

ENGINE-HUBs

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Creating “Circular” Business by young ENGINEers at the cross-border area of Greece-Bulgaria

About ENGINE-HUBs

ENGINE-HUBs is a project co-funded by the Interreg Greece-Bulgaria programme. The main aim of the project is to identify business opportunities in the area of circular economy in the Cross – Border area of Greece-Bulgaria and to create a **structure** through which business ideas of potential entrepreneurs will be transformed into businesses.

The structure will deliver a new business approach to enhance entrepreneurship of young scientists building on three pillars: knowledge, mentoring/coaching and networking.

The project focuses on the provision of assistance through 4 HUBs to the new entrepreneurs for the implementation of their business plans and not only the development of these plans so that the new enterprises can be operative before project's ending or 2 years after at the latest.

The beneficiaries

Ninety (90) young entrepreneurs with the better business plans will receive support by the project (ENGINE-Hubs academy) in order to implement their business plans under the strong support of experts and trainers during a training campus for two weeks period. They will receive support in the topics of the Supplies, marketing, sales and financing. It should be noticed that the project focuses mainly in the provision of assistance to the new entrepreneurs for the implementation of the selected business plans and not the development of the plans so that the new enterprises can be operative before project's ending or one year after its completion at the latest.

Activities & Objectives

The launching and operation of this structure is to be achieved through the establishment and operation of two “one-stop-shop” offices (ENGINE-HUBs) within the professional chambers and two antennas-centers in the business chambers. The HUBs will provide motivation, trainings, counseling, hospitality space and other related support for emerging young entrepreneurs while it will link the new enterprises with the market. Information and motivation campaign towards young engineers in order to participate in the project will be organized. Information on the principles of the circular economy concept and guidelines on how to develop a business plan will be provided to young engineers in order to be prepared and participate in the competition for new “circular business” ideas.



ENGINE Academy

The ENGINE Academy was established within the ENGINE-HUBs project in order to provide mentoring/coaching for the implementation of the selected business plans. The ENGINE Academy aimed to provide support to the new entrepreneurs to network with the market.

For this, 4 thematic seminars were organised by the Federation of Industries of North Greece. The first seminar took place on 17.07 and was related to Sales where the beneficiaries had the opportunity to come across some basic sales' principles. The second seminar took place on 19.07 and had to do with some basic Marketing principles and promotional guidelines. The third seminar was organised on 26.07 focusing on how to familiarize the beneficiaries to financial management of their businesses. The last seminar, related to the regulations and law was organised on 27.07.



P2P Meetings

In the context of the ENGINE Academy, young entrepreneurs were informed about the content of business plans and how to develop one.

For this, Person to Person meetings were organised from the Federation of Industries of North Greece.

These meetings were mainly focused on how to develop the business plan in an effective manner, so as to develop sustainable plans, that can be implemented in a realistic way, keeping in mind the current challenges and needs of the market. The instructor gave all important guidelines to the beneficiaries in order to further assist them to develop their business plans.



Circular Economy lectures

The Technical Chamber of Greece organised a four hours lecture, that took place in two days, 25.07 & 28/07. Each hour was dedicated to a specific subject, related to circular economy. The main aim of these lectures was to provide know-how and technical knowledge related to the existing technologies and best practices on the emerging sectors of circular economy to the beneficiaries of the ENGINE-HUBs project. The subjects that were mainly discussed were: Renewables and circular economy, biowaste-agricultural production and circular economy, Innovative Industries and circular economy and lastly, circular cities.

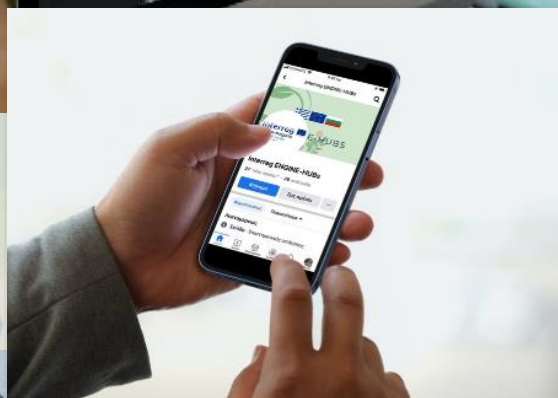
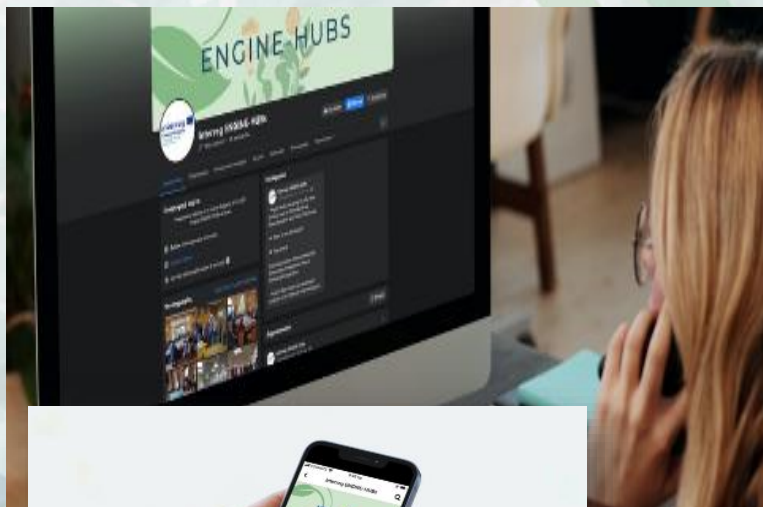
Don't forget to follow us!

ENGINE-HUBs

Website & Facebook page

Project's official website is fully operating and can be found [here](#).

As long as it concerns the development of the Facebook page, you can find the page under the name: “Interreg ENGINE HUBs” or... you can just click [here!](#)



ENGINE-HUBs Leaflet

A leaflet was developed with a view to inform the general public, and all interested parties, about the project's activities, the background, the main target group and the objectives of the project, as well as information for the partnerships that the project consists of.

ENGINE-HUBs Poster

ENGINE-HUBs poster has been developed in order to promote the project to all potential interested parties and to provide the appropriate information to intrigue the public to look up the project, its activities and its goals.



Establishment of ENGINE-HUBs

1. The ENGINE-HUB of Lead Beneficiary TEE-TKM

The equipment regarding the establishment of ENGINE-HUBs has been purchased and installed.



2. The ENGINE-HUB of Project Beneficiary 2 - SBE was established in August 2022, within the premises of SBE.

Equipment bought:
PCs, laptops, copier



Establishment of ENGINE-HUBs

3. The ENGINE-HUB of Project Beneficiary 3 – UCEB

The newly established office of HUB Blagoevgrad is located in the central part of the city of Blagoevgrad on "Arsenii Kostentsev" street in the landmark "Kupola" building owned by the municipality of Blagoevgrad and is right next to the central square "Georgi Izmirliiev - Makedonche".

It has a room for conference calls and training, as well as two work rooms for assigned staff. It includes a video conference system, a 65" TV monitor, 5 computers with monitors, a tablet, laptops, a color printer and a high-speed copier.



4. Project Beneficiary 4 – CCI-GD is proceeding with the development of ENGINES-HUB. The ENGINE-HUB is still under construction and it is going to be ready soon!



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