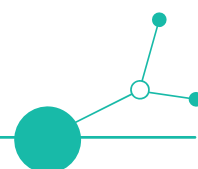


x-Inno Joint Practice Report

Pilot 4: Improving skill capacities in industrial regions through territorial cooperation



Pilot 4: Joint Practice Report



Reporting Period 5, July 2026



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Preamble

- > This practice report of x-Inno Radar pilot no. 4 “Improving skill capacities in industrial regions through territorial cooperation” covers
- the joint pilot approach,
 - the joint pilot implementation and
 - the local pilot implementations.

It supplements the corresponding programme output factsheet.

A. Overall Pilot Approach

The overall pilot approach

The pilot focused on improving skill capacities in non-metropolitan industrial regions through territorial cooperation by testing two complementary approaches. The first approach strengthened regional soft skill ecosystems by connecting soft skill providers and increasing their visibility and cooperation. The second approach explored how regional expats could contribute to regional development by sharing their international experience, knowledge and soft skills with local stakeholders. Together, both test zones addressed the need to strengthen regional capacities through collaboration, knowledge exchange and new forms of stakeholder engagement.

Challenges Addressed

The pilot addressed recurring challenges faced by many industrial regions, including fragmented regional cooperation, limited visibility of soft skill providers, insufficient cross-sector collaboration and the underused potential of internationally experienced professionals with ties to their home regions. By testing collaborative approaches across different regional contexts, the pilot explored practical ways to strengthen innovation capacity, support knowledge transfer and reinforce territorial cooperation around skills development.

Target groups

The pilot focused on a broad range of beneficiaries. These included regional soft skill providers, educational institutions, training organisations, creative and maker communities, businesses, policymakers, entrepreneurs, researchers, young professionals, creatives and regional expats. The pilot created opportunities for these groups to establish new connections, exchange knowledge and experience, develop collaborative initiatives and improve the visibility and recognition of soft skills as an important resource for regional innovation and development. At the same time, it enabled regional stakeholders to benefit from stronger cooperation networks and from the expertise and international perspectives brought by engaged expats.



B. Pilot Test Zone A: Regional skill networks

1. Test Zone Approach

The Pilot Test Zone A: Connecting the Soft Skill Dots aimed to test new approaches for territorial skill cooperation in non-metropolitan industrial regions, which by nature have limited own capacities for skill improvement. The test zone set out to strengthen regional skill networks by identifying, mapping and connecting both obvious and hidden providers of soft skills, increasing their visibility and recognition towards industry, education stakeholders and policymakers and promoting cooperation over competition. Rather than treating soft skills as a “nice-to-have”, the pilot positioned them as a “need-to-have” resource for innovation, transformation and teamwork and worked to turn fragmented individual efforts into a cohesive, visible force for regional development.

Target Groups

The pilot addressed three main target groups. The primary target group were regional soft skill providers – educational institutions, training organisations, creative and maker hubs, HR consultants and informal networks – which the pilot helped to connect and collaborate more effectively. In Chemnitz, the pilot specifically targeted makers, recognising their informal acquisition of soft skills and their need for greater visibility and recognition within the maker community. The wider target groups were industries, education stakeholders and policymakers, to whom the pilot aimed to make soft skill providers and their offerings visible and to raise awareness of the value of soft skills.

Joint Methodological Approach

A joint methodological approach was developed and implemented by the pilot partners under the shared CONNECT the Soft Skill Dots framework. The framework was designed to identify, visualise and activate the ecosystem of soft skill providers, build bridges between disconnected actors and promote cooperation over competition. Each pilot zone selected the specific tools and activities of the CONNECT model that best fitted its regional needs. The framework followed seven common building blocks:

- 1) Capture – map and identify both visible and hidden providers of soft skills;
- 2) Observe – understand the context, needs and barriers that limit collaboration;
- 3) Normalise – position soft skills as critical to innovation and teamwork and build a shared language and narratives;
- 4) Network – facilitate trust-building and low-barrier formats for dialogue and co-learning;
- 5) Enable – design cooperative formats and match providers with institutions, SMEs and public actors;
- 6) Consolidate – build durable structures such as regional hubs and anchor soft skills in regional strategies;
- 7) Transform – use the connected ecosystem to drive systemic change and equip policymakers with evidence.



Overview of Local Pilot Tests

PP2 – CREARE, Creative Region Linz & Upper Austria, Austria

Local pilot test: Connecting the Soft Skill Dots in Upper Austria

The pilot mapped, connected and progressively activated a diverse ecosystem of soft skill providers across the region, building a structured database and creating recurring bilateral and small-group touchpoints guided by the principle that “conversations bring people together”.

PP4 – Padova Chamber of Commerce (CCIAA Padova) / Venicepromex, Italy

Local pilot test: Connecting the Soft Skill Dots in Veneto

The pilot ran a scouting initiative among regional soft skill providers, culminating in the drafting and signing of a Memorandum of Understanding that commits signatories to joint actions promoting soft skills as strategic regional competencies.

PP8 – Stebo, Competence Centre for Community Development, Belgium

Local pilot test: Connecting the Soft Skill Dots in Limburg

The pilot organised a physical networking event, “Soft Skills Connect”, combining a keynote on BEWEL’s DISKKO programme with speed-dating and an informal reception to connect soft skill providers with companies and organisations across Limburg.

PP10 – Creative Chemnitz (KC), Association of Cultural & Creative Industries Chemnitz & Region, Germany

Local pilot test: Connecting the Soft Skill Dots in Chemnitz

The pilot tested how makerspaces can become visible as regional soft-skill providers, reflecting on their profiles, needs and informal learning practices and initiating a regular “Maker Connect” network.

Test Zone Leadership

The test zone was led by PP2 – CREARE, Creative Region Linz & Upper Austria (Austria), which coordinated the joint CONNECT methodological framework, facilitated cooperation and knowledge exchange between the four regional partners and supported the documentation and evaluation of the pilot activities.

Peer mentoring/observation

The partners maintained a cooperative mode throughout the implementation of the test zone by regularly exchanging experiences, providing mutual feedback and following the progress of the local pilot activities. Cross-wise observation enabled the partners to gain insight into the different regional approaches to mapping, connecting and activating soft skill providers.

Beyond the exchanges during partner meetings, partners remained in contact during the implementation phase and used these exchanges to discuss practical experiences, stakeholder engagement and the implementation of the different networking formats. The 3rd partner meeting in Slovenia provided an opportunity to review the ongoing implementation of the local pilots and exchange practical feedback between the partners.

Consistency review

Consistency across the local pilot activities was ensured through the common CONNECT framework and the joint methodological approach, which provided a shared basis for mapping, connecting and activating regional soft skill providers. As Test Zone leader, CREARE reviewed all local pilot application entries and supporting documentation submitted by the pilot partners to verify their alignment with the agreed



methodology and objectives. CREARE also cross-reviewed the local practice reports and carried out a final consistency and quality check of the pilot outputs and reporting documents. The partners jointly assessed the implementation and results of the local activities and jointly elaborated the pilot implementation report. The local pilot activities were documented in the respective Local Action templates, providing a common basis for presenting, comparing and evaluating the approaches tested in the four regions.

Joint reflection

Joint reflection focused on bringing together the experiences and results of the four local pilot activities and identifying shared lessons and transferable elements of the approach. The partners reflected on the different formats tested in the four regions and on how different approaches to mapping, connecting and activating soft skill providers responded to their respective regional contexts.

Despite the different local formats, the partners identified common outcomes across the four regions, in particular increased visibility of soft skill providers and new opportunities for cross-sector cooperation. The reflection also highlighted the importance of creating regular touchpoints and follow-up structures to sustain newly established connections, rather than relying on one-off networking activities. The experience from Veneto further showed the potential value of formalising cooperation commitments, while the follow-up approaches in the participating regions demonstrated the importance of linking pilot results to future regional action planning.

The joint assessment of the pilot implementation took place during the 4th partner meeting in Germany. The partners jointly assessed the implementation results and used the findings from the four local pilots to refine the pilot blueprint and its recommendations. The conclusions were also consolidated in the joint pilot implementation report.

Cross-pilot reflection was further supported through the online all-partner Inspired-by session on 29 June 2026, where Creative Region Linz & Upper Austria presented its pilot implementation experience and key lessons learned, contributing to knowledge exchange across the wider project partnership.

2. Joint Implementation

The overview below summarises how Test Zone A was implemented, from the joint concept phase through local implementation and reflection. It follows the same logic as the concept phase, presented here in retrospect.

Timing	Pilot team / single partner	Joint / local key activities
Preparation phase (Mar - Jun 2025)		
Mar 25	Pilot team	Joint concept development and definition of the CONNECT the Soft Skill Dots framework during the 2nd partner meeting in Czechia.
Apr – May 25	Pilot team	Joint refinement of the pilot concept, target groups, the CONNECT model and selection of the regional formats to be tested.
May – Jun 25	Single partners	Each partner individually prepared its regional mapping approach and selected the CONNECT tools and activities fitting its local needs.
Implementation phase (Jun 2025 - Apr 2026)		



Q2 25 – Q2 26	CREARE (Upper Austria)	Relational ecosystem mapping: built a living database of ~75 individuals from 30–40 organisations through direct dialogue rather than desk research alone.
Q3 25	CCIAA Padova (Veneto)	Created a database of regional soft skill providers; process launched around Talent Week 2025 in Padova.
Q3 25	KC (Chemnitz)	Mapped makerspaces as hidden soft skill providers, building on the existing makers-united.de mapping.
Q3 25	Stebo (Limburg)	Built a database of regional soft skill providers and planned the networking event in cooperation with BEWEL.
Q3 25 – Q2 26	CREARE (Upper Austria)	Recurring Stakeholder Dialogue Group consultations and bilateral / small-group touchpoints connecting previously unconnected actors.
Q4 25	KC (Chemnitz)	Delivery of pilot activity: Soft Skill Reflection Workshop at Lehngericht Augustusburg with makerspaces, ATB Chemnitz and regional partners.
Q4 25 – Q1 26	CCIAA Padova (Veneto)	Delivery of pilot activity: Two collaborative open labs (online and in presence) drafting the Memorandum of Understanding using the design thinking method.
Q4 25 – Q2 26	CREARE (Upper Austria)	Delivery of pilot activity: Editorial “Collaboration in Action” story series documenting real cross-sector partnerships.
Nov 25	Pilot team	Joint monitoring of ongoing pilot implementation during the 3rd partner meeting in Slovenia.
Q4 25 – Q1 26	Stebo (Limburg)	Delivery of “Soft Skills Connect” networking event at BEWEL: DISKKO keynote, Pitch & Connect speed-dating and networking reception (50+ participants).
Q1 26	KC (Chemnitz)	Network Needs Evaluation and follow-up planning; ~12 makerspaces identified as the first Maker Connect group; follow-up meeting scheduled for 12 June in Chemnitz.
Q1 – Q2 26	CCIAA Padova (Veneto)	Formal signature of the Memorandum of Understanding by 13 soft skill providers on the occasion of the 2b Boots for Roots public award.
Assessment and reporting phase (Apr – May 2026)		
Mar – Apr 26	Pilot team	Jointly assessing pilot implementation during the 4th partner meeting in Germany.
Until May 26	Pilot team	Jointly elaborating the pilot implementation report.
Roll-out phase (Jun – Nov 2026) – to come		
Until Sep 2026	Single partners	Locally defining future action planning based on pilot results (regional action plans in Upper Austria, Veneto, Chemnitz and Limburg).



Until Oct 2026	Pilot team	Jointly elaborating the pilot blueprint.
Nov 2026	Pilot team	Disseminate blueprint and pilot findings to regional organisations and policymakers.

3. Local Pilot Tests

The four local pilot tests are summarised below and documented in full in the annexed local action templates from the x-Inno Radar toolbase.

Upper Austria - PP2, CREARE / Creative Region Linz & Upper Austria

Creative Region Linz & Upper Austria mapped, connected and progressively activated a diverse ecosystem of soft skill providers. Rather than staging large networking events, it built a structured database of around 75 individuals from 30–40 organisations – universities, schools, private training providers, creative organisations and company academies – and created regular bilateral and small-group touchpoints under the local principle “Durchs Reden kommen die Leute zusammen” (conversations bring people together). A recurring Stakeholder Dialogue Group brought key institutions together for joint reflection and an editorial “Collaboration in Action” story series documented real cross-sector partnerships. As a direct result, previously unconnected actors began exploring joint formats and the groundwork was laid for a formal Regional Skills Network, a public mini-mapping of the ecosystem and integration into Upper Austria’s regional action plan.

Veneto - PP4, Padova Chamber of Commerce / Venicepromex

The Padova Chamber of Commerce and its agency Venicepromex ran a scouting initiative among regional soft skill providers to build a network able to promote soft skills as strategic competencies. Through an open call and two collaborative open labs – one online and one in presence, guided by the design thinking method – 13 providers jointly drafted a Memorandum of Understanding, which was formally signed on the occasion of the 2b Boots for Roots public award. The MoU commits its signatories to cooperate for at least two years on awareness-raising, promotional actions and networking, new ways of talking about soft skills and event creation and is intended to grow by inviting further providers to join.

Limburg - PP8, Stebo

Stebo, together with the social enterprise BEWEL, organised “Soft Skills Connect”, a physical networking event that brought soft skills providers together with companies and organisations from across Limburg. The evening combined a keynote on BEWEL’s DISKKO employee-development programme with intensive “Pitch & Connect” speed-dating and an informal networking reception. More than 50 participants attended; the speed-dating produced several new collaborations and follow-up discussions, increased the visibility of previously less-connected local providers and surfaced two priority regional challenges – managing increasingly diverse teams and improving communication skills among team leaders. The partners intend to run future editions, expand the provider database and feed the insights into regional labour-market transition strategies.



Chemnitz - PP10, Creative Chemnitz (KC)

Creative Chemnitz, working with Maker e.V. and ATB Chemnitz, tested how makerspaces can become visible as regional soft-skill providers. At a full-day workshop at Lehngericht Augustusburg, makerspaces, maker initiatives and regional partners reflected on their profiles, strengths and needs and named the soft skills already practised in maker work – teamwork, responsibility, improvisation, peer learning, moderation and failure culture. The action connected around 12 makerspaces and related organisations as a first “Maker Connect” network group, with a follow-up meeting scheduled for 12 June in Chemnitz and an ATB Chemnitz advisory trajectory to support profile-building and professionalisation.

Annexes

Annex 1 – Local Action 4a: Connecting the Soft Skill Dots in Upper Austria (PP2)

Annex 2 – Local Action 4a: Connecting the Soft Skill Dots in Veneto (PP4)

Annex 3 – Local Action 4a: Connecting the Soft Skill Dots in Limburg (PP8)

Annex 4 – Local Action 4a: Connecting the Soft Skill Dots in Chemnitz (PP10)



C. Pilot Test Zone B: Expats for Home

1. Test Zone Approach

The Pilot Test Zone B: Expats for Home aimed to explore how expats could contribute to the regional development through strengthening soft skills, innovation capacity and knowledge transfer in non-metropolitan industrial regions. The test zone focused on identifying and engaging individuals originating from the participating regions who had relocated either to larger national urban centres or abroad and had acquired valuable professional and international experience. The intention was to create sustainable connections between these individuals and local stakeholders through structured engagement formats that enabled the sharing of knowledge, experience and professional networks.

Sustainability of the Expat Database

A key outcome of the pilot was the establishment of a living expat database, conceived not only as a mapping tool but as a long-term resource for maintaining relationships between the regions and their expat communities. The database will continue to be maintained and further developed after the end of the project. New contacts will be identified and added through the existing networks of the partner organisations, recommendations from community members, networking activities, future projects and cooperation with organisations and networks working with expats and internationally experienced professionals.

In the Košice region, the expat survey remains online, open and continuously available for new responses. CIKE will regularly promote it through its social media channels and other networking activities in order to reach new expats and encourage them to join the database. The database will therefore remain a living and continuously evolving resource rather than a static list of contacts. The database is already being used to involve expats in regional development beyond the pilot activities. One of the expats identified through the database has been engaged in the preparation of the regional strategy for soft skills development, demonstrating how the database can serve as a basis for continued involvement of expats in regional development processes.

In the Gorenjska region, BSC Kranj will continue to maintain and further develop the database of Slovenian expats and professionals living and working abroad. The cooperation with associations, organisations and networks connecting Slovenians abroad, including VTIS Association, will provide an important channel for reaching new contacts. The database will gradually be expanded through existing networks, recommendations, events, project activities and cooperation with organisations working with Slovenian professionals abroad. Particular attention will be given to individuals whose knowledge, international experience and professional or business connections could contribute to regional development.

In both regions, the long-term aim is to move beyond simply maintaining a database of contacts and gradually develop it into an active network of knowledge, expertise and international connections. Database members may be invited to contribute to regional activities as speakers, mentors, experts, focus group members or connectors to international networks. Depending on their expertise, interest and availability, selected expats may also take on mentor or ambassador functions, supporting local stakeholders, sharing international experience and helping to maintain links between the expat community and their home region.

The database will therefore provide a basis for future cooperation and knowledge transfer beyond the pilot period, including future activities, networking and regional development initiatives involving companies, entrepreneurs, young people, creatives, researchers and other regional stakeholders. The long-term objective is to use the network as a resource for future projects, regional development activities and new opportunities for cooperation between the regions and their internationally experienced communities.



Target Groups

The pilot addressed the needs of two main target groups. The primary target group consisted of regional expats, including entrepreneurs, researchers, academics, professionals and other skilled individuals living outside their home regions. The pilot provided opportunities for these individuals to reconnect with their home regions and contribute to local development. The secondary target group included entrepreneurs, creatives, young professionals and other regional actors in the Košice and Gorenjska regions who could benefit from international perspectives, workshops, networking and soft skills development opportunities.

Joint Methodological Approach

A joint methodological approach was developed and implemented by the pilot partners. The approach combined regional expat mapping and pilot testing of engagement formats. Both partners followed a common six-step methodology consisting of:

- 1) identification and mapping of regional expats,
- 2) development of an expat database,
- 3) assessment of willingness of expats to engage,
- 4) identification of preferred cooperation formats,
- 5) determination of priority soft skills and regional needs,
- 6) implementation and testing of selected engagement formats.

Overview of Local Pilot Tests

PP5 – CIKE, Creative Industry Košice, Slovakia

Local pilot test: Expats for Košice Region

The pilot focused on mapping regional expats, identifying their potential contribution to regional development and testing engagement formats that connected globally experienced professionals with local stakeholders to support soft skills development and knowledge transfer.

PP6 – BSC, Business Support Centre Kranj, Slovenia

Local pilot test: Bringing Global Experience Home

The pilot tested a range of interactive learning, networking and dialogue-based formats involving expats to strengthen soft skills, community engagement and connections between local actors and internationally experienced professionals.

Test Zone Leadership

The test zone was led by PP5 – Creative Industry Košice (CIKE), Slovakia, which coordinated the joint methodological framework, facilitated cooperation and knowledge exchange between partners and supported the documentation and evaluation of pilot activities.

Peer mentoring/observation

CIKE and BSC Kranj maintained regular cross-wise cooperation throughout the implementation of the Expats for Home strand. Beyond the exchanges during partner meetings, the partners remained in contact by email and through online calls, consulting each other on the preparation and implementation of their local pilot



activities. They shared practical experiences, discussed challenges and provided mutual feedback on the engagement of expats, stakeholder outreach, tested formats and database-related activities.

CIKE and BSC Kranj maintained regular cross-wise cooperation throughout the implementation of the Expats for Home strand. Beyond the exchanges during partner meetings, the partners remained in contact by email and through online calls, consulting each other on the preparation and implementation of their local pilot activities. They shared practical experiences, discussed challenges and provided mutual feedback on the engagement of expats, stakeholder outreach, tested formats and database-related activities.

This ongoing peer mentoring and observation allowed the partners to follow each other's implementation processes, provide practical support and identify possible improvements to their own local activities. The partners also monitored implementation progress during the 3rd partner meeting in Slovenia.

Consistency review

Consistency between the two local pilots was ensured through the common six-step methodology, which provided a shared basis for mapping expats, developing the database, assessing their willingness to engage, identifying suitable cooperation formats and testing selected engagement activities. As part of the consistency review, the partners cross-reviewed the pilot practice report and exchanged feedback to ensure consistency and quality across the two local pilots. The Test Zone B leader (CIKE) also reviewed local pilot application entries and conducted a final quality check of the pilot documentation. The partners jointly assessed the implementation and jointly elaborated the pilot implementation report, while the local activities were documented in the respective Local Action templates.

Joint reflection

Joint reflection took place through the assessment of the two local pilot implementations and through the joint development of the pilot blueprint. The partners brought together the experiences from the Košice and Gorenjska regions, compared the different approaches to engaging expats and reflected on the lessons learned, practical results and potential transferability of the tested formats.

A specific topic of joint reflection was the long-term sustainability of the living expat database. Based on the experience from both regions, the partners discussed how the databases can be continuously maintained and expanded and how they can evolve from a mapping tool into an active network supporting future knowledge exchange and cooperation between expats and their home regions.

The partners also reflected on possible future roles for selected members of the expat community, including mentor, speaker, expert, focus group member or ambassador functions. Such roles could help maintain active links with the expat community, facilitate the transfer of international knowledge and experience and connect regional stakeholders with wider international networks.

Joint reflection also took place across all pilots during the online all-partner Inspired-by session on 29 June 2026, where CIKE presented the Košice pilot and shared implementation experience, key findings and lessons learned with the wider project partnership.

2. Joint Implementation

The overview below summarises how Test Zone B was implemented, from the joint concept phase through local implementation and reflection. It follows the same logic as the concept phase, presented here in retrospect.



Timing	Pilot team / single partner	Joint / local key activities
Preparation phase (Mar - Jun 2025)		
Mar 25	Pilot team	Joint concept development and definition of the Expats for Home methodology during the 2 nd partner meeting in Czechia.
Apr – May 2025	Pilot team	Joint refinement of the pilot concept, target groups, mapping criteria and engagement formats.
May 25	BSC Kranj	Meeting resulting in agreement on cooperation between Association VTIS and BSC Kranj for autumn events.
May – Jun 25	Single partners	Preparation of regional expat mapping approach in the Gorenjska region and in the Košice region.
Implementation phase (Jun 2025 - Apr 2026)		
Jun – Sep 25	Pilot team	Exchange on engagement formats; selected formats to pilot: workshops, radio broadcast, expats interviews, expats brunch.
July – Sep 25	CIKE	1 st phase of expats mapping. Tested approach: contacting expats from our contacts network, cooperation with organisations working with expats.
Sep 25	BSC Kranj	Delivery of pilot activity: Radio broadcast with one of the expats from the expat database.
Oct 25	BSC Kranj	Delivery of pilot activity: Online Event for boosting soft skills in the region: How to publicly speak like Americans (A soft skills workshop focused on enhancing public speaking confidence and clarity, modelled on American communication styles).
Oct 25	BSC Kranj	Delivery of pilot activity: Event for boosting soft skills in the region: The Sweet Skill Set (participants were engaged in hands-on pastry decorating activities that were thoughtfully designed to foster and highlight key soft skills).
Nov 25	Pilot team	Jointly monitoring of ongoing pilot implementation in 3 rd partner meeting Slovenia.
Nov 25	BSC Kranj	Delivery of pilot activity: Event for boosting soft skills in the region: Expat Brunch - Unusual Career(s) & Global Insights (A relaxed, inspiring brunch event where participants met an international expert with an unconventional career path and gained insights into global opportunities, soft skills and life beyond borders.)
Nov 25	BSC Kranj	Delivery of pilot activity: Event for boosting soft skills in the region: HR Challenges (Participants gained valuable insights into current workforce trends, innovative HR practices and real-world strategies for attracting, developing and retaining talent in a rapidly changing work environment.)
Jan – Mar 26	CIKE	2 nd phase of expats mapping. Tested approach: social media campaign – organic and paid promo.



Jan – Mar 26	CIKE	Collection of participant feedback, assessment of planned tested formats and database set-up.
Apr 26	CIKE	Delivery of pilot activity: Two Workshops - Soft Skills Lab – workshops focused on soft skills development based on the movement - led by the expat.
Mar - Apr 26	CIKE	Delivery of pilot activity: Expat Interview for online journal Invisible Mag.
Assessment and reporting phase (Apr – May 2026)		
Mar – Apr 26	Pilot team	Jointly assessing pilot implementation in 4 th partner meeting Germany.
Until May 26	Pilot team	Jointly elaborating pilot implementation report.
Roll-out phase (Jun – Nov 2026) – to come		
Until Sep 2026	Single partners	Locally defining future action planning based on pilot results.
Until Oct 2026	Pilot team	Jointly elaborating pilot blueprint.
Nov 2026	Pilot team	Disseminate blueprint and pilot findings to regional organisations and policymakers.

3. Local Pilot Tests

The two local pilot tests are summarised below and documented in full in the annexed local action templates from the x-Inno Radar toolbase.

Gorenjska region – PP6, BSC – Business Support Centre Kranj

Business Support Centre Kranj tested several formats designed to connect internationally experienced Slovenians with the local community through soft skills development and knowledge exchange. Activities included a radio interview with a Slovenian living abroad, the hands-on pastry Sweet Workshop and an x-Talk event featuring an internationally experienced professional. Through workshops, storytelling and informal discussions, participants gained new perspectives and inspiration from international experience.

Košice region – PP5, CIKE – Creative Industry Košice

Creative Industry Košice focused on activating the potential of people who left the region and are now working in other cities or abroad. The main idea was to connect these expats with the region again and involve them in regional development and sharing their experience.

As part of the pilot, a structured mapping of expats was carried out, followed by testing selected collaborative and learning formats for their engagement in regional development activities. Overall, the



activity combined data collection, database building and practical piloting to explore new ways of strengthening regional collaboration and knowledge transfer.

Annexes

Annex 5: Local Action 4b – Bringing Global Experience Home

Annex 6: Local Action 4b – Expats for Košice Region

Disclaimer

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