Dear Readers,

First of all the IPEC partnership would like to wish you all the best for 2018!

Time flies. There are just over 6 months left in the IPEC project. Since our last newsletter in May the focus of the project has been on testing and improving the IPEC tool. In the meantime partners met for the second last time in November in Amsterdam and in June there will be organised a concluding IPEC conference by the project coordinator ITT in Tralee.

Read all about it in the fourth IPEC newsletter!
Testing, testing testing

Over the past few months the IPEC partners have been very busy planning and implementing the testing workshops. As a first step in this process project managers of the partner organisations have evaluated the tool themselves. This resulted in some major improvements, implemented by the development partner Avaca Technologies. After that each partner engaged a number of SMEs and young entrepreneurs to test and evaluate the project management tool. The aim of this is to gather feedback from potential end-users and see what the impact is. By the end of February all partners should be ready with the testing phase. Do you want to test the tool yourself? Click here to go to the tool and let us know what you think before the end of February.
Marie-jetske Lettinga from BDF explaining the IPEC methodology and tool to SMEs in the Netherlands

4th IPEC meeting in Amsterdam
At the end of November the IPEC partners met for the second last time. The meeting was hosted by the Dutch partner Business Development Friesland in Amsterdam. Main item on the agenda was to discuss and share ideas, progress and outcomes of the testing phases in the different European countries. Another important item on the agenda was to discuss the remaining tasks of the project which includes the development of a report that demonstrates how the strategic use of ICT, the IPEC tool and the increased use of open educational resources within education and training has the potential to drive improvements to the performance of the SME business community. The project coordinator ITT also shared initial plans for the organisation of the final IPEC European Conference which will be held on the 22nd of June in Tralee, Ireland. More information about this conference will be shared in our next newsletter!

Newscomers to the partnership

A few months ago, the consortium expanded with some new valuable partners which we would like to introduce to you:

- Dimitris Spiroudis from Avaca Technologies (EL) is responsible for the development of the IPEC tool
- Solène Droy from emcra GmbH (DE) and her assistant Sarah Duttenhöfer are responsible for project evaluation
- Sarah Duttenhöfer from emcra GmbH (DE)