

What is iOTA?

iOTA is a business development programme with an emphasis on Innovation as a driver of business achievement and wealth creation.

The programme focuses on:

Innovation Fostering the development of new ideas leading to new or improved products, new or

improved services or new or improved business processes that add value and create

wealth

Opportunity Providing an opportunity to programme participants to hone their new ideas

through one-to-one sound boarding with experienced business mentors

Training In innovation and business skills to give participants the necessary knowledge and the

confidence to use this knowledge to reap commercial reward from their ideas

Advice Mentoring from experienced business experts to provide steering and help to resolve

uncertainties and unknowns and sign post your route to achieve your goals

The programme will achieve these goals by providing two strands of support;

Strand A - Innovation Awareness Raising and Pre-Incubation Support

Strand B - Innovation Awareness Raising and Support to Existing SMEs

Strand A

Within Strand A potential entrepreneurs will participate in a structured programme focusing on harnessing innovation and creativity, and developing a business concept into a viable small business. The training programme will include:

- Support and preparation of an Action Plan
- **Innovation Clinics**
- A structured training programme
- Access to academic facilities on a cross border basis
- Opportunities to develop cross border links and business networks

Strand B

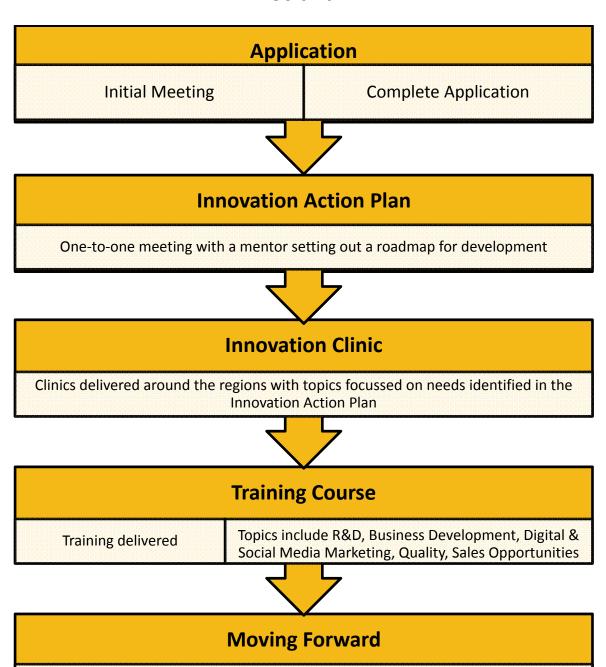
Strand B aims to create awareness of how 'innovation' relates to local businesses and assist them to explore how they can innovate to expand and grow their businesses. Bespoke Innovation Action Plans are a particular feature of this Programme. Specialist mentors will assist SMEs/Individuals to develop their ideas through an Innovation Action Plan whilst addressing the identified Innovation Challenge in each business by a blend of activities including:

- **Innovation Training, Workshops and Master Classes**
- **Innovation Mentoring**
- **Access to Academic Expertise**
- Signposting to existing enterprise support



This project is part-financed by the European Union European Regional **European Union's INTERREG IVA** Development Fund **Cross Border Programme** Investing in your future

Strand A



The final step is to move the innovative idea forward following the advice and support from the programme







Strand B

Application

Initial Meeting

Complete Application

Innovation Action Plan

One-to-one meeting with a mentor setting out a roadmap for development.

Innovation Workshops

Half-day events covering a range of specific Innovation themes.

Innovation Master-classes

Tailor made events focusing on the identified needs of the participating companies.

Topics include Creativity & Idea Generation, Digital & Social Media Marketing and Collaborative Working

Mentoring

35 hours specialist mentoring support

Categories include Innovation, Marketing, Exporting

For more information please Contact: ******** on *********

Or log onto www.iotaprogramme.com or email info@iotaprogramme.com





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