

## ACTIVITIES

- Establishment of the “one-stop-shop” offices (ENGINE-HUBs) within the professional/scientific chambers and antennas-centers in the business chambers.
- Market & GAP analysis exploring the potential of the circular economy at the cross-border area of Greece -Bulgaria.
- Information and motivation campaign towards young engineers/scientists in order to participate in the project.
- Competition for new business ideas in the identified emerging, by the market analysis, sectors of the circular economy at the cross-border area.
- Mentoring/coaching for the implementation of the selected business plans including the following topics: Circular economy, Supplies, marketing, sales and financing.
- Support of the new Entrepreneurs to network with the market and investors.
- Motivation of market and investors to participate in the network.
- Development and operation of an e-platform that will host project’s training modules and an interactive question and answer page

Project’s comparative advantage is the connection of the scientific workforce of engineers with the market through the project’s partnership consisted by their professional/scientific chambers and the business (commerce/industry) chambers for the first time in Greece and Bulgaria.

## PARTNERSHIP

### TECHNICAL CHAMBER OF GREECE /SECTION OF CENTRAL MACEDONIA - Lead Beneficiary

- 49, Megalou Alexandrou Str.,Thessaloniki, Greece, 54643,
- Tel.: 00302310883100,
- E-mail: tee\_thess@tee.gr



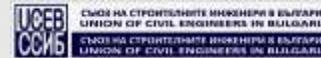
### FEDERATION OF INDUSTRIES OF GREECE

- 21, 26th Octovriou Str., Thessaloniki, Greece, 54627,
- Tel.: 00302310539817,
- E-mail: info@sbbe.gr



### UNION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS IN BULGARIA

- Buzludja, Sofia, Bulgaria, 61606,
- Tel.: 00359884705755,
- E-mail: uceb\_engine@uceb.eu



### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY GOTSE DELCHEV

- 25 Hristo Botev Str., Gotse Delchev, Bulgaria, 2900
- Tel.: 00359879024488,
- E-mail: gdcci@mail.bg



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**ERDF: 580.542,35€**

**National Co-Financing: 102.448,65€**

**Project Website:** [www.engine-hubs.eu](http://www.engine-hubs.eu)

**Project Facebook Page:** Interreg ENGINE-HUBs



## ENGINE-HUBs

**Creating  
“Circular” Business  
by young ENGINEers  
at the cross-border area  
of Greece-Bulgaria**

The Project is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and by national funds of the countries participating in the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”



“The contents of this leaflet are sole responsibility of the ENGINE-HUBs partners and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union, the participating countries the Managing Authority, and the Joint Secretariat.”

## OBJECTIVES

The main aim of the project is to identify business opportunities in the area of circular economy in the Cross - Border area of Greece-Bulgaria and to create a structure through which business ideas of potential entrepreneurs will be transformed into businesses.

The structure will deliver a new business approach to enhance entrepreneurship of young scientists building on three pillars: knowledge, mentoring/coaching and networking.

The project focuses on the provision of assistant through 4 HUBs to the new entrepreneurs for the implementation of their business plans and not only the development of these plans so that the new enterprises can be operative before project's ending or 2 years after at the latest.

## BACKGROUND

Young people living in both countries and especially in the programme's cross border area can boost the economic development and the prosperity of the area.

At the same time, growth of small and medium sized companies can be the gear for such a development. Circular Economy is both an opportunity and a need and corresponds to the features of the Cross Border area's economy.

In addition, the EU is working on the transition to a carbon neutral, circular economy. Circular economy offers Europe a major opportunity to increase resource productivity, decrease resource dependence and increase employment and growth.

## TARGET GROUP

The project's main target group is the qualified scientific workforce (engineers and other scientists) of the CBC area that will be assisted for the creation of their "circular business" through the ENGINE-HUBs. At least, ninety young entrepreneurs and their enterprises will receive support.

In addition, the area that will be benefited by the project is the entire CBC area by the exploitation of its workforce and the identification of the local circular economy value chains and cross-border synergies at the sector. In addition, market actors (suppliers, investors and clients) are also targeted in order to be linked with the entrepreneurs and exploit their potential.

