

EUROPEAN
EARLY
INNOVATORS
INIITIATIVE

Youth for science, youth for business, science for business



European Early Innovator Initiative - EEII (January 2018 – December 2018)

“Early European Innovators Initiative” is an important initiative, funded by Danube Strategic Project Fund, with Steinbeis as Romanian Lead Partner, aiming to:

- guide the interest of youth in Danube region to STEM (sciences, technology, engineering, math), in general;

- support young researchers in entrepreneurial thinking, constantly getting in touch with companies in order to understand their main needs and, in line with this, focus their research on helping industry to reach the targeted performance in innovation.

This initiative resulted as a proposed solution to diminish the current identified gaps in Danube region consisting in insufficient rate of entrepreneurship within scientists who also don't take into account enough the needs of the industry by focusing their research on solving problems that companies face in making their products better in order to face the competition on innovation present on global markets. Furthermore, best practices – from Germany or Austria, for example - that time proved their efficiency in terms of facing market challenges are insufficiently implemented by economies from Danube region, fact resulting also in poor absorption of EU funds.

In order to offer support to young scientists in better understanding entrepreneurship in research, in this stage of the project will be drafted documents that show how young entrepreneurs and researchers can benefit from existing programs or facilities and which are the measures that can improve culture of innovation.

Moreover, networking events implemented as active component of this project are aimed to improve connections between researchers and private environment. 9 scientists from RO, SK and UA will be coached and for 5 of them potential business partners/investors will be identified to continue collaboration after the DSPF project is ended.

The initiative also aims to prepare strategic project “European Early Innovator Program – EEIP”. EEIP strengthens competitiveness of enterprises by applying latest technologies, developed on basis of market oriented research which is executed by highly motivated and competent young scientists.

European Early Innovators Program makes young scientists learning to think and act like entrepreneurs. It contributes to a growing number of scientists. Tools elaborated in the program are available in all Danube Region and foster a culture of innovation. Collaboration of stakeholders and decision-makers across macro-regions will be given.

4 experienced project partners are involved in making this initiative bring suitable solutions:

- Steinbeis Transfer Management S.r.l., Bucharest (RO; lead partner)
- AREA Science Park, Trieste (IT)
- Common Regions, Kosice (SK)
- Steinbeis Transfer Management Ltd., Uzhgorod (UA)



Agenda

- 9:30 Registration
- 10:00 Official Opening
Welcome remarks
- 10:15 Introduction European Early Innovator Initiative - **EEII**
- 10:45 Supporting Entrepreneurship: Findings of the mapping on Danube Region
- 12:00 Presentation session
Project proposals / Successful stories
- 13:30 Break
- 14:30 Networking session
Project proposals / Successful stories
- 16:00 Brainstorming on European Early Innovators Program - **EEIP**
- 16:30 Conclusions and closing EEII event
- 17:00 End of the event

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www.early-innovators.eu

July 4th, House of Danube, Bucharest, Romania
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