

Evaluation of the Call „Smart Accelerator“ – Executive Summary



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Executive Summary

Managing Authority of the Operational Program Research, Development and Education (MA OP RDE) in relation with the preparation of the Call Smart Accelerator II carried out the thorough evaluation of experiences with the preparation and implementation of the previous Call Smart Accelerator I, as well as the evaluation of existing results of this Call – the process was held at the turn of 2017 and 2018. Findings from this evaluation will be used for preparation and possible modification of parameters of the second Call, as well as the findings served as argumentative basis for justification of the need of this type of intervention.

One of the accompanying phenomena of the intervention of the type of Smart Accelerator is quite long period between the start of the intervention and the delivery of observable results. This is caused mainly by the fact, that the intervention should initialize the system change in the different conditions (i.e. different conditions in supporting R&D development in each region), where each change of the system requires specific time. Therefore the quantity of first observable results varies in each region, moreover it is necessary to take into account also the regional specifics when judging the importance of this results – the result of rather minor importance in one region can be assessed as important step forward in other region. The above mentioned assumptions serves as the framework for perceiving the overall benefits of the Call Smart Accelerator and the need of its continuation in the form of the Call Smart Accelerator II.

One of the findings with general validity is the high need of continuation of the support of activities aimed at development of innovation potential in each region through the Call Smart Accelerator II. Without this support, the above mentioned system change in perception of the importance of the RDI support for the regional development would be highly inhibited or fully stopped.

This type of intervention is positively perceived by the political representation of all regions, in which the Call Smart Accelerator was implemented, as well as, despite the intervention limitations described above, first specific positive outputs of the Call can be observed.

Evaluation unambiguously confirmed the importance and benefits of the first Call and showed the interest of implementers (regions) about continuation of the intervention in the form of the Call Smart Accelerator II.

