



University of Maribor

Faculty of Electrical Engineering
and Computer Science



Smart SME's
Co-financed by the European Parliament through the
Alpine Region Preparatory Action Fund (ARPAF)

The unused potential and best practices

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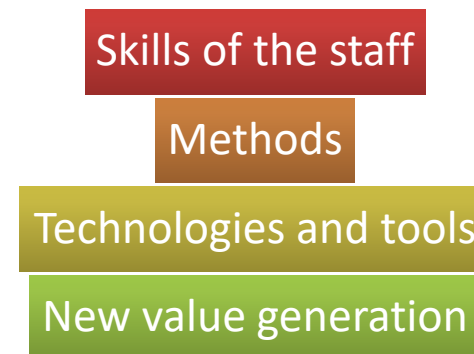




Project WP3 overview

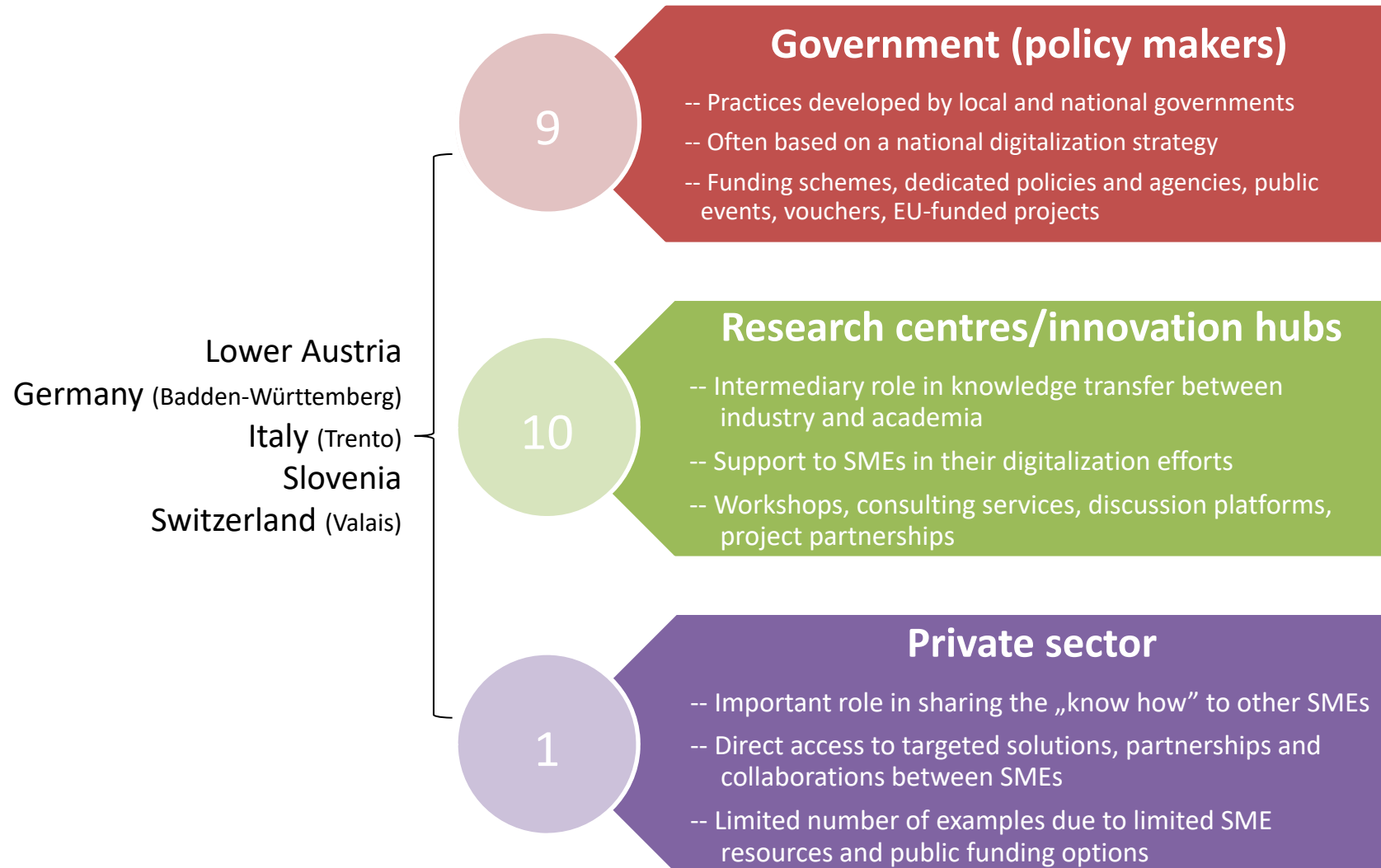
- **UM FERI – WP3 leader:**
 - Collection of existing good practices and tools
 - Desk research performed by all partners on a selected value chain in their region/country
 - SWOT-Analysis of existing good practices and tools
 - Bottlenecks and constraints
 - Collection of existing digitalization tools
 - Synthesis of findings in a report and communication factsheet(s)
 - <https://smartsmes.um.si/>

Transferring knowledge on digitalization to SMEs
is studied in four dimensions



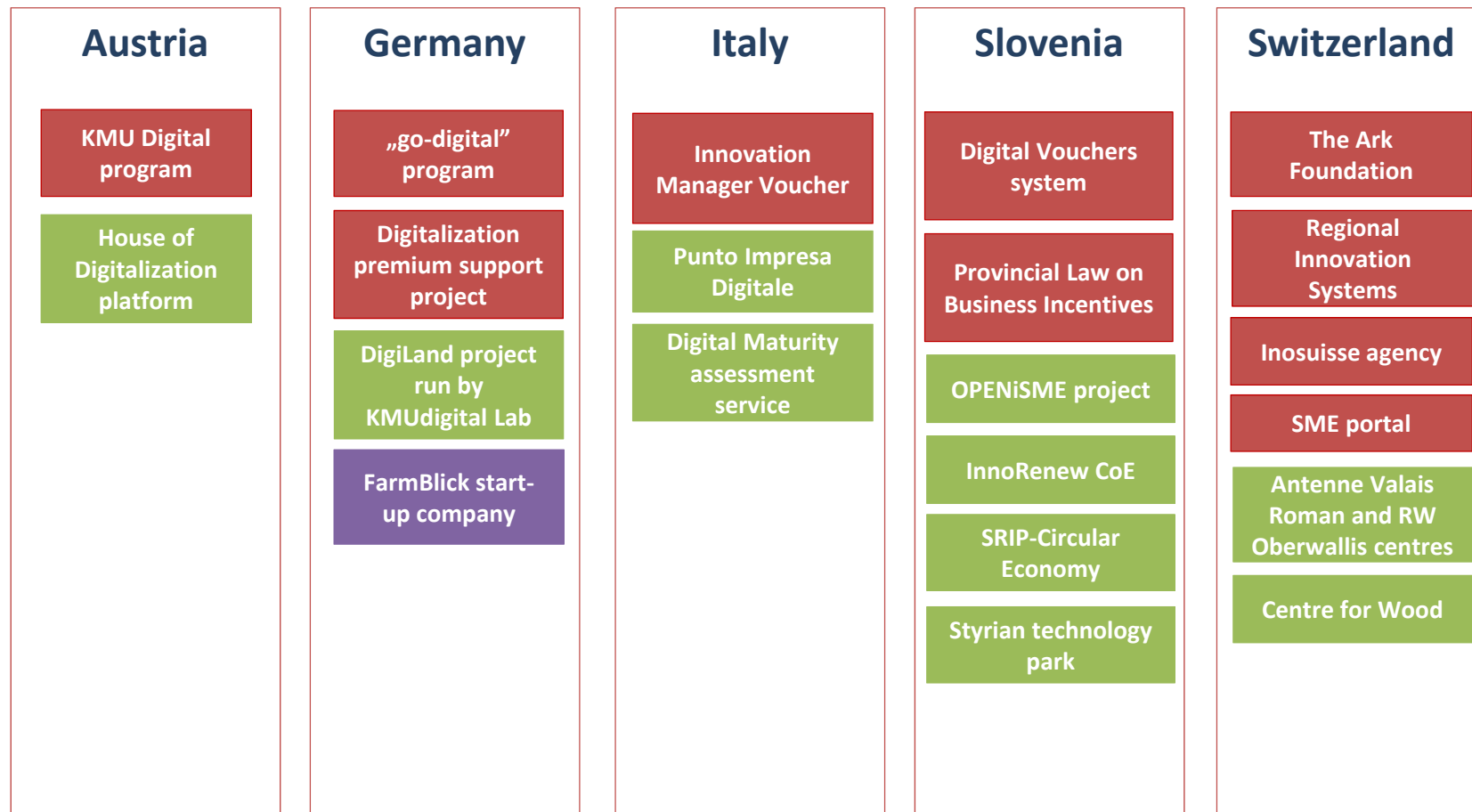


Levels of good practices for SME digitalization





Overview of good practices and tools



Good practices identified in a desk research within a SmartSMEs project.



Conclusions

- Variations in the number of incentives and good practices on SMEs' digitalization in natural-fibre value chains across analysed countries/regions
 - Additional variations can be observed across different sectors/fibres within the natural fiber value chain (e.g. wood vs hemp)
- Largest gap in the number of good practices identified in the private sector → low level of knowledge sharing between SMEs
- Need for a better collaboration between all three levels

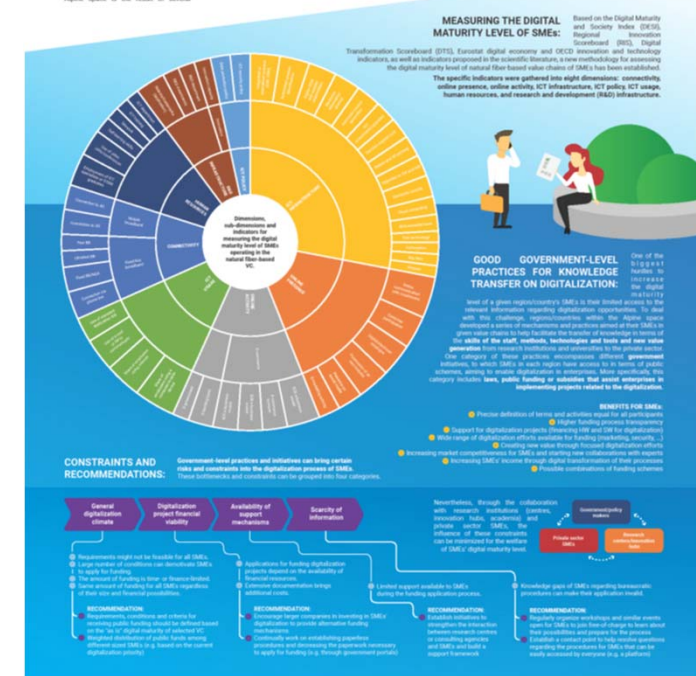
GOOD PRACTICES AND TOOLS FOR TRANSFERING KNOWLEDGE ON DIGITALIZATION TO SMEs

How can policy makers and regional developers help SMEs in their digitalization efforts?

OVERVIEW: The Smart SMEs project aims to find solutions to overcome existing digitalization barriers and focuses on enterprises in natural fibre-based value chains that produce, process and apply natural fibre-based materials, both cultivated and recycled from biological waste. The project is therefore tackling the issue of sustainable transformation in the Alpine region through the bio-economy concept. The relatively low level of digitalization of SMEs in the natural fibre-based value chains in the Alpine space is the result of several

factors. There are some good practices and examples of successful SME digitalization initiatives in natural fibre-based VCs from this area, however, in some regions/countries, the number of these good practices is more limited than in others. Throughout project activities, the project partners analysed the current level of digitalization in the following regions/countries:

- Baden-Württemberg (Germany)
- Lower Austria
- Trentino (Italy)
- Slovenia





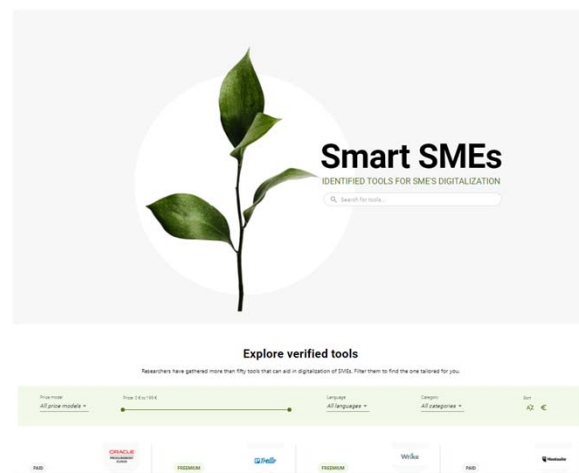
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Thank You for Your attention!

More information: <https://smartsmes.um.si/>



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