

INNOVAMARE PROJECT PARTNERS, CROATIAN AND ITALIAN PARTNERS WERE IN STUDY VISIT TO FINLAND

From 29th to 31st March 2022 Croatian and Italian partners of the strategic project InnovaMare (Interreg VA Italy-Croatia 2014-2020 Programme), together with SMEs and experts were in a study visit to the innovation driver of Finland, city of Espoo, for exchanging experiences and knowing the ecosystem of sustainable growth and innovation.

InnovaMare team started its Finnish study trip in Otaniemi Campus in city of Espoo, with presentation done by Ari Huczkowski from Lumintel Ltd. Later made a tour in fantastic A Grid, a start up building of Aalto University led by Leigh Ewin who shared his experience on how to organize and run this place with 135 startups with successful stories of developing great business. Later on, we learned why Aalto Startup Center is Top 5 Global University Incubator presented by Natalie Gaudet.

The second day started with inspirational thoughts from Markku Markkula, an expert who gave us an overview on development of Innovation Ecosystem. We learned from first hand about Helsinki Think Company, where students are supported with an entrepreneurial mindset and finished the day with the overview of services offered by Helsinki Innovation Services of University of Helsinki. This study visit taught us that Skilled individuals and knowledge sharing are key pillars in creating an ecosystem. Together with networking, they are the essential part of modern Innovation ecosystem, as said Professor Erkki Ormala.

This study visit in Finland gave us clear information and has widen our views where to start and how to build successful innovation ecosystem as a team.

The study visit was organized by the Croatian Chamber of Economy, lead partner of the project, with the aim of offering the chance to the partners to enhance their knowledge on the process from starting cooperation in innovation to access to market and on which are the enabling conditions of this process, such as inner relations, services, benefits for stakeholders, transfer of technology, intellectual property, internationalization.