



The new SME funding program supported by Jeremie will benefit eco business in Sicily

On January 20th, together with EEN Sicily and Med Eco Funding, Confindustria Sicilia hosted the regional coordination of Unicredit Bank for the presentation of the renewed Jeremie European Program aimed to SMEs in Sicily.

In Sicily, 50,7 million of euros are today at SME disposals for investments projects, among which eco business projects will be the best preferred ones. Jeremie is in Sicily covering the 45% of the loan, with zero interests and the timing till 10 years. Very interested the selected public, almost 50 people among which the main economic actors of the region (representatives of productive clusters, financing public and private agencies, start ups systems and incubators project managers).

Investments, on approved business plans, can be financed since 3 june 2014 and are included in the "*de minimis*" criterion. Credits can be given from 10.000 euros till 1,5 millions and repaid in 10 years. Among the public were also represented the the three companies selected during the Ecofunding . More info and photos on www.med-ecofunding.eu

http://www.confindustriasicilia.it/comunicazione.asp?id=99&id_news=124&anno=201

5

The Council of Chambers of Commerce of Valencia attends the MED Programme Meeting in Valencia "Med on the Move"

Last 14th October 2014, the CCCV attended the MED Programme information Day "Med on the Move", organized in Valencia, Spain, in order to present the most relevant MED project results in the areas of innovation and energy of the previous period 2007 – 2013, at the same time that presenting the main features of the new 2014-2020 MED Programme, whose final version was sent to the European Commission last September. The CCCV participated in the meeting representing the ECOFUNDING project and participated in the energy workshops having the chance to establish synergies with other MED projects and know partners for potential future projects.

[More information](#)

Horizon 2020 call for ideas - Pilot/demonstration ECOINNOVATION projects

As part of the work programme 2016-2017 of the societal challenge 5 "Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials" (SC5) of the Horizon 2020 framework programme, the European Commission intends to open calls for large-scale pilot/demonstration projects.

The following areas are targeted: systemic eco-innovation for a circular economy; climate services; nature-based solutions; water. This call for ideas for pilot/demonstration projects is intended to:

- help identifying which research and innovation areas attract most interest from innovators and innovation users and
- stimulate developers and providers of innovative solutions to engage in projects of greater ambition in terms of scope, scale and impact.
- Deadline to submit project ideas – 28 February 2015.

[More information](#)

During the december DAZ has promote ECOFUNDING LABS through 3 events

First event was organized on 8th December 2014, Development agency Zagreb and project ECOFUNDING with HotSpots.net.hr had organized Round table:

Croatian tourism and entrepreneurship - contemporary business communication

Tourist innovation, models, challenges

The Round Table was attended by tourist community, innovative entrepreneurs and prominent stakeholders of the tourism sector from all over the Croatia. Within Round Table Lidija Zadro, Technical Management and Communication officer has explained the project ECOFUNDING and ECOFUNDING LAB services. Also, the round table was an opportunity to show the best innovation in tourism, which were presented by company's from project ECOFUNDING.

Second event was held on 16th December 2014 within workshop: **The possibility of financing projects in the field of energy efficiency in the financial perspective 2014 – 2020** in organization of ZagEE project and Zagreb City office for energetics, environment protection and sustainable development with main goal to strengthening the administrative capacity and providing professional services to employees of local governments and to SMEs.

Within workshop Technical Management and Communication officer Lidija Zadro has explained the project ECOFUNDING that creates a comprehensive platform of financial sources linking investors with entrepreneurs (as yet another possibility of financing for „green“ companies) and ECOFUNDING LAB services.

Third event- Meeting of stakeholders and SMEs of project ECOFUNDING was organized by DAZ on 18th December 2014.

Technical Management and Communication officer Lidija Zadro has presented the past activities of ECOFUNDING project also as results achieved and has announced future project activities. The meeting was attended by SMEs whose eco - innovative project ideas were chosen for developing business plan within project ECOFUNDING.

In the coming period selected entrepreneurs within project ECOFUNDING will have an opportunity to participate in the B2B meeting, whose purpose is to realize direct contacts and realization of mutual cooperation.

During the meeting, Marija Miletic, administrative assistant has announced mentor support entrepreneur through project ECOFUNDING in the area of presentation skills, participation in the global market and increasing competitiveness of products and services.

Bojan Bajic (contracted expert), Director Inovacije i razvoj ltd., has presented a current tenders for the green sector also as business plans, which were made through the project ECOFUNDING.

<http://www.raza.hr/Razvojni-projekti/Projekti-u-provedbi/ECOFUNDING>

Confindustria Sicilia and EEN Sicily presented another step of the on going cooperation with Sichuan

On January 23rd, Sicilian Region, Confindustria Sicilia and EEN presented with a Workshop, to agrifood and wine companies, the China Food and Drink Fair, to be held in Chengdu on 26-29 march 2015. Thank to the work of the "China team" build up by Confindustria Sicilia in cooperation with the Region and with Eupic, the EEN contact in Sichuan, a special area for Sicilian SMEs is reserved in the Italian booth a the fair. Among the participants, some eco-companies producing organic food products showed a strong interest in participating.

The event, a further step in the economic cooperation among the Italian and Chinese regions of Sichuan and Sicily, follows the Sicilian participation to the "IX The 9th EU-China Business and Technology Cooperation Fair" and to the "15th Western China International Fair (WCIF)", to which 16 Sicilian SMEs and two clusters where participating with success last October .

http://www.confindustriasicilia.it/comunicazione.asp?id=99&id_news=149&anno=201

5

Ecofunding B2B event faced eco innovators with VC investors in Slovenia

On December 9th 2014, within the project Ecofunding, [Energy Efficiency Centre](#) (EEC) from [Jožef Stefan Institute](#) (JSI) organized B2B event in Ljubljana. Eight business ideas from the fields of RES and RUE innovators presented to investors in venture capital (VC) in Slovenia. Investors welcomed small and medium-sized Slovenian enterprises (SMEs) by some promised further talks.

GREENER PROJECT - application for energy-efficient calculation of the building, **ENERGY+**, smart system (central control system and modular solar collectors), **ECO BUSINESS CETER**, on the basis of thached house , **Conversion of engines** for cargo vehicles to BIO diesel and gas, **Construction of trailers** for cargo vehicles (lighter than conventional for 1.5 t), **BEEM SYSTEM**, application for carrying out simple energy audits in SMEs, **ALESECO**, sanitary flushing system and **Technology with a device to harness energy wave** pitched to the VC investors in Slovenia.

After presentation of the business ideas, investors participated in the roundtable. The participants: **Uroš Glavan**, DTK Murka, **Rok Habinc**, S.T. Hammer, **Nina Mazgan**, Meta Ingenium, **Peter Ribarič**, Silicon Gardens and **Klemen Šešok**, Taxgroup emphasized directions for obtaining start-up capital. In their opinion venture capital industry in Slovenia is still less recognized, as entrepreneurs are not enough open to the outside; for the ideas it is crucial, to look for the investors beyond the borders, even the ocean. By discussing Slovenian energy sector, investors felt that energy is a good story; however, Slovenia in this area has a lot to do. When designing business ideas counterparts at the roundtable speakers pointed out that in the world does not have been the first the best ideas, but the realization of key ideas. It is the most important team of people who realize business model. They would wish more focus on the realization of the business ideas in Slovenia.

Ecofunding event concluded experts, with the presentations of investment opportunities in Slovenia. **The Government Office for Development and European Affairs, SID Bank, Slovene Enterprise Fund, Eco Fund** and **Petrol, Slovenian Energy Company** presented investment opportunities for entrepreneurial initiatives that are currently in Slovenia in a significant increase.

Contribution to NL-8-eco

CCCI organized a public conference in October (15/10) in Nicosia. Moreover, realization of 3rd investment meeting between business men and potential investors were held in Nicosia in

the context of «ecofunding labs» implementation and the 2nd networking b2b meeting in 13/11/2014. Completion of 'ecofunding labs' initiative.

CCCI prepared the list of identified key actors and signed 2 Cooperation Agreements, the first with Enterprise Europe Network-EEN and a the second with Cyprus Energy Office.

The ECOFUNDING LAB in Ioannina is officially launched and offers services on eco-innovation and green business to local SMEs

The Chamber of Ioannina, partner of ECOFUNDING project, organized in the 23rd of June the Local WS entitled "ECOFUNDING Project – Innovative Services Supporting Green Entrepreneurship" at the Grand Serai Hotel in Ioannina that was mainly addressed to eco-innovation and green business. The event was very successful thanks to the 45 attendees and to the highly skilled speakers in issues related to green business, energy, renewable energies etc. The event aimed at efficiently give visibility to the ECOFUNDING project and to the established ECOFUNDING LAB of Ioannina to local stakeholders as well as inform SMEs, businesses, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders involved in the local business and energy sector about the services and the operation of the pilot actions offered under the LAB. The current WS officially launched the operation of the LAB in Ioannina.

<http://www.ecofundingplatform.eu/index.php?Id=4>

Supporting Greek SMEs to access to develop their Business Plan on eco-innovation and energy efficiency – ECOFUNDING LAB services

Under the framework of the ECOFUNDING project the Chamber of Commerce of Ioannina was responsible to help 10 local companies established in Ioannina to improve and develop their business plan to promote investments and get funding in different areas: energy efficiency and eco innovation. The aim of the consulting support and services offered by the Chamber with the support of external experts in the field was to increase the interest of the 10 selected SMEs for green innovation and entrepreneurship as well as provide the necessary knowledge and technical support for improving their business plan for developing innovative

products and services towards energy efficiency and eco-innovation. As main objective of the activities, was to reinforce the competitiveness of these SMEs in Ioannina, differentiate their business as well as improve their position in the market. The services were offered to SMEs from all local market sectors such as Food and Drink, Agrofood, Tourism, Industry to deploy environmental technologies, eco-innovate as well as to develop Sustainable Business Models in the fields of Renewable energies, Energy saving, Recycling, Green Marketing, Ecotourism and Agrotourism. The next step of the Chamber is to organize a B2B event where the companies will have the opportunity to present their green idea to potential stakeholders and financial operators.

[to read more : www.cci-ioannina.gr](http://www.cci-ioannina.gr)

To read more www.med-ecofunding.eu

PARTNERS



Contact: Ana Benito
Email: abenito@camarascv.org
T. +34 963 534 072
www.camarascv.org



Contact: Antonella Benigno
Email: a.benigno@confindustriasicilia.it
T. +39 091 581100
www.confindustriasicilia.it



Contact: Elisabeth Graf
Email: elisabeth.graf@vr.camcom.it
T. +39 045 8085706
www.veronainnovazione.it



Contact: Ferjani Neffati
Email: Ferjani.NEFFATI@cote-azur.cci.fr
T. +33 493 13 73 76
www.cote-azur.cci.fr



Contact: Franck Araujo
Email: franck.araujo@ccimp.com
T. +33 491 138 559
www.ccimp.com



Contact: Ana Lucia Cruz
Email: alcruz@ualg.pt
T. +35 1289800097
www.cria.pt



Contact: Lidija Zadro
Email: lidija.zadro@raza.hr
T. +385 1 36 67 147
www.raza.hr



Contact: Ioannis Daskalopoulos
Email: daskalopoulosi@cci-ioannina.gr
T. +30 651024709
www.cci-ioannina.gr



Contact: Evangelos Douloufakis
Email: douloufakis@ccci.org.cy
T. +35 22889840
www.ccci.org.cy



Contact: Germán Cuñat
Email: cunyat_ger@gva.es
Tel: +34.961.209.600
<http://energia.ivace.es>



Contact: Polona Lah
Email: polona.lah@ijs.si
T. + 38 61588 52 32
www.ijs.si



www.med-ecofunding.eu



Programme cofinancé par le
Fonds Européen de Développement Régional
Programme cofinanced by the
European Regional Development Fund

