential remains underutilized due to the lack of experience and resources of SMEs. SIP-SME is here to help SMEs by providing methodological support in innovation process management.

Goals

The aim of the SIP-SME project, funded by the program Interreg Austria-Czech Republic, is to promote R&D for SMEs by developing synergies and cooperation between companies, R&D centres, and third parties.

The lead partner University of Upper Austria together with University of South Bohemia, and dissemination partners Biz-Up and JVTP, conduct interviews with experts to develop an online tool enabling continuous service innovation processes for SMEs in both regions.

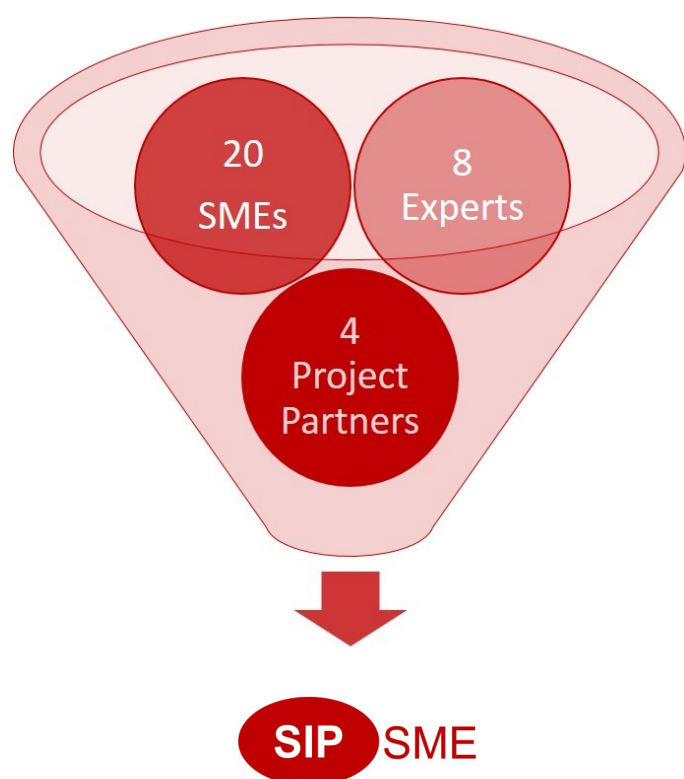
For the test phase of the tool, 20 SMEs from both regions are selected and observed, and based on the best-case compendium results, a software tool is developed.

Through the final software instrument, all innovation-oriented SMEs in the two regions obtain more methodological support for innovation management.

Team



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Content

- » Review of the current situation in Upper Austria and South Bohemia
- » Development of a prototype of SIP-SME tool
- » Interviews with 8 experts to adjust the tool
- » Testphase with 20 SMEs from Upper Austria and South Bohemia
- » Best case compendium and final adjustment of the tool
- » Development of the final SIP-SME software tool