

MaPEeR SME Partners

European SME Expert Panel

• The European SME Experts' Panel is being launched by MAPEER SME, with the participation of relevant experts, stakeholders, SMEs and small business associations in order to produce recommendations towards the enhancement of research activities to be carried out by the SME companies.

• The Panel will enhance synergies between EU policies addressing SMEs: research and technological development, innovation, enterprise and industry, regional, education and culture policies.

The key activities of the Panel are:

- think-tank on new measures, instruments, procedures, policies approach to foster Research by SMEs;
- discussion about the key objectives for the development and enhancement of SMEs advanced research; and
- advise DG Research; DG Enterprise and Industry; DG INFSO and the SMEs' policy-makers at three levels (regional / national / European).

• The analysis of the needs of SMEs to overcome barriers for innovations activities is the focus of MAPEER SME. This analysis will ensure that the recommendations issued by the European SME Experts Panel will be appropriate and well founded. This work will also provide relevant opinions concerning the suitability of the currently available Research, Development and Innovation (R&D&I) programmes and initiatives for the European SMEs.

• The membership in the SME Panel is free of charge and is open to any interested parties who feel they could contribute to the set objectives. If you are interested in becoming a member of the European SME Expert Panel, please contact us.

For further information on MaPEeR SME activities in your country please contact:

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**National Agency for Development of Small
and Medium Enterprises**
| www.nadsme.sk



**Agency for economic development
of Municipality Prijedor**
| www.preda.rs.ba



Paving the way for SME-friendly R&D&I programmes



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www.mapeer-sme.eu
www.research4smes.eu

The **MAPEER SME** project is supporting activities to create the background conditions in which Research, Development and Innovation (R&D&I) is welcomed, supported and nourished in European SMEs.

The ultimate goal is to increase the participation of SMEs in the EU research programmes, by improving the conditions for participation and overcoming the barriers for innovation activities. Accordingly MAPEER SME has defined some crucial objectives:

- Boost SME's research and innovation activities and performance by bringing down barriers for SMEs across the EU to get them into the "research and innovation loop".
- Provide R&D&I funding plan of Europe by establishing a database of regional, national and EU level R&D&I programmes
- Assess the needs and expectations of SMEs and transform their views into recommendations for policy makers and programme managers
- Utilise and benefit from synergies of EU initiatives in the R&D&I field and initiate structured policy dialogue between the various players at EU and national, regional levels (DG RTD, REGIO, EAC and ENTR, along with national and regional level) through the European Experts' Panel on SMEs.
- Set-up and establish sustainable mechanisms to provide advice to the EU, the national and regional policy makers and programme managers (from R&D&I related Ministries, research agencies and intermediaries) as well as SME Stakeholders.

Expected results

- Comprehensive, in-depth and cross-sectoral analysis on programmes and initiatives that assist the collaboration between R&D&I and SMEs
- On-line inventory of SME research programmes and initiatives
- Compendium of R&D&I Programmes & Initiatives for SMEs (EU member states plus Bosnia and Herzegovina including EU-level)
- Survey & report on barriers to innovation study at national and European level
- Synergies between various players at EU and national, regional levels through a European Expert Panel on SMEs.

Database of European Programmes

- MAPEER SME will analyse and develop a database of regional, national and European programmes that are either technology-orientated or cover joint R&D&I and also include those activities that encompass further education for SME staff, training, application of industrial science results or human resource studies, etc. if a scientific partner is involved.
- The database will provide useful information to interested SMEs on the analysed programmes and will serve as a map of funding sources for R&D&I activities.

