



Slovenský živnostenský zväz (SZZ)
Slovak Craft Industry Federation



Conference and consecutive workshop Digitization, Robotics and Technical Modernization as tools for boosting productivity of SMEs

Venue: Benczúr House, 27. Benczúr Street, Budapest
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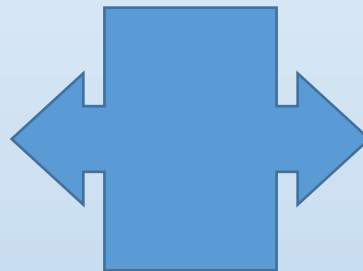
Goal of the project

As there is a large divergence in technological revolution between family and micro businesses and large companies, it is essential to know about the productivity of SMEs in the V4 countries, how they can renew themselves and how they can approach the productivity level of the market leading EU countries.

Methodology and tools of the project

Examination of the potentials and conditions of productivity growth from the point of the family, micro and small businesses via personal interviews.

7 companies from
construction
works, roofing, painting,
insulation



7 companies from
building engineering,
energy supply, heating
and air conditioning

3 micro, 2 small and 2 medium-sized enterprises

List of the Slovak companies

No.	Name of the company	Sector	No. of employees	Size
1.	Beijer Ref Slovakia, s.r.o.	energetics	110	medium
2	Colordecor, s.r.o.	buildings	2	micro
3	CVTTi	energetics	38	small
4	KJG, a.s.	buildings	239	medium
5	Klimainfo, s.r.o.	energetics	28	small
6	Klimax.sk, s.r.o.	energetics	8	micro
7	Kozuby-Juko,s.r.o.	energetics	1	micro
8	Malpex, s.r.o.	buildings	1	micro
9	Ptáček-veľkoobchod,a.s.	energetics	240	medium
10	Stavop-Slovakia, s.r.o.	buildings	50	medium
11	TOR, s.r.o.	buildings	25	small
12	UNI-stav.údržba	buildings	34	small
13	Strestav, s.r.o.	buildings	55	medium
14	Tittl, s.r.o.	energetics	14	small

Questionnaires answered by companies operating in the field of construction works during the construction fair „Coneco“.



Goal of the Slovak government according to the new „Strategy of the economic policy 2030“ is

Transformation of the current economy to innovation oriented economy

Current status:

- the level of innovation performance of the Slovakia, measured by the index IUS (Innovation Union Scoreboard) is rather weak. To be precise, 23th place out of 28 countries in European union in 2017 (21th place in 2016)
- the key problems are inappropriate environment for development of start-ups and scale-ups, poor accessibility of risk-venture capital, decreasing innovation performance of SME's, weak performance of the R&D sector regarding patents, trade-marks and designs
- innovations are focused on the IT & communication technologies (63.3% of all start up investments), missing investments into other areas like crafts, biomedicine, robotics or environment technologies.



Transformation of the current economy to innovation oriented economy

will consist of several different measures, mainly:

- Support of regional innovation clusters in the industry and services, including founding of the Digital Innovation Hubs, in connection to vocational schools and universities, to strengthen the creation and transfer of innovation to regional economies
- Establishment of transparent motivation system for support of R&D in the Slovak companies, with the aim to increase the share of private investments into R&D up to 2/3 of total investments outlooking
- No specific measures are foreseen for SME's and family companies



Project findings:

Are there any digital tools, modern tools, materials, technological innovations, etc. which can:

- **increase the productivity of a small business ?**
 - **compensate for the loss or absence of the workforce; provide available technological solutions which require fewer workforce?**
- Family companies and small businesses are more focused on day-to-day tasks, digitization is a natural part of economical developments and is being addressed alongside other activities. To promote their services, they use currently available means – web sites, newsletters, social networks.
 - According to the asked companies, there are digital tools and modern devices such as various software tools for measuring temperature technology, acoustics. They know the technology innovations, but use them only in limited extend due to their high cost.



Project findings:

In order to obtain the modern technologies, what do small businesses need (subsidies, favorable credits, etc.)? Are these forms of support available?

- SME's generally do not have information about programmes or institutions, which support family-centered, micro, and small-scale businesses
- They do have information about service providers that could provide assistance to their business for writing tenders, but only for administration and engineering.
- They also see the problem in the incomplete digitization in the communication between the companies and the state, cities, higher territorial units and municipalities. They have to finance the digitalization with their own sources.



Project findings:

What do the companies need to operate the purchased new technology?

- they need skilled workforce - new software or digital technologies are available, however the training of employees focused on digital skills is time consuming and expensive
- some of them need to improve digital marketing

They already have

- they have good support from private deliverers of technologies/materials

but

- the direct support from state authorities is missing



Project findings:

Are there any governmental bodies or any other organizations (employers' organizations, professional organizations, foundations, NGOs, etc.) that assist the family and micro enterprises in process of inovation?

Goals of Slovak Business Agency

- To increase the survival rate of enterprises, the employment rate in private sector, the innovation performance of Slovak enterprises
- To stimulate entrepreneurship spirit
- To increase the competitiveness of Slovak business environment and Slovak enterprises

Slovak Innovation and Energetics Agency

- Currently offers support program for consultancy on innovation (workshops, mentor, proof of innovation potential)



národný projekt
ZVÝŠENIE
INOVAČNEJ VÝKONNOSTI
SLOVENSKEJ EKONOMIKY

Professional guilds in the specific sector (trainings, workshops, news) – self help system





Thank you for your attention!

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