

## AGENZIA UMBRIA RICERCHE- UMBRIA, ITALY

### Short description of the organization

Agenzia Umbria Ricerche - AUR - is the Research Agency of the Umbria Region. AUR is a public body with statutory competences and scientific, organizational and financial autonomy. AUR focuses its research activities on social, economic and territorial issues and aims at supporting the Umbria Region in the design as well as the evaluation of the territorial, social and economic policies to promote the regional development. In addition to research activities, AUR acts as an Intermediary Body of the Umbria Region managing innovative projects and pilot actions delegated by the Umbria Region and co-financed by European Funds. During the last years, AUR has gained a solid experience in mobility schemes, in particular for young entrepreneurs, as well as in entrepreneurship development actions.

### Main areas of expertise:

- Research on socio- economical and territorial issues, including them such as entrepreneurship, industry and services sector in umbria, tourism and the cultural heritage, Poverty analysis, Women and Gender Analysis, the ICT sector, local finance and supply chains, the research and innovation sectors, to mention such a few.
- Plan and Management of projects co-financed by the ESF & ERDF - including Innovative Actions and the Interreg Programme
- Mobility schemes
- Youth Entrepreneurship
- Entrepreneurship in the world of school
- European Networks - Valorisation of research results and innovation through the triple helix model
- Enhancing historical, archaeological and cultural resources through business creation
- Monitoring and Evaluating ESF Projects and Programmes

### Past experience in EU-funded projects:

AUR has gained a large experience in the design, management, analysis and evaluation of European projects, in particular ESF and ERDF projects as well as Innovative Actions and the Interreg Programme.

### Experience in Interregional Cooperation

AUR has been involved in several interregional cooperation projects, providing support in policy analysis, monitoring and impact assessment. These projects are the following:

**"INNOREF" Project** "Innovation and Resource Efficiency as Driving Forces for sustainable Growth" "Code: 3E0016R - Umbria Region - Dept. Programmes for Land Management - Arch. Nicola Beranzoli - approved by Steering Committee (CIP) "INTERREG III C East Zone " in 2004, **evaluated as best practice in the Interreg III C area;**

**"MO.NO.PI"** - Code 3E00541I - "Monuments nomination and Pilot Implementation a san Alternative Form in the Religion Architect Tourism" - Umbria Region - Dept. Programmes for Land Management - approved by Steering Committee (CIP) "INTERREG III C East Zone;

**"PRO.GE.CO"** - Code 3E00541I - "Protection du territoire par le biais du génie écologique a l'échelle de bassin versant" - Umbria Region - Dept. Programmes for Land Management approved by Steering Committee (CIP) Rome, 2004;

“MEDISDEC – STARTMED” Projet – Code: 2004-04-2.1-I-053 - Recherche de convergence et cohérence dans l’aménagement de convergence et cohérence dans l’aménagement de L’ESPACE MEDITERRANEEN ;  
“PIC – RM” Projet – « Projets d’Initiative Commune des Régions Méditerranéennes » Code: 2004-04-2.1-F-055 ;  
« VILLAS » Project “Stately homes and castles” – Code: 3B074 – Interreg III B Cadses;  
« S.I.S.M.A. » Project – “System Integrated for Security Management Activities” – Code. 3B035 – Interreg III B Cadses;

### **Most recent experiences on innovative projects Co-Financed by Structural Funds – 2007 – 2013**

#### **“Ideas! New enterprises! “**

The pilot action aims to foster entrepreneurship in Umbria Region by enhancing the skills and capabilities of people with business ideas and promoting international mobility schemes in favour of a European dimension of knowledge. The project has been recognized as a good practice by the ESF: <http://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=495&langId=it&featuresId=263&furtherFeatures=yes>. At national level, a protocol agreement has been subscribed among 15 Italian Regions in the framework of “ESF in favour of research and innovation”, many of them have already started to implement the same project

#### **“Investing in Culture”**

This pilot project aims to turn historical, archeological, cultural and landscape areas of the Umbria Region into a competitive advantage for the Region as well as to create job opportunities by promoting international mobility schemes and entrepreneurship training.

#### **“Networking with Europe”**

It aims to promote the cooperation of networks and the exchange of good practices in the fields of management of networks and valorisation of research results.

#### **“Eurodyssée”**

It aims to create an exchange program among European regions in order to enable traineeships abroad in favour of young people resident in Umbria in order to offer them the possibility of developing a professional experience, as well as improving a foreign language. Umbria is the second region in Italy that has joined the Programme promoted by the Assembly of the European Regions.

#### **“Creativity Camp”**

It aims to encourage the development of an entrepreneurial culture in Umbria; by supporting young people to approach the world of employment and entrepreneurship.

#### **“Brain Back”**

It aims at studying the phenomenon of the emigration of the Umbria citizens to a foreign country; encouraging the return to Umbria of expatriate researchers and workers; promoting the creation of new enterprises while offering assistance to start a new business and encouraging international networking.

#### **“Promoting Entrepreneurship at Schools”**

The pilot action aims to promote a business culture as well as to develop an entrepreneurial spirit among young people, through the implementation of practical learning experiences

#### **Other projects co-financed by Structural Funds – 2007 - 2013**

- Actions for strengthening networks and technological districts through training and dissemination of research results in the territory – ROP - ESF Umbria 2007-2013, Objective 2 Axis IV - Human Capital
- Action system for monitoring and evaluating initiatives in the area of research financed by the ROP - ESF 2007-2013
- Creation of tools and indicators for governments and technicians of local bodies and professionals engaged in the preparation of plans and programs submitted to the SEA process.

- Advanced System Management and Control for the implementation of ROP-ESF training interventions by intermediate bodies
- Employment impact estimation of assistance policies to enterprises in Umbria Region
- Analysis of the mobbing phenomenon
- Social Accounting Matrix: a pilot experimentation aimed at building an Umbrian model

### **Networking activities**

At national level, a protocol agreement has been subscribed among 15 Italian Regions in the framework of "ESF in favour of research and innovation", many of them have started to implement Ideas project regarding the mobility of entrepreneurs, entrepreneurial training and financing.

At European level, a protocol agreement has been signed among West Sweeden, Catalunya (Spain) and Pays de la Loire (France). Moreover, we belong to the following networks: EARALL – working group "Mobility" and ESFCoNet.