



**RECORD**  
Interreg Europe



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund

# RECORD PROJECT

October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021

# AGENDA

- 1) Project presentation**
- 2) Focus on the study visits**
- 3) The action plan of Hauts-de-France**
- 4) Questions**

# PROJECT PRESENTATION



Regions in **E**urope **C**oordinate and **O**ptimize innovation  
and competitiveness policy instruments  
towa**R**Ds improving the sustainability of transport

⇒ *Study case of SMEs in the railway sector*



**Project of 1 M€ financed by the program**

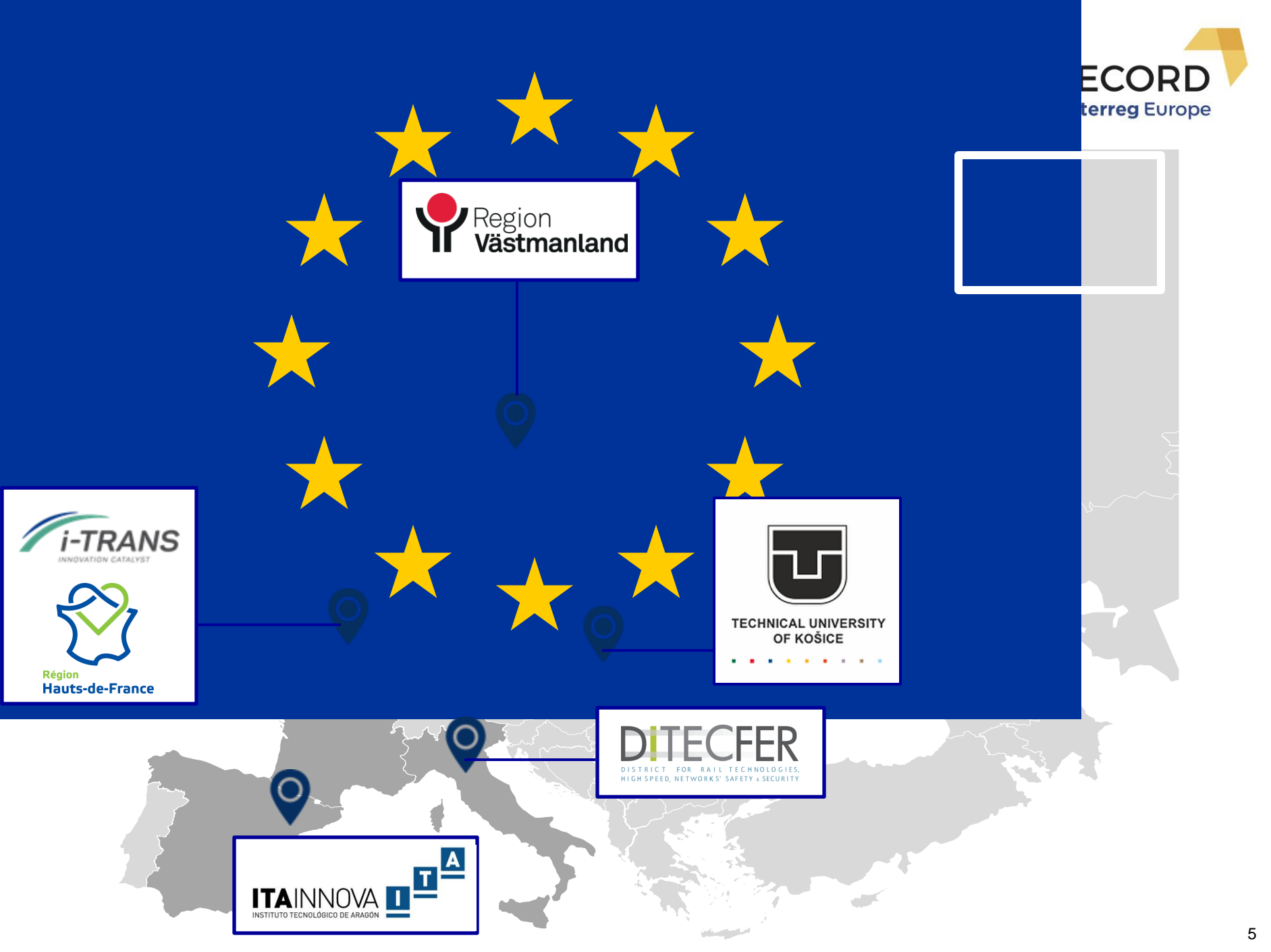


**Duration of 4 years :**

- 1<sup>st</sup> phase (2018 – 2020)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> phase (2020 – 2022)



**5 European Regions are partners**



# PROJECT PRESENTATION

## OBJECTIVE

Each Region helps SMEs in the railway sector **to invest more and better in innovation activities** by redefining the instruments of their regional policy

## METHODOLOGY

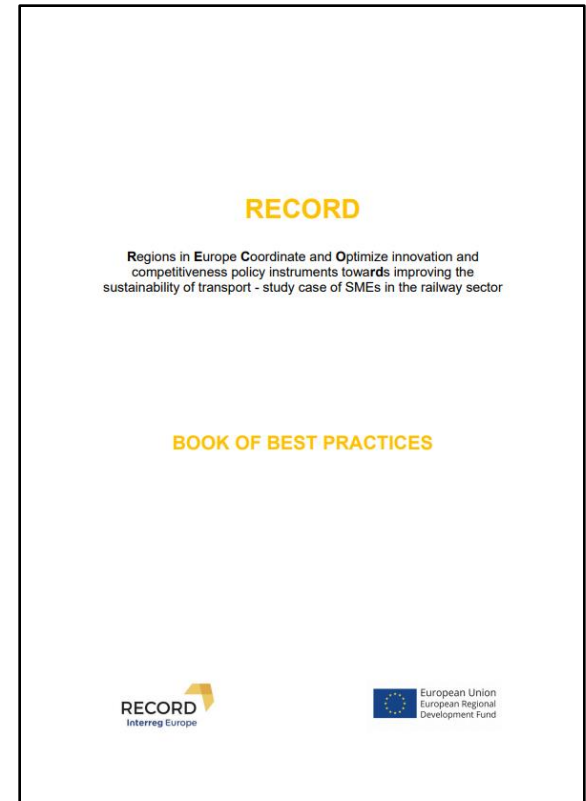
- ❑ 2 years of **analysis and state of art of the policy instruments** in the different regions and **definition of the action plan** :
  - ✓ Share of solutions and good practices between Regions
  - ✓ Organisation of study visits in each Region
  
- ❑ 2 years to **implement the action plan**

# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ Preparation, working documents and tasks
- ✓ Analysis methodology
- ✓ Interviews of companies
- ✓ SWOT
- ✓ Benchmark matrix
- ✓ Study visits
- ✓ Identification of good practices

# THE STUDY VISITS

- ✓ Each study visit allowed each partner **to identify good practices**
- ✓ All these practices are included in a **« book of best practices »**
- ✓ It is available on the webpage of the project



[https://www.interregeurope.eu/file\\_admin/user\\_upload/tx\\_tevprojects/library/file\\_1611572279.pdf](https://www.interregeurope.eu/file_admin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1611572279.pdf)



# THE HDF ACTION PLAN



# THE HDF ACTION PLAN

## 3 ACTIONS

### ACTION 1

FOSTERING RELATIONS BETWEEN SMES AND START-UPS

### ACTION 2

PROMOTING EUROPEAN R&D PROJECTS

### ACTION 3

CREATING A DECENTRALISED INNOVATION PLATFORM FOR SMEs IN THE RAILWAY SECTOR ON THE SITE OF TRANSALLEY

# THE HDF ACTION PLAN

## ACTION 1

### FOSTERING RELATIONS BETWEEN SMES AND START-UPS

#### FACTS IN HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

Large groups, SMEs and start-ups have a strong tendency to work on their own and focus on their innovation projects independently

#### INSPIRATION FOR THIS ACTION

During the study visit in Sweden, in the region of Västmanland, we discovered 3 very interesting concepts that can enable us to strengthen exchanges between SMEs and start-ups in the Hauts-de-France region:

- **THINGS** : a very inspiring accelerator with a strong animation for start-ups (about 50 companies working with 500 SMEs)
- **IGNITE SWEDEN** : Qualified B2B meetings between companies and start-ups
- **SYNERLEAP** : Accelerator of the company ABB group. Their ambition is to significantly increase the relationships between ABB and start-ups

# THE HDF ACTION PLAN

## NATURE OF THE ACTION

To obtain these models in the coming years, the primary objective is to encourage meetings between innovation players (which is our role as facilitators) thanks to :

- Interest clubs of i-Trans
- B to B events
- Rail Industry Meetings
- ... any other specific events

## STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED

- AIF
- i-Trans
- Transalley
- Region Hauts-de-France

# THE HDF ACTION PLAN

## ACTION 2

### PROMOTING EUROPEAN R&D PROJECTS

#### FACTS IN HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

In the Hauts-de-France Region, the number of SMEs in the railway sector participating to European calls is too low.

Indeed, too few of them are aware of funding opportunities, especially Shift2Rail

#### INSPIRATION FOR THIS ACTION

During the study visit in Slovakia, in the region of Kosice, we were able to discover a bogie which was financed by a Shift2Rail project. Similarly, through the majority of the study visits, the exchanges with the different stakeholders of the project confirmed us that the knowledge and use of European funds was much more increased than in our Region (and this, being a start-up, a SME or an academic).

# THE HDF ACTION PLAN

## NATURE OF THE ACTION

We have to encourage our companies to think Europe and to have a Europe reflex.

Actions engaged and to be engaged :

- Europe campaign led by i-Trans (webinars, presentations, technical papers, workshops, conferences within events,...)
- Horizon Europe and Shift2Rail conferences
- Involvement in RERI events

## STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED

- i-Trans
- HDFID

# THE HDF ACTION PLAN

## ACTION 3

### CREATING A DECENTRALISED INNOVATION PLATFORM FOR SMEs IN THE RAILWAY SECTOR ON THE SITE OF TRANSALLEY

#### FACTS IN HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

In the Hauts-de-France Region, the relationship between the academic world and SMEs remains insufficiently developed. There is a need to strengthen the link and encourage SMEs to work more with laboratories

#### INSPIRATION FOR THIS ACTION

During the study visit in Spain, in the region of Aragon, we discovered an innovation ecosystem where companies and universities together create innovative products and services on the same site

# THE HDF ACTION PLAN

## NATURE OF THE ACTION

The action will consist of creating a specific platform on the Transalley site for SMEs to give their innovation projects to academics.

Transalley is a key tool in the ecosystem that will enable SMEs to have access to design offices.

## STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED

- i-Trans: project coordination
- HDF Region: project support (project structuring + financial package)
- Transalley: operational implementation of the platform



# THE HDF ACTION PLAN

## *Expected results :*

**→ To have a high number of European railway SMEs involved in R&D projects by the end of the RECORD project**

# QUESTIONS





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# THANK YOU !



*Project smedia*