

## I3E Institutions:

-  **Industrial Systems Institute / R.C. ATHENA**  
Greece
-  **Austrian Academy of Sciences**  
Austria
-  **ecoplus, The Business Agency of Lower Austria Ltd**  
Austria
-  **Foundation: Cluster of Information and Communication Technologies**  
Bulgaria
-  **Romanian Association for Electronic and Software Industry**  
Romania
-  **University of Maribor**  
Slovenia
-  **Jozef Stefan Institute**  
Slovenia
-  **Regional Development Fund of the Region of Western Greece**  
Greece
-  **Italian Executives Alliance**  
Italy
-  **Technical University of Sofia**  
Bulgaria
-  **University of Kragujevac**  
Serbia
-  **Odessa National Polytechnic University**  
Ukraine

## Local Contact

### **INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS INSTITUTE (I.S.I) / R.C. ATHENA**

Patras Science Park Building, Stadiou str., Platani,  
265 04, PATRAS

**Contact Person:** Athanasios Kalogeras

T: +30 2610 910.308

F: +30 2610 910.306

e-mail: kalogeras@isi.gr

www.isi.gr



## SOUTH EAST EUROPE

Transnational Cooperation Programme

Jointly for our common future



Programme co-funded by the  
EUROPEAN UNION

SEE EoI/A/219/1.1/X

**Priority Axis 1:** Facilitation of Innovation and  
Entrepreneurship

**AoI 1.1:** Develop technology and innovation  
networks in specific fields

## Lead Partner:

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F: +30 2610 910.306

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■ **Industrial Informatics**

■ **Embedded Systems**

## The Problem

**Industrial Informatics** and **Embedded Systems** represent two sectors of high importance for the **SEE** area. The manufacturing sector contributes around 22% of EU GDP, whereas 50% of top European industries perform research in the Embedded Systems Sector. **Both sectors contribute largely to EU competitive advantage in the global market.**

In the **SEE** area there is significant critical mass with reference to research in the above sectors both from academia and industry. Yet, a first challenge is to align this research potential towards a common research agenda that could increase the overall research visibility of the area. On the other hand there appears to be a missing link towards innovation and entrepreneurship, attributing to research not being transformed into innovative products and services.

## Project Objectives

The main project objective is the promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship in the **SEE** area, placing emphasis on **advanced products and services associated with the sectors of industrial informatics and embedded systems.** The project comprises the following specific objectives:

- Formulation of an extensive transnational network of technology and innovation stakeholders, comprising institutions from academia and enterprises as well as facilitators of innovation including innovation poles, technology platforms, innovation clusters, existing networks of excellence and public authorities in the **SEE** area
- Elaboration of a transnational strategic research agenda (SRA) in the sectors of industrial informatics and embedded systems so that research efforts of different research groups in different countries are aligned towards common goals that could contribute to the creation of a critical research mass that will increase the international visibility of the area
- Elaboration of a Methodology Guideline for Innovation (MGI) based on the analysis of international good practices for the transformation of research to innovation as well as the evaluation of existing financial tools and their applicability in the **SEE** area that can make this transformation feasible
- Promotion of the SRA and MGI towards all stakeholders in the area through national and international workshops that will help build new capacities for adopting innovation in the sectors of interest
- Strategic networking with other EC initiatives and relevant structures
- Strategic involvement of the public sector and private innovation financing mechanisms so that both Structural Funds and private financing may be utilized for the promotion of innovation

## Project Activities

- Transnational project coordination and management
- Development of a transnational network of stakeholders and establishment of a wide consensus between them relevant to the sectors of **industrial informatics** and **embedded systems**
- Elaboration of a transnational Strategic Research Agenda related to the above sectors in the **SEE** area
- Study and analysis of good practices addressing the transformation of research to innovation and the financial tools available
- Elaboration of a Methodology Guideline for Innovation
- Capacity building towards area stakeholders relevant to the support and adoption of innovation
- Dissemination and exchange of information activities involving the networked stakeholders, as well as public authorities and possible private financing mechanisms and related to the project outcomes

## Target Groups

- Academia/Research institutions performing applied research in the **industrial informatics** and **embedded systems sectors**
- The enterprise world and in particular innovative SMEs either performing R&D activities or being end-users in the aforementioned sectors
- Enterprise representation organizations such as Chambers or Commerce and Industry
- Facilitators of innovation in the area comprising technology platforms, innovation clusters, innovation poles, existing networks of excellence
- Public Administration at a regional / national level
- Private Financing Mechanisms such as business angels, seed capitals, venture capitals
- The general public



## The Partnership

The project consortium has twelve (12) partners from eight (8) countries, presenting strong competencies that guarantee the effectiveness in achieving the project objectives. Overall, partner competences can be classified as following:

Three partners are involved in setting up technology platforms

Two partners are members of ARTEMISIA Joint Undertaking (JU)

Two partners are associated or manage innovative clusters

One partner represents an association of 430 ICT companies

Three partners are involved in the establishment of networking activities

Two partners are regional development agencies

Seven of the partners represent academic / research institutions with strong presence in the thematic disciplines of the project