

**ISE Project Outputs & Results: Programme of
'Hands on' Innovation Workshops led by HEIs**



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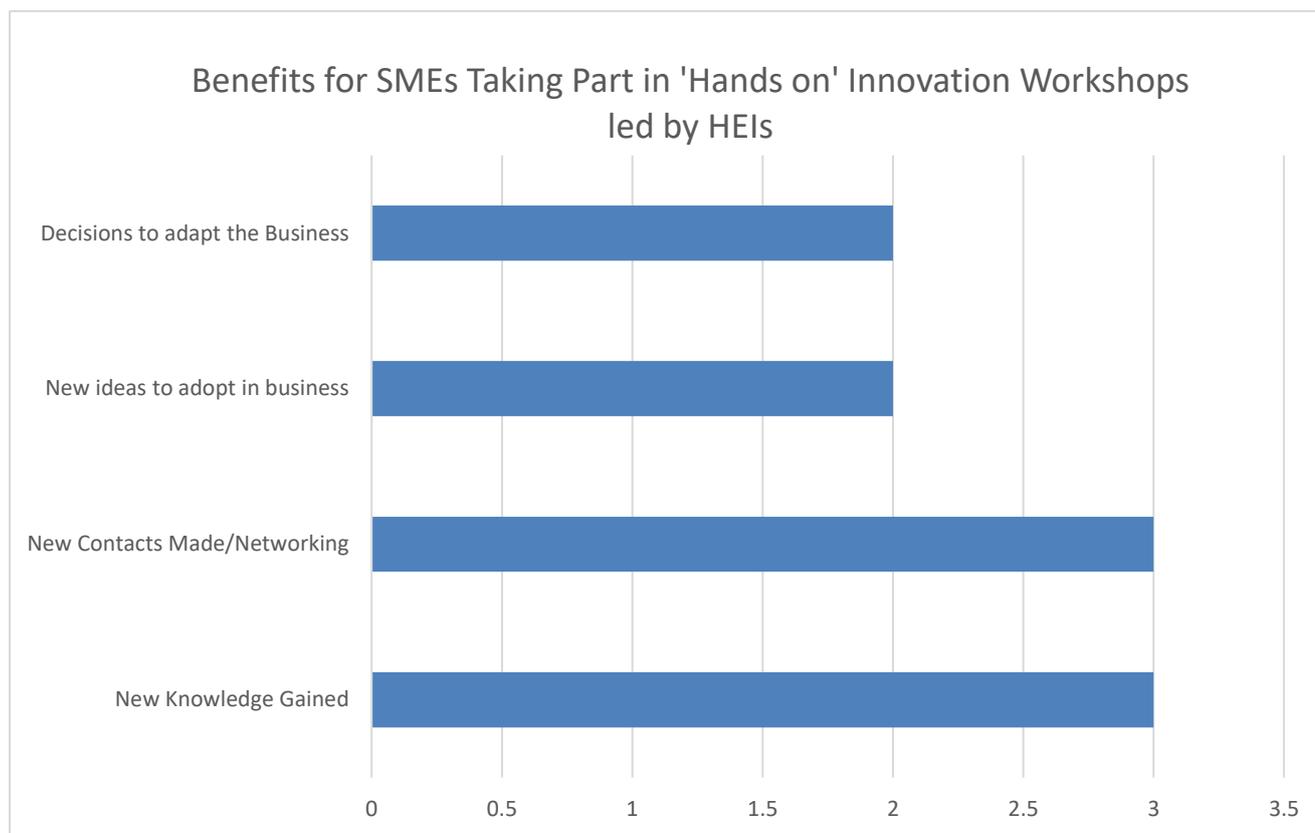
European Regional Development Fund

Project Output 7: "Programme of 'Hands on' Innovation Workshops led by HEIs"

Information from ISE Application Form:	Reporting on the implementation of the Programme of 'Hands on' Innovation Workshops led by HEIs (February 2020)
<p>Activity Description: "The partners will facilitate connections between HEIs/Research organisations in the partner areas and SMEs from the ISE clusters. Bespoke services will be provided to companies by these experts to help them to innovate and develop key aspects of their business e.g. assistance with new product development / prototyping or product testing."</p>	<p>1 programme of events was delivered by the ISE partners during the lifetime of the project consisting of the individual 'Hands on' innovation workshops led by HEIs detailed below.</p>
<p>Expected Project-Specific Result: "10 SMEs within the ISE Mechatronics cluster (& open to other ISE SME cluster members if there is a clear justification) having benefited from in-depth, hands-on series of support workshops led by HEIs in the 2 Seas regions and better equipped to adapt existing products and create new ones."</p>	<p>9 businesses attended the 5 HEI sessions that we ran in the different ISE partner regions (Kent, Hauts-de-France, East & West Flanders, and the SW of the Netherlands).</p> <p>This series of workshops and individual sessions with HEIs provided very hands on, in-depth support to SMEs to help with innovation and internationalisation. These sessions took the form of workshops on topics such as (but not limited to) an 'introduction to design thinking and co-creation', 'user-centered design, 'prototyping and proto-morphing'. The workshops were then followed by unique, more targeted sessions for cluster members from the ISE regions on product design in lighting, Smart Products & creativity.</p>
<p>Target Groups: "Cluster member SMEs from England, France, Flanders & the Netherlands expressing an interest in receiving in-depth innovation support from HEIs."</p>	<p>9 SMEs were reached through the HEI sessions aimed primarily at ISE Mechatronics cluster members from the ISE regions, although they were also open to other ISE SME cluster members if there was clear justification.</p>
<p>Durability of project output: "SME cluster members that will benefit from in-depth innovation support from HEIs will have an increased capacity for innovation and will establish contact with HEIs for potential further collaboration after ISE."</p>	<p>The ISE partners helped the participating SMEs to make new contacts with experts and other SMEs during the programme of 'Hands on' innovation workshops led by HEIs. Some of these contacts with other SMEs were then also further developed in later activities under WP2 and WP3 (Innovation Pathway events, Major Innovation Events, 1-2-1 diagnostics and the ISE clusters).</p> <p>Cluster SMEs from the ISE regions which participated in these events received hands on support and advice of how to adapt products and create new ones. They were also able to take away new knowledge from these sessions, as well as having gained and established contact with these HEIs for potential further future collaboration after ISE.</p>

Capturing results and benefits for SMEs:

The innovation sessions led by HEIs were primarily organised for SMEs to receive hands on in-depth support to help them with innovation and internationalisation, as well as to better equip them to adapt existing products and create new ones. Some benefits were captured by the partners from a small number of evaluation forms that were collated from a small number of 'Hands on' innovation workshop events:



(Number of companies reporting information through evaluation forms)

ISE Programme of 'Hands on' Innovation Workshops Delivered

Date	Theme	ISE Sector	No. of SMEs	Location
20/03/2019	ISE Cluster Event at Howest: Innovation in Lighting	Mechatronics	6	Kortrijk
13/06/2019	Innovation in Lighting - Follow-Up/Practical Session	Mechatronics	1	Kortrijk
10-11/09/2019	Innowiz Session with Howest	Mechatronics	3	Kortrijk
10/10/2019	Innowiz Session with Howest - Follow-Up/Practical Session	Mechatronics	1	Kortrijk
17/02/2020	Innovation in Lighting - Follow-Up/Practical Session	Mechatronics	1	Kortrijk

(Some SMEs attended HEI sessions more than once due to participation in initial sessions as well as the additional follow-up sessions)

Event Photos:

ISE Cluster Event at Howest: Innovation in Lighting, Kortrijk:



Innovation in Lighting - Follow-Up/Practical Session, Kortrijk:



Innowiz Session with Howest, Kortrijk:



Innowiz Session with Howest - Follow-Up/Practical Session, Kortrijk:



Innovation in Lighting - Follow-Up/Practical Session, Kortrijk:

