

TRANSUP CALL FOR EXPERTS

1. BACKGROUND

“Supporting Transnational Start-up Ecosystems —TransUP” project is implemented in frame of the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme (H2020) under grant agreement No 699644. The project relates to the work programme topic “Peer learning of innovation agencies INNOSUP-5-2014”.

TRANSUP is a 1-year project, launched in April 1st, 2016. The overall objective of the project is to collaboratively address a common innovation support challenge, namely to peer-review transnational support programmes for enhancing international driven attitude among new entrepreneurs from cross border territories, by leveraging the multicultural character in order to improve startups’ success performance and survival chances on the global market.

Specific focus will be dedicated to startups from the Alpe Adria region although the recommendations developed will be valid for all sectors and EU geographical location. The basic TransUP concept is to tackle the challenge of making the Alpe Adria region an attractive hub for innovative entrepreneurs and investors, where the ecosystem made of actors and services devoted to support the creation and development of new businesses is really collaborative and transnational.

Using the Twinning Advanced methodology, this initiative will lead to the elaboration of a Design Option Paper (DOP), which will serve as a “guide” or a “handbook” to other innovation agencies to design and/or deliver similar innovation programmes.

The project’s objectives will be achieved through peer-learning activity taken by project partners: [Friuli Innovazione](#), [IRP Inštitut za raziskovanje podjetništva](#), [TP-Lj TEHNOLOSKI PARK LJUBLJANA DOO](#), [STEP RI ZNANSTVENO TECHNOLOGIJSKI PARK SVEUCILISTA U RIJECI](#) AND [KWF Kärntner Wirtschaftsförderungsfonds](#).

2. PEER LEARNING ACTIVITY

Using the [Twinning Advanced methodology](#), project partners will elaborate a Design Option Paper¹ (DOP), which will serve as a “guide” or a “handbook” also to other innovation agencies to design and/or deliver similar Startup Programmes and services for the expansion and growth of the cross-border regional startup community.

The overall approach is based on strong collaborative relationship between partners, who will build together a knowledge base and then draft the DOP.

Project activity will be developed through 3 peer learning meetings and 1 Laboratory with end users (testing phase) expected to take place in each one of the partners’ countries. The itinerant approach will give the chance to partner organizations to get to know the actual startup environment of neighbour innovation agencies besides offering the opportunity to develop useful connections.

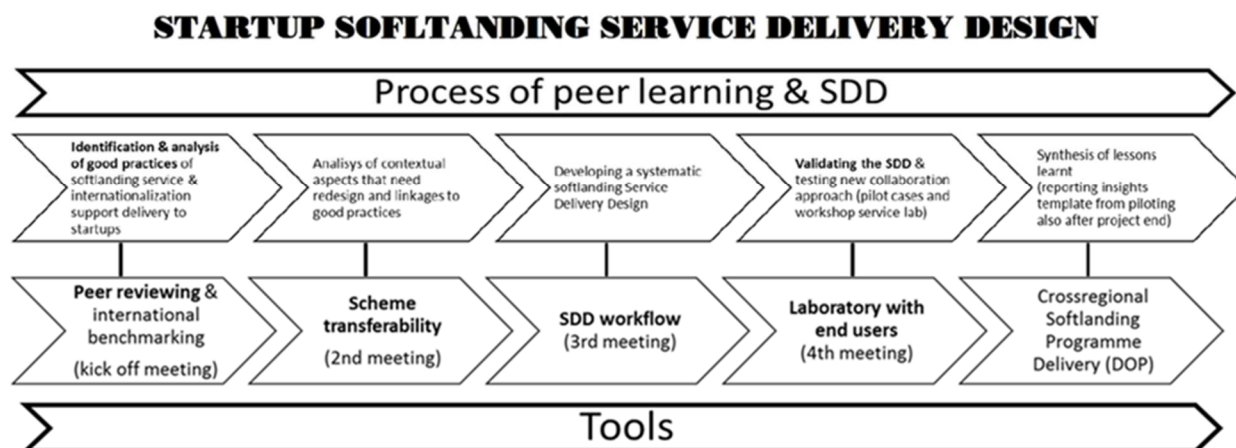
Meetings should be focused on a different stage of the peer learning process, guiding involved partners through analysis, identification and at the final stage, creation of the common portfolio of available softlanding services and tools.

More in detail partners (Peer Learning group members) will address the selected challenge by working jointly through the following peer learning activity program:

1. first by identifying and analyzing related measures concerning good practices of softlanding service delivery to new entrepreneurs and innovative SMEs. (Design Options List through peer reviewing and international benchmarking at least 3 good practices and 3 models of startup ecosystem support programs)
2. second by analyzing the options according to contextual aspects that need redesign and on linkages to good practices (transferability scheme);
3. third by developing an innovative Cross regional Softlanding Service Delivery System that takes into account: the target group characteristics, the workflow structure of the initiative as well as the framework conditions.

¹ See for example: <http://www.vinnova.se/PageFiles/604825187/PCP%20Design%20Options%20Paper.pdf>

3.1 Work plan – Work packages, deliverables and milestones



In this phase, at least **3 peer learning meetings will be organized** (after the kick off meeting), and hosted at partner's organization's premises. The first peer review meeting is programmed to take place in Rijeka (Croatia) hosted by STEP RI ZNANSTVENO TECHNOLOGIJSKI PARK SVEUCILISTA U RIJEI and will take place on the 30th of June 2016.

A **professional expert** with extensive knowledge and experience on **meeting management and innovation /entrepreneurship support services** will be subcontracted to moderate the partners' peer learning activities in order to achieve the highest quality results. The external expert will be subcontracted by the Coordinator to govern the peer review process and guide the partners, that is animate the peer learning among the participants, take minutes and summarize the process.

4. REQUIRED EXPERTISE AND PROFILE

Following expertise is required:

- Professional experience in peer learning activities including design & moderation: the expert participated as a moderator in peer learning workshops based on participative approach.
- Professional experience in team building activities as a moderator.
- Expertise in innovation / entrepreneurship/ support programmes /service design thinking for entrepreneurs (including would be and new entrepreneurs).
- Fluent English speaking.

Experience in Twinning+ (Twinning Advanced) methodology is considered as an advantage.

5. TASKS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE EXPERT

The expert's tasks include the following:

- to take part in at least 2 web meetings with TRANSUP partners to prepare the peer learning workshop programme and define the Design Options Paper (DOP) structure
- to co-design (together with project referents) and moderate 3 TRANSUP peer learning workshop organized respectively: in Rijeka on the 30th of June 2016, in Slovenja (Ljubana or Maribor) in October 2016 and Udine -Italy in January 2017 (dates to be settled).
- to govern the peer review process and help partners in the identification of mutual good practices in programmes that can be included in the DOP, to participate in the Design Options Paper development acting as proof reader. Thus supporting the set up of the following project milestones : Design Options List, Transferability Scheme, Startup Softlanding Service Delivery Design.

6. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

The deadline for submission of applications is 6th of June 2016.

Applications can only be submitted in English via email to Ms Claudia Baracchini at the following email address: claudia.baracchini@friulinnovazione.it

TRANSUP project partners will apply a two-stage application process. In the first step, Curriculum Vitae of the candidates will be evaluated according to the criteria set in section 3. Project partners will draw up a list of potential experts. In the second step a restricted list of candidates will be invited to provide additional supporting documents and references which prove that they possess the requested skills and professional experience listed in section 3.

All of the requested expertise and skills will be assessed based on the information provided by the applicant. Interested experts should provide the following documents and information in the first step:

- Curriculum Vitae in English
- Full contact details

In the second step, the top 3 selected experts will be communicated by Claudia Baracchini to further submit the following:

- Evidence (documents) that they possess the requested skills and professional experience listed in section 3 and
- References.

The selected expert will be informed by project partners by 8th June 2016.

7. EXPERT FEE

The expert is entitled to a fee of 6000 EUR which includes:

- expert fee for the implementation of all tasks listed in section 4
- travel and accommodation expenses
- all other costs related to the implementation of tasks set in section 4.

In addition, no further costs will be reimbursed.

The selected expert will be contacted by TRANSUP project partner Friuli Innovazione.
The selected expert will be paid after receiving invoice issued by the expert.

8. CONTACT

In case of any question related to the present Call please contact:

Claudia Baracchini
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Friuli Innovazione

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