

OUTPUT FACT SHEET

Pilot actions (including investment, if applicable)

Version 3

Project index number and acronym	CE1492 - 4STEPS
Output number and title	O.T3.1 - Pilot actions on improvement of business activities
Investment number and title (if applicable)	
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	DEX Innovation Centre
Project website	https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/4STEPS.html
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Summary description of the pilot action (including investment, if applicable) explaining its experimental nature, demonstration character and transnational added value

The pilot action in the Czech Republic focused on the development of knowledge and skills to help companies digitise and facilitate their transition to the fourth industrial revolution, supporting the objectives that our regions are trying to meet in their RIS3 strategies. Training and its support for the workers and managers of SMEs will help to meet these objectives and boost our region's competitiveness.

In the framework of the Pilot Action, a training concept for managers was developed, workshops were implemented to develop digital skills of employees, but also a seminar was implemented based on the developed concept to prepare managers for the processes that lead to the successful adoption of I4.0 for their companies. Last but not least, a special event was implemented to connect important stakeholders and companies and to strengthen their cooperation and investment.

The aim was to implement a comprehensive series of events that together show all aspects that lead to a successful transition to the next phase of the industrial revolution. This involves the implementation of workshops aimed at developing knowledge to use technologies such as 3D printing, PCB, CNC or laser. A workshop that helps managers understand the process of digitalization of their company and what benefits and threats it brings and, last but not least, a meeting that brought together important actors, but above all companies interested in digitalization and those who can help them - technology suppliers.

The aim of the workshops, which are part of the pilot event, is to disseminate the latest information on the topic of I4.0, access to finance and to help companies work through the processes and challenges on the road to digitalisation. Thanks to the digital assessments conducted by DIH experts, companies will gain insight into how successful they are and where they need to raise funds and staff. The end result of the event for each company is a detailed assessment of the current state, which areas need to be improved and recommendations on how to kick-start the necessary processes and which experts can help them reach their final goal.

NUTS region(s) concerned by the pilot action (relevant NUTS level)

The pilot action was implemented in small and medium-sized enterprises from the NUTS 3 region - Liberec Region, Jihomoravský region, Hradec Králové Region but also Prague

Investment costs (EUR), if applicable

DEX Innovation Centre did not use any investment costs in this output.

Expected impact and benefits of the pilot action for the concerned territory and target groups and leverage of additional funds (if applicable)

The target group for all our pilot events was mainly SMEs, but we wanted to give the opportunity to all companies in the country. Therefore, we not only invited companies from our region to the events, but we reached out to more than 3000 companies to give them the opportunity to get involved, learn and be there. The pilot event was implemented to help those attending to improve their knowledge and skills and also to help them make new contacts and establish new partnerships. These were our objectives that were met, which we confirmed from the feedback, but also from the fact that companies are indeed already trying to establish collaborations that will take them one step closer to achieving not only our objectives - to digitize SMEs and facilitate their transformation to adopt I4.0

The pilot is a great start on how these companies, and others, can benefit from the activities implemented in the pilot and how we will be able to continue to help other companies interested in self-development and ease their way to fulfilling their goals.

So far no additional funds were leveraged, but there are expected investments from side of involved companies into their digitisation process, that were partly facilitated by our Pilot actions

Sustainability of the pilot action results and transferability to other territories and stakeholders

The pilot action will continue to serve to educate companies and their employees and will continue to help our region to achieve the goals we have set. We have already verified several times that educational workshops are meaningful and it is necessary to support employees, tradesmen, as well as company owners in their development and, above all, to implement events that can connect them with each other. During the project, it became clear that there is a huge number of companies that are discovering the topic of I4.0 theory and thus the number of those who will need to explain and learn its processes, technologies and other parts will increase. All the activities have proved to be beneficial and therefore our aim will be to continue all of them, both separately and as a whole, and to provide those interested with a comprehensive view of the subject.

These activities that have already taken place and those that are yet to come will help not only the companies but also us, as the more workshops, seminars and events we organise the better knowledge, skills and experience we will be able to pass on.

If applicable, contribution to/ compliance with:

- relevant regulatory requirements
- sustainable development - environmental effects. In case of risk of negative effects, mitigation measures introduced
- horizontal principles such as equal opportunities and non-discrimination

All horizontal principles have been respected and integrated into this output (project). The pilot action was in compliance with relevant regulatory requirements, sustainable development, equal opportunities and non-discrimination.

References to relevant deliverables (e.g. pilot action report, studies), investment factsheet and web-links

If applicable, additional documentation, pictures or images to be provided as annex

This output is directly linked to:

- D.T3.4.1 - Creation of educational concepts for managers for transformation towards Industry 4.0.
- D.T3.4.2 - Workshop piloting educational concept for managers of SMEs
- D.T3.4.3 - FabLab workshops for SMEs demonstrating exploitation of rapid prototyping using advanced manufacturing
- D.T3.4.4 - Match-making event creating linkages among Industry 4.0 SMEs and investors (notably VC)
- D.T3.4.5 - Pilot report