

Knowledge Management Event, Bp. 2014 



Easy eServices to Shape and Empower SME Networks in Central Europe 



ESSENCE project meeting
Knowledge Management Event

Budapest, 4 April 2014

Introduction to the ESSENCE project and the economic role and weight of SMEs in selected sectors

Renata Anna Jaksa
Director, ICEG Research and Policy KKKft 

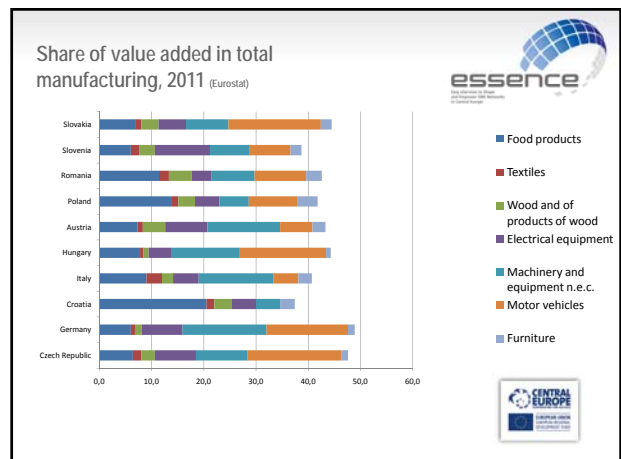
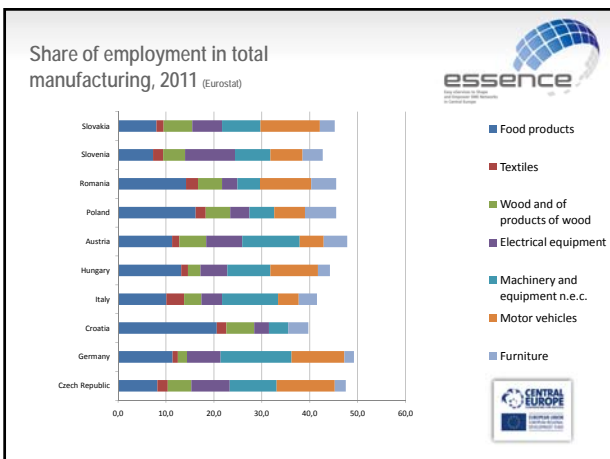
The ESSENCE project 

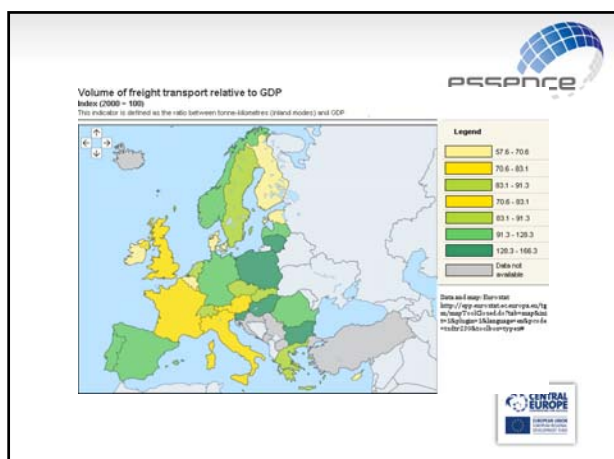
- ESSENCE focuses on SMEs working in different industrial sectors for the support of business partners, suppliers & subcontractors and on their supply & distribution networks.
- Main aim is to offer a complex eService, based on the ESSENCE platform, that aids the SMEs in managing their own supply chains, taking orders, accepting orders, managing business documents, organising logistics, etc without the need to buy, install and learn to use an expensive new ICT solution.
- Selected key sectors: textile, food & agriculture, electronics, automotive industry, wood & furniture, logistics, etc...
- Started in second semester of 2012, finishes at the end of 2014.
- Current status: the ESSENCE platform developed, now ready to test in workshops and pilots with real user SMEs.



The ESSENCE project partners 

- Marshal Office of the Wielkopolska Region (Wielkopolska Region, Poland) as the Lead Partner
- Institute of Logistics and Warehousing (ILIM) (Poznań/Poland)
- Province of Bologna (Emilia-Romagna, Italy)
- Institute for Transport and Logistics Foundation (ITL) (Emilia-Romagna, Italy)
- S.A.T.A. Advanced Technology Application srl (Emilia-Romagna, Italy)
- Aufbauwerk Region Leipzig GmbH (Leipzig-Halle, Germany)
- University of Leipzig (Leipzig-Halle, Germany)
- AREA m styria GmbH (Styria, Austria)
- SINERGJA Development Agency (Pomurje Region, Slovenia)
- ICEG RESEARCH AND POLICY Public Benefit Nonprofit Plc (Kozep-Magyarország, Hungary)



The ESSENCE project

Main challenges ahead of us:

- how to motivate the SME to seriously take part in the workshops/pilots
- how to explain well the benefits of the platform so SMEs would get interested and curious
- how to evaluate the use of the platform during and after the pilots
- what types of realistic business/operational models exist after the end of the project
- how to organise for that/those business model(s)

Thank you for your attention