

INTERREG IVC Project „RECOMMEND“

Peer Assessment Workshop

Report

Author

Ingrid Rozhon (Lead Partner)

1st – 2nd April 2014
Ascoli Piceno, Italy

1st April 2014

1. Purpose of the Peer Assessment Workshop

- **Improving the feasibility of each RIP**
Each partner was asked to make recommendations on the existing challenges of each RIP;
- **Learning from best Practice Examples / Ascoli Piceno**
Study visit; Learning from each other & gaining new input for own regional work

2. Programme and presentations

2.1. Welcome by the host partner (Italy)

Domenico Vagnoni, Head of the European Politics Department of the Province of Ascoli, welcomed the RECOMMEND project team to Ascoli Piceno and emphasized the importance of RECOMMEND.

2.2. Presentation by Technopolis

Laura Roman, Consultant of Technopolis Ltd., gave an overview of the 2nd year capitalisation analysis on Eco-innovation & its projects.

For more information, please consult the presentation: 02 Interreg projects Technopolis at our project homepage RECOMMEND

2.3. Introduction by the moderator

Benjamin Kuscher, the moderator for the entire event and the overall RECOMMEND project manager highlighted the purpose and the procedure of the Peer Assessment Workshop. There three main topics were as follows:

I. Presentation of the 8 RIPs and its challenges:

Each partner will present his RIP and the status quo of its feasibility

- ✓ RIP Road Map
- ✓ WHY
- ✓ RIP HOW
- ✓ RIP self assessment

II. Improving the feasibility of each RIP:

Group discussion

- Each partner is asked to make recommendations on the existing challenges, obstacles and / or weakness of each partner RIP

III. Learning from best Practice Examples / Ascoli Piceno:

Study visit

- Learning from each other & gaining new input for own regional work

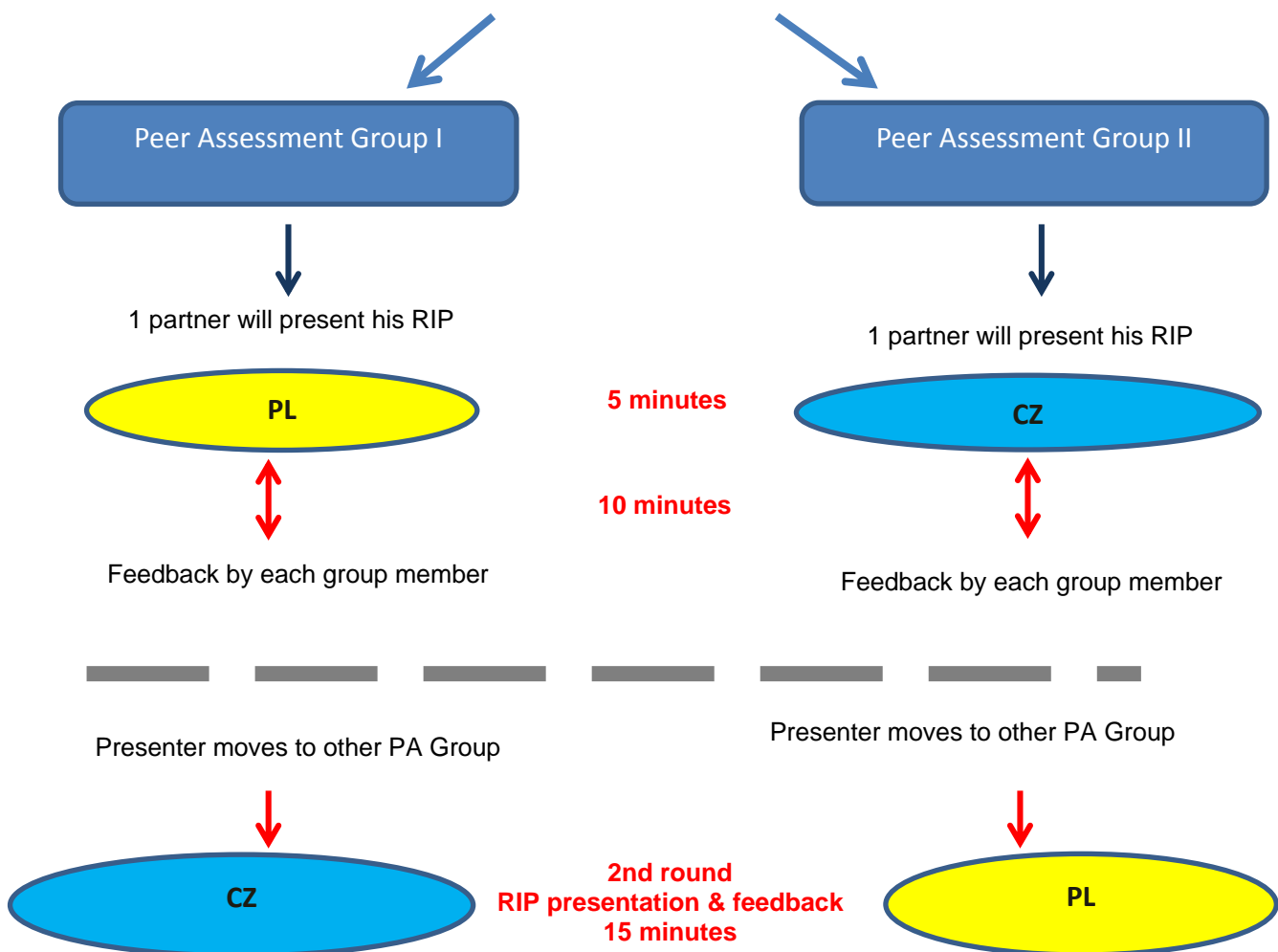
For more information, please consult the presentation: 01 Introduction by the moderator

2.4. 5 presentation rounds “Feedback with trust & respect” - all

At this workshop 2 working groups were founded. Each project partner had to present his RIP and his challenges / weaknesses / threats (=self assessment & RIP how) in front of each working group within 5 minutes. Then the group members were asked to give feedback, recommendations and / or suggestions how to improve the feasibility of each RIP- Target was that each RIP was evaluated by each group member and that each presenter of the RIP received useful input how to improve the feasibility of his RIP within the next months before the doc will get signed / approved by the responsible person.

The concept of the group discussion looked as follows:

2 working groups will be formed:



Comments:

The feedback was presented in a respectful, professional and helpful way by the partners to the partners. Each RIP was analysed by each partner and all got useful recommendations by partners how to increase the feasibility of his RIP.

Partner	Topic of RIP	New gained input for RIP via Peer Assessment Workshop
LP (PP 001)	Data base My Eco expert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close coordination with other RIPs which will be prepared by other departments from the Regional Government of Lower Austria who also run Interreg IVC projects in order to make use of potential synergies and to strengthen the output of each regional RIP. Sensitive focus on & strong involvement of "critical" key players who run similar products
PL (PP 002)	Innovation vouchers & developing clusters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More specific area of support eg. linked with the smart specialisation Developing already tested actions rather than introducing a completely new ones Putting emphasis on increasing awareness among potential beneficiaries Appropriate formulation of detailed and effective criteria for selection of operator
CZ (PP 004)	Strategy on how initiate, develop and manage innovation voucher scheme in South Bohemia	Concrete remarks on selection criteria of companies applying for vouchers
SI (PP 005)	Bionic Cluster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Important to have strong links between RIP activity and updated local strategy going forward and be aware of resources constraint set realistic targets in RIPs
EE (PP 006)	Green innovative award Eco-friendly company of the year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logo for winners and right to use this logo on winners promotional purposes Promotion of the contest in newspapers and maybe a short news on TV
IT(PP 007) – Province AP	Eco-Management Vouchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link Vouchers amounts to the eco-energetic efficiency level of the activity. Implement a quick funding procedure (15 days) by draw and after a very strict selection procedure Launch an annual contest for the most eco-friendly company in the territory
UK (PP 009)	Development of Peterborough wide green manufacturing cluster EMS cluster club and Eco design training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Important to have strong links between RIP activity and updated local strategy going forward and be aware of resources constraint
BG (PP 010, 011)	Implementing Pilot Innovation voucher scheme in Bulgarian Black Sea municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation: to focus our voucher scheme on one specific target group. PP010 / PP011 have to decide whether it should be SMEs or Tenant Councils More involvement / engagement of science. A concept has to be developed how to attract universities. A discussed option is the vouchers to

		<p>include funding of buildings research and examination for preparing recommendations for increasing energy efficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clear selection procedure of the winning projects is needed (e.g similar to Czech partner model of choosing projects). • Recommendation: planning an information & PR campaign that presents the vouchers scheme to the future users (e.g. inventing own Logo for winners, design and preparation of pilot innovation voucher scheme, develop concrete time plan, producing short image film, press release etc..). This is necessary because the voucher scheme will have to be introduced in a very hostile environment. There is an anti-European policy going Bulgaria related to the failure of the Europe's energy policy
--	--	--

General remark: It is recommended to analyse already existing and similar best practice examples in the related field-> often it is not necessary to invent the wheel but to adopt already existing successful solutions! See: www.eco-innovation.eu



2.5. 6th RECOMMEND Steering Group meeting

Minutes see separate document



2.6. Sightseeing tour & visit of Ascoli Piceno



2.7. Dinner in San Benedetto

2nd April 2014

2.8. Site visit in Ancona

The following presentations were made in the morning session in Ancona; target of all presentations was to give an overview on the region Ascoli Piceno & its activities in eco-management & eco-innovation / and its regional energy policy.

- **Mario Smargiasso – Head of the Energy Department of the Marche Regional Authority**
- **Lucio Pesetti – EU Programmes and Funds Responsible for the Marche Regional Authority.**
- **Marco Sotte – External Consultant for the Polytechnic University of the Marche Region.**



For more information please consult the presentation: 06 Presentazione Regione Marche

3. TO DO List

What	Who	When
Integration of the gained recommendations in the RIPs	all	1st June 2014
Finalising RIPs	all	30th June 2014
If possible letting RIP signed before the Final Conference	all	1 st Sept
Sending final RIP version for project homepage to Ingrid	all	1 st Sept 2014
Preparing template how each partner has gained from his participation in RECOMMEND	Ingrid R., Benjamin K.	1st June 2014
Filling in template who each could benefit from RECOMMEND	all	30 th July 2014
Networking with stakeholders	All	project end

