

VANGUARD INITIATIVE

The **Vanguard Initiative** is a unique alliance that gathers **39 of the most advanced industrial regions in Europe**, focused on stimulating industrial innovation and building European value-chains based on complementarities in **regional smart specialisation strategies**.

By connecting innovation ecosystems and sharing knowledge and facilities across its member regions, the Vanguard Initiative facilitates interregional collaboration, stimulates interregional innovation investments, strengthens open innovation, and speeds up the introduction and market-uptake of new products and innovations in Europe.

VI succeeded in obtaining special EC calls in the period 2021-27 called I3 for different innovations.

VI Regions

- Aragon
- Asturias
- Autonomous Province of Bolzano / Bozen – South Tyrol
- Autonomous Province of Trento / Trentino
- Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes
- Baden - Württemberg
- Basque Country
- Cantabria
- Catalunya
- Dalarna
- East and North Finland
- East Netherlands
- Emilia-Romagna
- Flanders
- Friuli Venezia Giulia
- Galicia
- Gävleborg
- Lombardia
- Lower Austria (Niederösterreich)
- Lower Saxony



- Małopolska
- Navarra
- Nord-Est (RO)
- Norte
- North Rhine-Westphalia
- NRW Logo: Rhein, Pferd und lippische Rose
- Örebro County
- Pays de la Loire
- Piemonte
- Randstad Region
- Saxony
- Saxony-Anhalt
- Scotland
- Skåne
- Slovenia
- South-Netherlands
- Tampere Region
- Värmland
- Wales
- Wallonia

Vanguard Initiative (VI) Pilots

S B R A

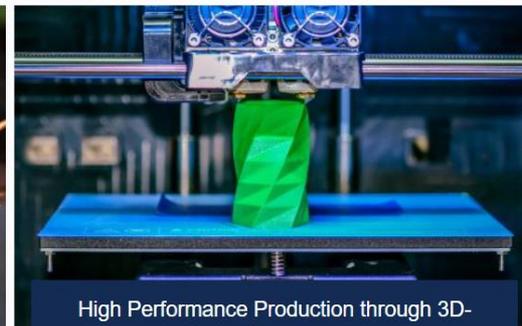
Slovenian Business & Research Association



Bio-Economy



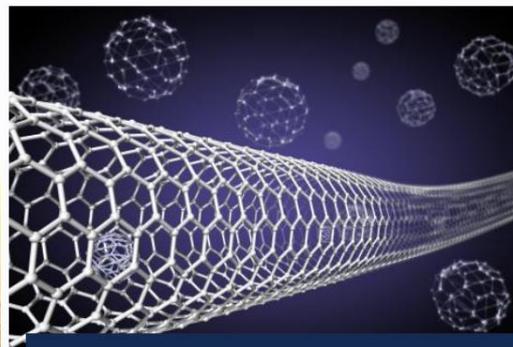
Efficient and Sustainable Manufacturing (ESM)



High Performance Production through 3D-Printing



Advanced Manufacturing for Energy Related Applications in Harsh Environments



New Nano-Enabled Products Pilot



Artificial Intelligence



Smart Health/ Personalised Medicine



Hydrogen (H2)

Our SBRA Structure

- **Established in 1999;**
- **Five employees;**
- **Cca 500,000 EUR annual budget;**
- **Connects business, research and local communities in Slovenia with other European business, research and local communities and the EU institutions and other public and private bodies at EU level;**
- **EU funding;**
- **High level events incl. conferences, promotion and collecting all useful info for our clients/members;**
- **Our clients are not only Slovenian entities since our presence, references and respect in Brussels date more than 20 years back in history**

Core Activities

- **Informing** members on economic developments, with a renewed focus on EU projects, programs and funds. A weekly scan of news, relevant calls, events, publications, etc. – disseminated via weekly e-news bulletins. Additional, bimonthly news bulletin regarding the economy.
- **Partner Search** – besides informing members of relevant EU programs and projects, we actively strive to find and search for relevant partners and potential project consortia.
- **Training** – preparing workshops and study trips for its members
- **Networking** – extremely active in networks such as ERRIN (European Regions Research and Innovation Network), IGLO (RTD Liaison Offices) **UnLiON**, and **ENDR**. These networks serve a variety of purposes. But also allow us to - alongside other liaison and regional offices - find relevant EU projects and build very competitive project consortia.
- **Promotional** events, publishing reports and organizing conferences. Publication **MOST** allows us to widely disseminate our members' achievements.

Organisation of numerous high-level events



Thank you!

Slovenian Business & Research Association

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