



INNOSKILLS-CE NEWSLETTER

Interreg
CENTRAL EUROPE



Co-funded by
the European Union

INNOSKILLS-CE

27/03/2026



THE INNOSKILLS-CE PROJECT HAS STARTED

INNOSKILLS-CE – Innovative Skills for Promoting Inclusive Rural Education in Central Europe is a project funded by the Interreg Central Europe programme. It supports rural and peripheral areas where young people often have limited access to modern vocational training and where companies face growing skills shortages. The project focuses on strengthening skills linked to smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship, with a strong emphasis on manufacturing and technology-related competences.



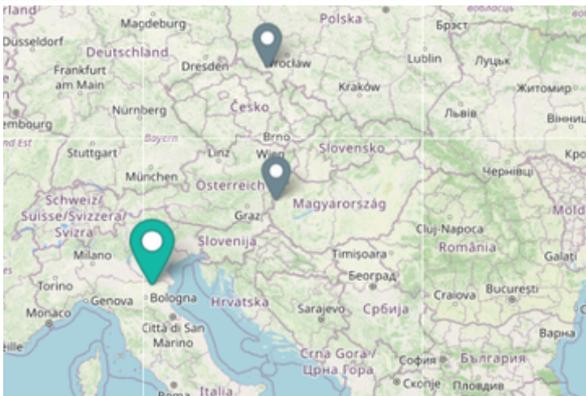
ABOUT THE PROJECT

Peripheral manufacturing regions face youth unemployment and brain drain because advanced training and career opportunities are often concentrated in large urban centres.

INNOSKILLS-CE brings next-generation manufacturing skills and career pathways closer to young people by combining immersive AR/VR training, a digital Learning Management System (LMS) platform, and structured cooperation between schools, SMEs, public authorities and training providers. The project helps students and future employees gain labour-market-relevant skills, while supporting SMEs in accessing better-matched competences.

PERIPHERAL AREAS COVERED BY THE PROJECT

INNOSKILLS-CE is implemented in three regions in Central Europe, located away from major development centres, where economic potential is limited by structural challenges. In Italy, the project focuses on the inland area of Lower Ferrara, affected by geographical isolation, declining employment, early school leaving and gaps in technical and digital skills. In Poland, activities are centred around Wałbrzych, a post-industrial and post-mining area with high youth unemployment and a weakened VET base, while in Hungary the project works in Vas County, where a strong automotive sector faces skills shortages and youth migration abroad.





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KICK-OFF MEETING IN FERRARA

The project started with a two-day kick-off meeting held in Ferrara (Italy). During the meeting, the partnership agreed on the governance structure, clarified roles and responsibilities, aligned on the overall timeline, and confirmed the first implementation steps. This marked the beginning of coordinated work across the three regions and the start of joint activities related to skills mapping, curriculum analysis and the development of innovative training solutions.

WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON

INNOSKILLS-CE combines research, co-creation and testing to ensure that solutions reflect real labour market needs and can be implemented in schools and training environments. The work focuses on three connected elements. First, SMEs and key manufacturing sectors are mapped and analysed to identify skills gaps and training priorities. Second, curricula and learning needs are reviewed together with schools, teachers and students to understand where education and labour market expectations do not fully match. Third, the partnership develops and tests immersive training pathways using AR/VR technologies and supports them with an LMS platform, enabling practical learning and continuous access to educational resources.

PROJECT PARTNERS



SIPRO Ferrara Development Agency

 Lead partner

Italy (IT)

www.siprofferrara.com



Pannon Business Network Association

 Partner

Hungary (HU)

www.pbn.hu



**Fundusz
Regionu
Wałbrzyskiego**

The Wałbrzych Region Fund

 Partner

Poland (PL)

www.frw.pl





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0,80 m €
Project Budget

80%
of the Budget is funded
by ERDF

3
Countries

3
Regions

3
Partners

1
Pilots

TARGET GROUPS

INNOSKILLS-CE is primarily aimed at SMEs operating in key manufacturing sectors such as mechanics, automation and robotics, business support organisations representing local business communities, secondary school students and teachers in vocational education and training, universities and post-secondary vocational training institutions (including ITS/IFTS), and public authorities and policymakers responsible for education and regional development. The general public in the project regions also benefits through increased awareness and access to information on skills development and labour market opportunities.

MAIN PROJECT OUTPUTS AND RESULTS



INNOSKILLS-CE delivers a set of concrete results that can be used by schools, SMEs and regional stakeholders. These include a joint Training Strategy to adapt curricula to labour market needs, a package of innovative training solutions including procedures and AR/VR content, pilot activities testing immersive training in practice, and a transnational LMS system for sharing educational materials and supporting continuous training through an innovative, hands-on approach.

LOOKING AHEAD

In the next phase, the partnership moves into implementation activities, including SME mapping and skills needs analysis, curriculum review in schools, and the preparation of co-creation workshops. In parallel, work starts on developing the first elements of the LMS platform and defining training scenarios for immersive AR/VR learning. Updates on progress, events and materials will be shared through the project's communication channels.

Contact information



www.interreg-central.eu/projects/innoskills-ce/



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