



European Network for Pilot Projects and Innovation Hubs

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WHY the NEED for EPPN?



- Difficult for companies to find pilot facilities and establish trust.
- Create a global overview of the existing **expertise** and **infrastructure** and exploit the existing potential by bridging complementary **capabilities**, **resources** and **demand**.
- Fill the gap between technology, testbeds and manufacturing and contribute to an enhanced innovation ecosystem and attractive business environments.
- Exploit the business potential of the existing Pilot Facilities.
- Foster the creation of high-quality innovation networks around the Pilot Production Lines. An innovation network and its quality are crucial to gear pilot production facilities.



EPPN Objectives



- Map the pilot production facilities at regional, national and European level.
- Create a **dynamic network** of fully connected and collaborating pilot lines to establish complete pilot ecosystems for key industrial value chains.
- Provide supporting tools and training to the pilot production facilities and Innovation Hubs to help them further develop the production businesses, reach out to new customers and potential investors.
- Extend the pilot production community built up from the European pilot projects and enhance engagement of relevant connections.
- Set the scene for the establishment of innovation hubs across the Member States and/or regions
- Effectively disseminate the services of the different pilot facilities outside their constituencies to increase the awareness and promote the links between technology providers (pilots), technology users (start-ups, SMEs & large companies), funding providers and regions.



EPPN



From Lab to Industry to Market











The Main concept:

Provide a digital platform and marketplace to bridge testbeds with industrial users











EPPN Concept





• **Stage 1**: A transversal step devoted to the development and deployment of an open innovation digital platform based on participatory knowledge sharing.

New products and services **New companies** High growth business activities along the nanotech fast changing value chain Support shared facilities and transnational access for rapid prototyping Increased number of successful startups Enhanced innovation ecosystem Easier combined funding Coordination and alignment of innovation policies

- **Stage 2**: Set up the EPPN through the development of business and communication tools.
- **Stage 3**: Develop and establish innovation hubs through the integration of pilot facilities and improving the offer of services within each network node.



EPPN Working groups



4 main operational areas:

WG Technical Collaboration

Links with other EC project cluster in order to help addressing joint pilot plant development issue:

- Sharing of facilities
- Characterisation equipment
- Safety
- Standards
- Modelling

WG Market & Finance

- Improve understanding of different financing options.
- Improve access to finance.
- Understand relevant market needs and penetration obstacles.
- Support business planning, development and sustainability.
- Support to define most appropriate business model.
- Increase cooperation with and among SMEs.
- Activate Market Place(s).

WG Training & Dissemination

Establish training needs and facilitate the promotion of Pilot Lines' Services and Products

- Identification of the training requirements
- Facilitation of the relevant training workshops
- Dissemination of Pilot Lines
- Working with other relevant organisations and regional networks to promote Pilot Line facilities.
- Open Access facilities

WG Policy & Regions

- Identify future research and innovation needs
- Coordinate input to future research policy and innovation directions
- Identify and recommend strategy development at European, national and regional leve
- Explore Synergies with national, regional initiatives including RTD&I Programming (Smart specialisation)
- Monitor best international practices



EPPN Main Outcomes



- Simple interface and single entry point One coordination "node" in Europe supporting the
 development of pilot production business and the access to new customers and potential investors.
- One digital platform and a smart knowledge digital hub for bridging pilot line facilities with SMEs,
 Startups, policy makers, investors and other possible actors in the ecosystem
- For Test beds:
 - ✓ Provide international branding, networking and outreach to SMEs
 - ✓ Promote Interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral projects
 - ✓ Promote sharing of experiences and good practices (e.g. regulatory, standards, IP, business models)
 - ✓ Support finding funding, including private investment
- For SMEs, startups and LEs
 - ✓ Will facilitate finding solutions and along value chains
 - √ help from lab to market
 - √ help for funding, including private investment
 - ✓ Provide information on clear access conditions





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