

Erasmus + **KA2: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices**

Knowledge Alliances



Enabling SMEs to gain competitive advantage from the use of HPC

Regional workshops with partners from the business community – 3st workshop

Deliverable 8.4

Prepared by: P6, Vega Press, Ltd.





1 Document reference

Project Acronym	SME/HPC			
Project Number	588372-EPP-1-2017-1-IE-EPPKA2-KA			
Project URL	https://www.smehpc.eu/			
EU Project Officer				
Project Coordinator	Name	Prof. Bill O’Gorman	Affiliation	WIT
	Email	wogorman@wit.ie	Phone	+353.872429537
Deliverable Name	Regional workshops with partners from the business community – 2 st workshop			
Deliverable Number	8.4			
Type	Plan	Distribution Level	Confidential	
Responsible Author(s)	Tamara Valič P6: Vega Press, Ltd.			
Date of Delivery	October 2018			
Status	Final			
Quality assurance readers	To be determined		To be determined	



2 Content Overview

2.1 Date and Location

- **Date:** 25 October 2018
- **Location:** Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto

2.2 Agenda

Hours	Session
10.45-11.00	Welcome and registration
11.00-11.15	Presentation of Enabling SMEs to gain competitive advantage from the use of HPC (SME/HPC) project
11.15-12.15	Round table discussion about enterprises' needs, HPC situation and the role of HEI. Speakers: Iris Fink Grubačevič (Faculty of Industrial engineering, dean) Simon Jeraj (Novo mesto Developmental center) Tomaž Besek (360ecm, director)
12.15-12.30	How can SME benefit from HPC – thematic presentation of Pilot action open call within InnoHPC Interreg DTP project
12.30 -	Final remarks and Networking at lunch



2.3 Summary of discussions

The main aim of the workshop was to gather regional stakeholders at an event where information can be obtained along with exploring their views and expectations from the future work in the field of bridging the gap between HPC at HEI and SMEs. The idea to start nurturing strategic dialog was behind the motives to structure the agenda the way it was structured.

The workshop was attended by 22 participants who included representatives of business community, of HEIs and other stakeholders from the region, who deal with development of supporting environment for SMEs, SME/HPC regional project team, and SME/HPC UK team.

In the first session, SME/HPC regional project team introduced the SME/HPC project and gave a short presentation about what HPC is.

The second session was a round table discussion about enterprises' needs, HPC situation and the role of HEI. The main conclusion was that the South east region of Slovenia is well developed, also cooperation among HEI and SMEs is somewhat good but more promotion must be done, to outline the benefits of HPC usage. It was emphasised, there are many good opportunities to enhance cooperation via EU funded and nationally funded projects. As main held back was mentioned the sensitivity of the SMEs to technological changes. Additionally, the question of IPR rights emerged, with SMEs usually not having the knowledge to protect their rights, so they rather not decide to cooperate with HEI and HPC centres.

In the last session we offered a short introduction into another HPC related project and their initiatives – the open call for the SMEs to participate in testing of virtual ecosystem for SMEs, HPC competence centres and HPC services Centres.

At the end of the workshop, participants were offered a networking opportunity together with lunch. Participants exchanged ideas and agreed on close cooperation also in the future.