

FOCUS GROUP
RELAUNCHING OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES
Action Plan

The starting point is the response received by the members following the survey promoted by EUROCHAMBRES. We have categorized it as follows:

Comments	Suggestions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Projects as an essential part of ECH strategy.• Projects as a key differentiator of ECH compared to other organizations.• Project activity of ECH involving members is currently decreasing.• It should not be fully replaced by Chamber +.• Improvement needed on the decision-making about which projects and how to finance them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More information is needed on available calls and tenders.• More tender and call for proposals generating workshops needed.• Better consultation of members on priorities• More transparency in project selection.

Relaunching of projects in EUROCHAMBRES includes two definitions:

- EUROCHAMBRES' projects, namely *centrally coordinated projects*, directly linked with advocacy priorities with the participation of and the financial benefit for a large number of members (national or local);
- Projects developed by Regional and Local Chambers, with or without the assistance of EUROCHAMBRES-Chamber+ important role.

These different categories need different engagement of EUROCHAMBRES as follows:

Actions linked to <i>Centrally coordinated projects</i>	Actions linked to <i>Ordinary project activities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of topics where Chambers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ need to develop projects to better accomplishing their mission; ○ could serve as a catalyser to implement EC strategies through EU funding projects; • Accreditation with the European Institutions in sectors where ECH is not active enough (innovation, digitalization etc.); • Active involvement in SME internationalization projects, where ECH has inevitable valuable expertise; • Maximizing the lobbying activity in projects and in advocacy linked to projects; • Positioning ECH in EU and international valuable networks; • Exploiting CCI's best practices in a 	<p>These projects are directly linked to the development of Chamber +. Below is a first list of EUROCHAMBRES' services to be covered by the Chamber+ :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platform for cooperation among CCIs; • Information tool on calls/tenders; • Partners search in sectors where ECH invest most; • Thematic workshop for generating projects (involvement of experts, thematic networks etc.). Connecting European Chambers could serve in this regard.

project generating process;

- Annual planning of calls of specific interest for Chambers and consultation on the follow up.

These actions could be delivered through:

- Regular organization of workshops and continuous provision of (advanced) information to members.
- meetings with thematic experts/networks to target specific calls;
- Creation of a trainers' pool of ECH: designing "train the trainers" modules for the national chambers on project design and management to enhance their/local chambers capacity;
- Creation of a ECH Projects Steering group to select priorities and enhance the flow of information with members. It will be good if this Steering group could conduct a survey amongst members to ascertain their areas of interest but also their

specific competencies.

Centrally coordinated projects should directly target members; regional and local Chambers should be involved on specific decision of the members.

Centrally coordinated project activity doesn't entail:

- ECH's coordination of all the project proposals. This coordination could be assigned to a member/local Chamber on ad-hoc decision