

NEWSLETTER

*Enhancement of business environment and competitiveness of the private sector of **Montenegro***

ENHANCING COMPETITIVENESS: FIRST YEAR OF THE PROJECT

Welcome to the first BeSME Newsletter.

You will find below information on activities carried out during the first year of BeSME Project.

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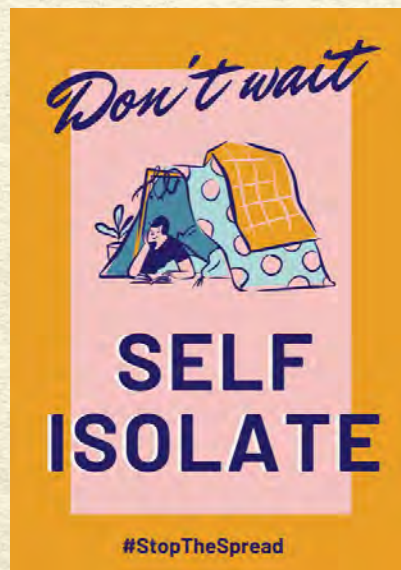
This project is co-funded by European Union and Montenegro, implemented by Expertise France, with Bpifrance and Business France

In the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic situation, the crisis is impacting our businesses and social life all over the world. It gives hard effects on how we live and on how we work. We sincerely hope that each of you, your families and friends, remain healthy, and that the economic impacts on our society can be mitigated as far as possible.

Based on this situation, we would like to inform you that the BeSME project team is working from home, until further notice from the government. We are keen to emphasise that we remain fully mobilised to continue the project's activities remotely amid the pandemic situation.

Stay safe and healthy.

See you very soon.





PROJECT NEWSLETTER

The project “*Enhancement of business Environment and Competitiveness of the Private Sector of Montenegro*” or BeSME is one out of many EU contributions to the development of competitiveness in Montenegro. It is embedded within the EU support to the development of the private sector in Montenegro through the Instrument of Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA). BeSME is covered under IPA II 2014 and is an action implemented by a European consortium led by **Expertise France** in partnership with **Bpifrance** and **Business France**.

BeSME supports harmonised development of Montenegrin private sector, in particular Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in line with EU strategic priorities related to competitiveness and innovation. BeSME focuses on assisting Montenegrin authorities to develop capacities and frameworks to enhance competitiveness and innovation policies through exchange of best practices and peer-to-peer dialogue.

In close collaboration with the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Sciences and actors involved in competitiveness of private sector, such as Tehnopolis and Chamber of Economy of Montenegro, BeSME aims to (1) develop a strategic framework and operational measures to increase competitiveness and innovation, (2) to strengthen the capacity of administrations to implement public policies and (3) to support the competitiveness and innovation of clusters and business entities.

The action is divided into three components corresponding to the three objectives listed above. Type of activities include a mix of regular **technical assistances, studies, researches, capacity building** (training courses, workshops, study visits, hands-on training...), **communication strategy and the development of a grant scheme through a Pilot Programme *Competitiveness Vouchers*** that has been launched in March 2020.

This first Newsletter presents **a series of activities carried out under BeSME in collaboration with Montenegrin actors supported by European and regional expertise**, such as; pre-analysis energy efficiency supporting industrial policies, strategic documents for development of MSMEs, attractiveness of Montenegrin private sector, access to finance for SMEs, Competitiveness and Innovation policies, IPA supports in C&I policies. It also provides the most updated news about the first Pilot Grant Scheme in Montenegro through Competitiveness Vouchers.

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1. Welcoming reception organised by the French Embassy to Montenegro

On the occasion of the launch of BeSME in Montenegro, the Embassy of France and Expertise France organised a Welcoming Reception, that was held at the French Residence on May 30th 2019.



The reception, to which the representatives from the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Science, Chamber of Economy, Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro and others partners were invited, was also attended by representatives of our Consortium.

In order to improve the collaboration between Montenegro and France, the Embassy of France introduced the arrival and the establishment of Expertise France office in Podgorica and also welcomed the partners of the BeSME project.

The project's Consortium seized this opportunity to present the objectives and the activities of BeSME to all the project's partners.



FIRST HALF-YEAR PROJECT ACTIVITIES

2. First visit to Tehnopolis in Niksic

A first meeting was held with Business Incubator Manager, Jelena Djedovic and representatives of the Ministry of Science on December 13th 2018, we had the opportunity to discuss about our future cooperation, the finalisation of the Smart Specialization Strategy (S3), as well as direct support for the Innovative entrepreneurship center, Tehnopolis.



One of the objectives of BeSME is to support Tehnopolis in enhancing its capacities through a support to the procurement of supplies and equipment for its three laboratories (bio-chemical laboratory, laboratory for industrial design and data centre).

3. Visiting Tehnopolis with our Consortium

On Tuesday, May 28th 2019, Expertise France and Business France visited once again the premises of the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center Tehnopolis. The visit was to introduce Tehnopolis and to discuss future collaboration and cooperation with Tehnopolis within the framework of BeSME project. Main programmes will be capacity building, coaches, and other activities supporting staffs' capacities of Tehnopolis to enhance business environment within starts-ups and small-medium enterprises. Study tours are also envisaged to introduce Tehnopolis ecosystem to other similar organisation outside Montenegro.





4. Working Group Meetings and Discussions

The Ministry of Economy established a Working Group (WG) for the elaboration of a Strategy for Lifelong Entrepreneurial Learning 2020-2024 (LLE Strategy), representing key institutions and organisations from public, private and NGO sectors, including science and donor community.

On April 21th 2019, a first Working Group meeting for the development of this strategy was held in the Chamber of Economy in the capital city of Montenegro.

The meeting was opened by the Coordinator of the Working Group, Director General of the Directorate for Investment, SME Development and Management of EU Funds in the Ministry of Economy, Mr. Radosav Babic. He outlined the concept of strategy development and outlined to the task force the tasks ahead of them in the coming period.

The task of the Working Group is to coordinate and prepare the Lifelong Entrepreneurial Learning Strategy 2020-2024 through the following tasks:

- prepare information on the current situation in the field of formal and non-formal education, harmonization of the document with adopted national and EU documents in this field
- identify strategic and operational goals of the strategy document, define measures and activities within the set strategic goals, as well as indicators for achieving results
- preparation of the Framework Action Plan for this Strategy and the Action Plan for 2020

Mr Igor Brkanovic, BeSME international expert on the drafting of the Strategy, outlined how to proceed with the drafting.

The second Working Group meeting was held on June 10th, in the premises of the Ministry of Education of Montenegro to follow-up progress of works.



5. First Project Steering Committee Meeting

The first Project Steering Committee Meeting (PSC) was held in our premises on Tuesday, 25th June 2019 . During this meeting, we presented to our partners the project's main results and activities during its first semester of implementation, from November 15th 2018 to May 15th 2019.



The participants of the meeting were representatives from the Delegation of European Union, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Economy.

The Steering Committee was established in order to monitor the progress of the project, the work of the experts engaged under BeSME, to provide advice and to ensure the achievement of the project outputs and immediate outcomes.



6 Vitagora: driving force of the smart agro-food chain

On Monday, 18th October 2019, Ms Eugénie Cornu, representative of French agro-food innovation cluster, VITAGORA, has presented to Montenegrin clusters, Vitagora's strategy and explained how they managed to make Vitagora one of the most innovative and successful clusters in France nowadays.

The Responsible of Cluster Development, Ms Milena Jovetić, from the Ministry of Economy was also present.

The clusters presented in this meeting were: IT Cluster, Montengrin Prosciutto Cluster (Klaster Crnogorski pršut), Try Local Products Cluster (Probaj domaće), the Wine Cluster (Klaster Vina) and the Zupa Agro-Tourism Cluster (Agro-turisticki klaster Zupa).

Ms Cornu explained that their mission is to support their members growth and competitive advantage by supporting daily activities, supporting their members growth, by helping them overcome daily struggles, by welcoming entrepreneurship and innovation in the agrifood sector in France and globally.

"There are three key points when it comes to food. Firstly, food should taste good. Secondly, it must be healthy, nutritive and sustainable and thirdly, the number of pesticides should be reduced." claimed Ms Cornu.



7. Working Group on National Branding of Montenegro

On October 30th 2019, within the Ministry of Economy Montenegro, the Directorate for National Brand Development and Consumer Protection organised with the technical support of BeSME (provided by Expertise France and Business France), the first Working Group meeting for Strategy of National Branding of Montenegro.

The representatives from involved public institutions were present to discuss further steps to establish the first Strategy.

The Ministry of Economy has published a call for a new Logo and Slogan for Montenegro through their website here: <http://www.mek.gov.me/ministarstvo/konkursi>



The Working Group has been created in order to build a common strategy for all institutions to improve the attractiveness of Montenegrin economy through an “umbrella” logo that will be chosen at the end of 2020.



8. Visit to Montenegrin Association of honey producers

BeSME Consortium partner, Director for International Cooperation, Mr Pascal Lecamp from Business France, and BeSME Project team had the pleasure to meet Technical Secretary of Confederation of bee-keeping organizations of Montenegro, Mr Vladimir Radulović on Thursday, 31th October 2019 in Danilovgrad.



During the meeting, a mutual potential collaboration was discussed, as well as the value of bees and honey to mankind.

Mr. Radulović informed that the Confederation of bee-keeping organizations of Montenegro is a non-governmental organization and that they have around 2,500 members and therefore around 60,000 bee hives, which makes 24 bee hives per beekeeper. Afterwards, Mr Radulović showed the premises where they make their delicious Montenegrin honey more known as “Crnogorski med”.



9 Establishing centers of excellence in Montenegro: Evaluation of Applications

In collaboration with the Ministry of Science and other international experts, BeSME Senior Advisor, Philippe Geffroy, worked as a member of the Final Evaluation Committee in August 2019.

According to the website of Ministry of Sciences, the Centre of Excellence may have the following focus:

1. Creating or significantly improving products or services for a precisely defined economic branch, which can help existing companies in Montenegro to improve their international competitiveness by integrating advanced scientific concepts, technologies and innovations into traditional economic sectors. One of the possibilities is also the establishment of new innovative start-ups with the potential for rapid growth.
2. Creating a research base for a priority state or local policy that would provide the public sector with the knowledge and specific services needed in the transformation of society (e.g. digital society, energy efficient cities, ecological Montenegro, etc.), and contribute to the creation of future markets for innovative services and products.
3. Creating a scientific research area in Montenegro that has the potential for exceptional results on the global level, which would provide a competitive advantage to the national economy and a better position of Montenegrin science on the global stage, leading also to the possibility of exponential growth in science and innovation.

The meeting was held in BeSME's premises, to support collaboratively the whole processes of evaluation. The task was to carry out the evaluation of applications and support documentations, by submitting an individual evaluation report of the first evaluation phase. The first-ranked centre is in the field of food science called: Centre of Excellence for Digitization in the Field of Food Safety and Food Authenticity – FoodHub by Prof. dr Aleksandra Martinovic and the second-ranked centre refers to research in biomedicine. It is headed by Dr Vjeroslava Slavić.

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE





ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN MONTENEGRO

Supporting Industrial Modernisation through Energy Efficiency

10. Energy Efficiency Launching Day

The Industry policy of Montenegro 2020 defines objectives that contribute to the improvement of energy efficiency in the industrial sector.

As part of BeSME, the team is providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Economy of Montenegro to conduct an analysis of the energy efficiency potential in selected industrial enterprises.

An information day regarding this action has been held on October 7th 2019, in the premises of Chamber of Economy in Podgorica, introduced by the Directorate for Energy Efficiency of the Ministry of Economy. Siska Martina Cahyati presented to the enterprises the objectives of BeSME and the mission on energy efficiency. Jean-Christophe Clement intervened with a presentation about the process of this pre-diagnosis to the participants.

The Program for the Implementation of Energy Efficiency Measures in Industry envisages the establishment of financial mechanisms for the introduction of innovative solutions and new technologies that will eventually lead to the improvement of energy efficiency and increase the use of available renewable energy sources by enterprises, which will contribute to the further development of green economy, as well as the improvement of businesses in the industry sector.





10.1. Visit to the textile industry "La Vista"

On Thursday, 28th November 2019, the BeSME team visited the textile industry "La vista" in the northern part of Montenegro, in Berane.

This meeting was also attended by representatives of Ministry of Economy, Ms Ivana Popović and Mrs Lidija Radović.

Mr Adrović from La Vista welcomed us in their premises, where we had a very fruitful meeting. "We produce shirts for men, women and children as well. We do not only export in our country, but in Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, in Italy and many more." said Mr Adrović.

Expert in energy efficiency, Mr Clément from France asked a few questions about the safety of their equipment and later advised how they can use the energy more efficiently and therefore gain more profit in the future.

He explained that they used to have heating problems until they changed the carpentry.

"We have encountered another problem during last few years. Unfortunately, the number of employees drastically decreased due to the migration of people from Northern Montenegro. People from Montenegro, but especially from the northern part leave their homes and go to more developed countries." added Mr Adrović.





ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN MONTENEGRO

Supporting Industrial Modernisation through Energy Efficiency

10.2. Visit to the wood processing company "Pelengić Trade"

On Wednesday, 27th November 2019, the Project Team visited the wood processing industry "Pelengić Trade" in Bijelo Polje.

Mr. Radović, from Pelengić Trade, informed us that the five biggest consumption equipment of their company are: pellet pressers, drier, steaming, sawmill and boiler as well. He also mentioned that too much of sunlight during the summer can raise the temperature in the glass façade premises.

Our expert in energy efficiency, Mr. Jean-Christophe Clément advised on how they can use energy more efficiently.

"Firstly, monitoring is very useful in order to see how much energy is spent during the working day and in order to understand how to use energy more efficiently. Secondly, the energy management system is the main key. It's very important to shut down the machine automatically when they are not needed, during night for example. Thirdly, the renewable energy such as solar energy on roof could be also very efficient." said Mr. Clément.

After a very fruitful meeting, Mr. Radović showed us the premises of their company such as dryer, boiler, transformation station and pellet factory.



INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY MAPPING

10.3. Visit to the wood processing company "ŠIK Polimlje"

During the week of the visits for energy efficiency pre-diagnosis, on Thursday, 28th November 2019, the team visited the wood processing company "ŠIK Polimlje" in Berane.

The BeSME team advised on how the company can use energy more efficiently and therefore reduce energy consumption. The "smart driving" which is adopted in France for decades was introduced by BeSME team. "ŠIK Polimlje" has around 94 employees and it is a factory of wood veneer and veneer panels production, capacity over 3.000 m² of a wide range of products.

The production is based on peeled logs from slightly steamed beech-timber supplied from our own forests and purchased from a wide area of the North-East part of Montenegro. Their product range includes: veneer panels, multiplex panels, components based on multiplex panels and Latoflex panels.

This company has agreed to participate in our mission and we will collaborate with them to realise a pre-diagnosis of energy consumption with recommendations to have a more efficient energy optimisation at their wood processing.



10.4. Mini-info day in Cetinje and visit to the meat processing company "Interproduct"

On Friday, 29th November 2019, an information day was organised for meat processing companies in the premises of Business Center, in Cetinje.

This meeting was attended by the representatives of Montenegrin Prosciutto Cluster: Martex, Zrnožit, Interproduct, MiAnja, Monstate and SNJ Gornič.

Our Project Manager, Mrs Siska Martina Cahyati opened the session by introducing BeSME project as well as the activities. She shared information about the objective of our current mission on energy efficiency and emphasized the importance for companies to participate in this mission



"Firstly, energy efficiency increases competitiveness of the industrial sector and often also leads to increased productivity. Secondly, energy efficiency improves your environmental performance. Thirdly, it improves your image and market penetration. Last but not least, it creates local value." said Mr Clément.



Afterwards, general manager, Mr Ivan Mijušković, from Interproduct d.o.o. - Cetinje, a meat industrial enterprise, invited us to his company where he showed us their premises.



By filling the questionnaires and sharing data of energy spent in their products' processing, companies can contribute largely to design a map of energy consumption. This can help us to realise a pre-diagnosis of energy consumption with recommendations for energy efficiency, in order to support the Industrial Policy 2020 in Montenegro.

Our lead expert in energy from France, Mr Jean-Christophe Clément, presented about the benefits of energy efficiency for the meat processing companies.



10.5. Visit to the metal processing company "Euromix Beton" in Bar

On Saturday, 30th November 2019, we visited a metal industry "Euromix Beton" in Bar for energy efficiency mapping.

Our expert on energy efficiency, Mr. Jean-Christophe Clément and Mr. Damir Manojlović from E-fusion had great pleasure to discuss about energy consumption and their products with senior mechanical engineer for mixers, Ms Jelena Jovanović, and junior mechanical engineer for tippers, Mr Luka Petrić.

"Our company is engaged in the exploitation of technical building stone, the production of asphalt, concrete, construction of real estate and the production of specialized construction machines (concrete mixers and dump trucks)" said Ms Jovanović from Euromix Beton. In the production of their Euromix concrete truck mixers they rely on high quality materials and a great design.

After this very interesting meeting, Ms Jovanović and Mr Petrić showed us their main manufacturing facility of concrete mixers. Ms Jovanović emphasized that all their products are handmade and supervised by their engineers.



10.6. Visit to the printing company "Stratus"

On Thursday, December 19th 2019, the BeSME team visited the family-owned printing company "Stratus" in the capital city of Montenegro.

The company is organized in two units: production-printing and trade.

"Stratus" company is well known for its high level of technical and technological equipment and therefore, there are main guidelines which have contributed to the acquisition of the leading position in the region and of the recognition on the wider European market.

During the meeting, Mr Manojlović, our colleague from Efusion introduced the monitoring as a way to improve the energy management system and explained why it is important for the future of the company. After very dynamic discussion, we visited their production and storage room.



10.7. Visit to the steel industry “Institute for Black Metallurgy” in Nikšić

On December 20th 2019, BeSME team visited the steel industry “Institute for Black Metallurgy” in Nikšić.

Meeting was attended by the representatives of Ministry of Economy, our consultants from Efusion company and representatives from Black Metallurgy Institute.

Black Metallurgy Institute is a joint-stock company and licensed scientific research institution which deals with research and development in technical sciences field, laboratory, field tests and much more.



It is important to mention that the Institute has the Quality Management System Certificate according to the standards of ISO 9001:2008, and the Laboratory Research Accreditation Certificate according to the standards of MEST EN ISO/ IEC 17025:2011 CEO of the company.

Mr Ranko Nikolić welcomed us in their premises where we had a very successful meeting. “Our biggest problems in our company is the lack of isolation, our heating and cooling system and illumination.” claimed Mr Nikolić. One of our consultants, Mr Manojlović suggested the use of LED lighting instead of neon lighting which is more expensive. He also suggested to create a plan in order to restructure the building since it is very old.

They are very interested in this program and willing to provide the project team requested data.



Afterwards, the quality management representative, Ms Vesna Nikcević, showed the project team their laboratories for chemical testing, for testing with destruction and non-destruction methods and for testing technical protection.





"LOOKING BEYOND BOUNDARIES" EU FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS H2020 and EEN

BeSME consortium organised a workshop on "Focus on Looking Beyond Boundaries: EU support instruments for SMEs" co-funded by the European Union and Montenegro, in Tehnopolis, Niksic, on Wednesday October 30th 2019. The main subjects of the event were EU supports for Small Medium Enterprises, including the innovation tools of Horizon 2020, EIC Accelerator, and Enterprise Europe Network (EEN).



The BeSME Project Manager, Ms Siska Martina Cahyati, moderated the workshop and has welcomed the participants.



The Director General for Directorate for Investments, Development of SMEs and Management of EU Funds at the Ministry of Economy, Mr Radosav Babić, opened the workshop and gave an introductory speech on SMEs development in Montenegro and EU funding schemes opportunities.

The main speakers of the workshop were Mr Antonio Carbone (APRE, National Contact Point (NCP) Horizon 2020, EU expert "SMEs and Access to risk finance") and Mr Laurent Volle, Director of EEN Grand Est France. The two NCPs of Montenegro, Ms Ljiljana Belada (NCP EEN at the Ministry of Economy) and Mrs Marijeta Barjaktarović Lanzardi (Head of Directorate for Innovation and Infrastructure at the Ministry of Sciences) contributed to the workshop.



The main objective of H2020 projects is to develop and co-create an innovative product (or service, process, business model) that ensures a high growth potential of the applicants.

This session aimed to clarify the basic elements to make a Horizon 2020 proposal convincing in its aspects linked to market sustainability; present the main innovations that will characterize the EIC Accelerator (formerly SME Instrument) in 2019-2020. One interesting tip given during the presentation of H2020 was "Sell, don't tell. Make the evaluator feel your passion." In addition to an excellent idea as the basis of any successful proposal, applicants must 'sell' the concept to the evaluators.

The second session of the event was about SME support practices through Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) tools. This session aimed at structuring the innovation approach with the tools of the EEN network as the lever of development of the companies: to stand out to conquer new markets.



EU SUPPORT INSTRUMENTS FOR SMES

COMPETITIVENESS VOUCHERS



**VAUČER
ZA KONKURENTNOST**

APLIKACIJA OTVORENA
OD 30 JUNA 2020



Action funded by the
European Union

**JEDNOSTAVAN INSTRUMENT ZA
USPJEŠNE PRVE KORAKE**

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BeSME project "Enhancement of the business environment and competitiveness of the private sector of Montenegro", funded by the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance 2014 (IPA 2014) of the European Union, implemented by Expertise France in cooperation with the Ministry of Economy, invites interested candidates to apply for **Competitiveness Vouchers**.

The goal of the Voucher is to enable businesses through the Competitive Vouchers program to rely on the competencies of an external service provider to successfully complete the first stages of an innovative project or begin / accelerate their digital transformation. So, a simple disposition to master the key stages of new development or transformation and to achieve better results in terms of performance and competitiveness.

The Competitiveness Voucher guarantees direct financing of the services provided. Eligible services are services of a technical or scientific nature to enterprises in the agro-industrial sector or services related to the process of numerical transformation in order to improve one of the main functions of the enterprise (production, commercialization, management).

The service, for a period of 3 months, is funded through a subsidy of € 1 000 to € 8 000, depending on the type of support, up to a maximum of 80% of the amount of the service. The subsidy is paid directly to the service provider. Requests should be sent to Expert France by email or mail as soon as possible and no later than June 30, 2020, 12:00.

For who?

Small and medium-sized enterprises (by European definition), registered in Montenegro, with the exception of enterprises from the tourism sector.

The following are excluded:

- Individuals, liberal professions, private or public bodies providing consulting, assistance or technology transfer services.
- Companies that have existed for more than 3 years and are in a difficult situation, according to European regulations.

What services / activities? What amount?

Technological activities in the agro-industrial sectors: stages of technological design, testing, modeling or POC preparation, preparation for feasibility studies, industrial property (granting of patents)

2. Digitization activities for all sectors except tourism: Diagnosing numerical transformation, Production, Process Automation (ERP, Supply chain), Improving Customer Relationships (CRM, Digital Marketing, Web Communication), Online Commerce Solutions, New activities in the field of data usage, business model changes

Vouchers between € 1,000 and € 8,000, depending on the type of service, for costs of up to 80% of the total tax-free amount (20% charged to the company).

The following are excluded:

1. Services / activities having the character of mandatory regulations, "quality checks", collective studies
2. Activities performed by an entity that is legally related to the service/activity seeker.

With which service providers / operators?

The choice of the service provider / contractor is decided by the company. The process of approving a voucher request entails checking the service provider's expertise with respect to the subject matter and its legal independence with respect to the company. Provider details must be provided with the commercial proposal.

Check www.besmeproject.com to download the application form.

**Imate neki
projekat,
nešto vam
je potrebno?**



**IMATE NEKU
INOVATIVNU IDEJU?**

Želite da potvrdite njenu izvodljivost, napravite maketu, uradite provjere, popunite testove...



**ŽELITE LI DA ISKORISTITE
PREDNOSTI NUMERIČKIH
TEHNOLOGIJA?**

Želite da poboljšate vašu produktivnost, komercijalne rezultate, optimizirate odnose sa klijentima, ostvarite veći broj pregleda vaše web stranice....



**ŽELITE LI DA OTPOČNETE
SA DIGITALNOM
TRANSFORMACIJOM
U VAŠEM PREDUZEĆU?**

Ne znate tačno kako, kad, sa kim, za koje funkcije...



**Predlažemo
vam**

**Vaučer za
konkurentnost**



**FINANSIJSKA PODRŠKA
KOJA ĆE VAM OMOGUĆITI:**



• Da napredujete brže,

• Da koristite eksterne stručne usluge,



• Da se oslonite na ekspertizu koja je prilagodjena vašoj potrebi

**UVODENJE INOVACIJA I DIGITALIZACIJA
MALIH I SREDNJI PREDUZEĆA:**

**Vaučer za
konkurentnost**



- Eksterne kompetencije u službi preduzeća
- Jednostavan dispozitiv za uspješne prve korake
- Pilot projekat, u okviru programa BeSME, koža finansiraju Evropska unija i Crna Gora

Modaliteti

- Preuzimanje troškova za tehničku uslugu ili uslugu u oblasti digitalizacije u visini od 80% ukupnog iznosa bez poreza, za sumu od 1 000 € do 8 000 € najviše
- Pomoć se uplaćuje direktno pružaocu usluge po pruženoj usluzi
- Krajnji rok za dostavljanje zahtjeva: 30/06/2020

Za više informacija:
www.besmeproject.com

Obratiti se: Expertise France
eu-montenegro.project@expertisefrance.fr



Enhancement of business
environment and competitiveness
of the private sector of **MONTENEGRO**



Ovaj projekat je dio aktivnosti koju finansira EU.



13. Preparation of grant scheme support for competitiveness

18th February 2020

The Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Sciences and colleagues from Bpifrance and Expertise France had rich discussions about one of the most important activities of the Project that aims to design a framework of grant scheme to support competitiveness of the private sector in Montenegro.

Sylvie Cogneau, Bpifrance, came from Paris to present her concept note and led the discussion about this activity. The deliverable can be expected at the end of this semester. According to her, this Grant Scheme for the Competitiveness of the Private Sector in Montenegro should provide a suitable framework for public intervention that will result in technology upgrading of the companies to modernize them. This grant scheme shall propose a framework of potential support measures that also fill the gaps in the continuum financing of innovation. And of course the scheme shall be compatible with the EU rules and specifically with State Aid Rules.

14. Diversified activities

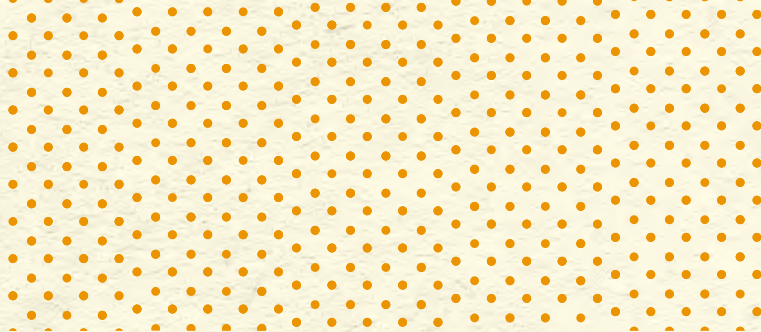
As part of BeSME project, the following activities are ongoing and/or envisaged in the upcoming period:

1. Technical assistances to national strategies drafting

- Programmes for Cluster Development: Creation of Programme in line with EU recommendation on cluster policy and S3.me to supports Cluster Development
- Women Entrepreneurship Learning Strategy: Creation of Women Entrepreneurship Learning Strategy
- Establishment of Council for SMEs
- Law on Innovation
- Strategy for National Branding including promotion of the future logo and brand of Montenegro
- Series of programme lines for MSMEs supported by the Ministry of economy
- Series of programmes within the framework of IPA 2016

2. Capacity building programmes

- Support for Tehnopolis: technical assistances to their pre-acceleration program design and implementation, coaching programmes for incubators and future laboratories staffs
- Support for Sciences and TechnoPark
- Training programme and study visits for institutions involved in Competitiveness & Innovation policies
- Support for SMEs:
 - a) Implementation of grant scheme - Competitiveness Vouchers (page 24)
 - b) Workshop on the area of financial instruments will be organised to present access to loans guaranteed by the EU also to list the products. The interventions of the EIF and Montenegrin financial institutions will be foreseen.
 - c) Support for Clusters and implementation of Pilot-Clusters specific programmes
 - d) other continuous supports



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