

D3.2 Workshop Reports

This report constitutes deliverable 3.2 of the MIRIAD project, which consists of reports of the workshops held in each of the four regions. This deliverable follows on from D3.1, which outlined the materials to be presented at these sessions. These reports, therefore, provide confirmation of those who attended the workshops, an outline of the topics raised and discussed by those individuals and a record of the feedback received by all partners in the MIRIAD project.

A summary of the outcomes of each workshop are as follows:

Yorkshire and the Humber

It is clear from the above that the workshops provided an informed debate within the region regarding the aspirations of MIRIAD and the state of policymaking in the area of R&D and innovation. Furthermore, it helped cement engagement by the MIRIAD team with a wide array of key stakeholders. However, these initial workshops, along with the consultations, are just the starting point. The forthcoming workpackages will create further synergies, which will both inform the MIRIAD process, as well as ensure that the impact of MIRIAD is maximised. From the workshops it became abundant that a critical actor for the success of MIRIAD will be Yorkshire Forward, the regional development agency. Therefore, it is vital that MIRIAD engages effectively this institution. Fortunately, Yorkshire Forward not only supported the original MIRIAD bid, but has further expressed a strong interest in furthering regional R&D related policy. In particular, their interests consist of the role of the region's universities and its SMEs, which provides a good connection with the objectives of MIRIAD.

Central Macedonia and East Macedonia/Thrace

A number of participants showed interest in contributing to the dissemination effort of MIRIAD. In this respect, SEPVE has asked SEERC to repeat the presentation to the workshop in various locations in Northern Greece as part of SEPVE's annual road-show program at Prefecture level. Similarly, the representative of Democretio University has asked for SEERC's presentation to its annual conference on R&D in the region that will involve all regional stakeholders. Representatives expressed particular interest in being informed about R&D developments in Bulgaria and Turkey and spoke about the importance of the data-information presented to them for the Greek regions and the need for such a task to be undertaken on a regular basis considering the limited availability of regional R&D data and their outdated nature.

Thrace (Turkey)

A number of participants showed interest in contributing to the dissemination effort of MIRIAD. In this respect, KOSGEB has asked ITICU to repeat the presentation to the workshop in the regional chamber offices where the industrialists should be invited. Regional industrial and commercial chambers invited the MIRIAD team to their premises in order to discuss the solid steps of alliance in dissemination of the knowledge in the region. They promised to help for the SME scorecards. They also asked help of MIRIAD team to prepare the regional competence catalogue as a

European Project. Representatives expressed particular interest in being informed about R&D developments in Bulgaria and Greece and asked for being informed about all the data collected in the project regularly. The TUBITAK proposal to have a regional informative round table for the research funds is planned to be realised in the short term. The NII representative will take the proposal of pilot innovation centre project in the region to TUSIAD and Sabancı University.

South East Bulgaria

All participants showed keen interest in participating in the future workshops, exchange visits as well as contributing to the final policy analysis and contribution. A number of participants showed interest in contributing to the dissemination effort of MIRIAD. Participants expressed particular interest in being informed about R&D developments in Greece and Turkey. It was suggested the MIRIAD team to join the efforts and competencies with the teams working on the preparation of Regional Innovation Strategies in the 5 planning regions in the country.