



Hrvatska agencija za malo gospodarstvo, inovacije i  
investicije  
Croatian Agency for SMEs, Innovations and Investments

## **International collaboration through international projects**

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**Croatian Agency for SMEs, Innovations and Investments (HAMAG-BICRO)** during 25 years of operation:

- supports the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, improves the innovation process encourages investments;
- creates a unique system that provides support to entrepreneurs through all development stages of operation – starting from research and development of an idea to its commercialization and placement on the market.

Related to smart specialisation processes, HAMAG-BICRO act as:

- Intermediary body level 2 for Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts for R&D&I calls for companies within ERDF – Operational program Competitiveness and Cohesion 2014-2020.
- Implementing body supporting innovation from early to later R&D stages – national program **PoC** (Proof of Concept); international programs **EUREKA/EUROSTARS**
- Supporting access to finance to innovative SMEs through **microcredits and guarantees**.
- Technical and expert support for the innovation system - acting as a **Technical Secretariat for National Innovation Council and Innovation Council for Industry** for coordination and monitoring implementation of Smart Specialisation Strategy of the Republic of Croatia and Strategy for Innovation Encouragement of the Republic of Croatia





## International cooperation at HAMAG-BICRO:

### Networks and associations:

- **Horizon 2020** - HAMAG-BICRO staff have been designated as the **national contact point** in charge of advisory and information activities, assisting interested applicants in the preparation and implementation of **EIC** projects.
- An active member of the **Association of the EU Innovation agencies, TAFTIE**.
- Member of **European Enterprise Network (EEN)** in Croatia responsible for innovation. for technology transfer, innovation and research funding.

### Programs:

- Implementing **international EU projects** -dealing with the testing of new policy instruments (Interreg and cross boarding cooperation projects)
- **EUREKA** and **Eurostars** as international programs.





## International projects

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### Smart Factory HUB (Interreg Danube)

The **main objective** was to improve framework conditions for innovation in the area of “**smart factory**” ie. demonstrating the establishment of their smart specialization strategies and enhancing innovation in the context of smart manufacturing.

10 partner countries: **Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia**

Project duration: January 2017 - June 2019

Total project value: EUR 1.8 million





## **Project results:**

- Conducted **research** for Croatia and all partner countries - how active we are in Industry 4.0 and Smart Specialization (**[Benchmark report](#)**)
- Created **handbook for 50 International Success Stories** in Industry 4.0 (**[Handbook](#)**)
- Created **Smart Solutions Catalog** (over 100 Smart Solutions) (**Cumulative report on SF solutions catalogue**)
- **23 vouchers granted for feasibility study** with the aim of introducing smart and innovative solutions into SME manufacturing processes (**international technology transfer**)
- An International Project Report for the Improvement of Industry Financing Instruments 4.0 has been produced (**Policy Recommendations**)

More detail information:

<https://hamagbicro.hr/medunarodna-suradnja/smart-factory-hub/>





## International projects

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### **PPI2Innovate (Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE)**

The **main objective** was to encourage the use of **public procurement of innovative solutions (PPI)** by contracting authorities throughout Central Europe, thereby also influencing the scientific and research sector to create and commercialize innovation.

6 partner countries: Hungary, Croatia, Czech Republic, Poland, Italy and Slovenia

Project duration: June 2016 - August 2019 (3 months extension)

Total project value: EUR 1.6 million





## Project results:

- **1 transnational guide** to the procurement of innovative solutions (PPI) and **3 thematic PPI2Innovate guides** in the healthcare, ICT and energy sectors - guides with general information and examples  
**(SMART Health, SMART ICT, SMART Energy)**
- **4 PPI2Innovate pilot projects** implemented - project partners from Hungary, Slovenia, Italy and Poland developed and implemented four procurement procedures for innovative solutions
- **Establishment of 6 Regional Competence Centers** - one Competence Center in all project partner countries and **1 Central European Network of PPI2Innovate Competence Centers**
- ✓ The Competence Centers aim to transfer knowledge gained through the implementation of the PPI2Innovate project and to continue monitoring and supporting the strengthening of the use of public procurement of innovative solutions (PPI).

More detail information:

<https://hamagbicro.hr/medunarodna-suradnja/ppi2innovate/>





## International projects

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### **ODEON - Open Data for European Open iNnovation** (Interreg Mediterranean)

ODEON project addresses the **exploitation of Open Data** and aims at strengthening the relationship between digital agenda, e-government strategy, the open data platforms implemented at several levels and the availability of Open Data to support innovation process within Interreg Mediterranean Area.

8 partner countries: **Italy (2partners), Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Grece, Spain and France**

Project duration: **February 2018 – July 2020**

Total project value: EUR 2 million

More detail information:

<https://hamagbicro.hr/medunarodna-suradnja/odeon/>







## International projects

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### **CEUP 2030 - Central Europe Upstreaming for Policy Excellence in Advanced Manufacturing & Industry 4.0 towards 2030 (Interreg Central Europe)**

Project strives for **policy excellence in Industry 4.0/Advanced Manufacturing**. Focuses on improving policy-making by utilizing, adapting and upgrading existing and policy-making outputs. The upgrade process deals mainly with RIS3 policies.

The 4 main topics covered in the project are to create a comprehensive thematic framework and present a realistic picture of Industry 4.0: • **large and real data processing and sensors**, • **automation and robotics**, • **new materials and** • **Artificial Intelligence**.

The project sets out a unique approach to an innovation system for creating regional and transnational policies with high practical relevance.

10 partner countries: **Poland, Germany (2 partners), Austria (2 partners), Italy (2 partners), Slovenia, Croatia and Hungary**

Project duration: **March 2020 – February 2022**

Total project value: EUR 1 million





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**Thank you for attention!**

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