

SMART X

EUROPEAN SMART TEXTILES ACCELERATOR

Cascade Funding Lessons Learned from SmartX

EU Cascading Funding Webinar, 31 March 2021
Lutz Walter – Textile ETP

Supporting Smart Textiles Manufacturers & SME Tech Suppliers

3-years EU Project led by ETP + 12 partners from 7 EU countries (2019 – 2022)
€ 4.8 million EU funding of which €2.4 million cascading funding to SME's

Up to 60,000 € in funding for SME's

Paid in 3 tranches:
10,000 € at start
25,000 € 1st milestone
25,000 € at project completion

Coaching services

- Application coaching
- Project coaching
- Exploitation coaching

Network Access

Collaboration Platform
Cluster Workshops
Hackathons
Value chain workshops
Final dissemination events



Funding 25 projects
Coaching 100+ SMEs
Building Smart Textiles Innovation Community

Targeting 3 End Markets:

- **Protection** incl. sport applications
- **Health** and well-being applications.
- **Industrial** applications incl. transport, architecture & interior

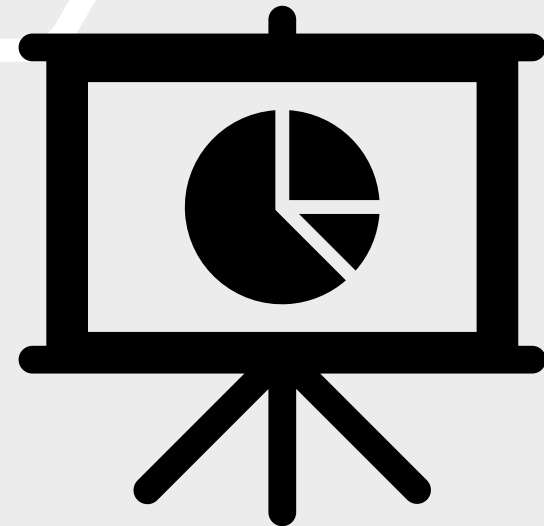


This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 824825

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SmartX Results

- **3 Open calls**
 - **300+ Expressions of Interest** from 26 countries
 - **115 applications** involving 200+ SMEs
 - **25 projects** funded with **50 SMEs** from 15 European countries
 - **€ 2.35 million** in funding awarded
- **Over 20 events, workshops or webinars** organised with well over 1000 cumulative participants
- **SmartX Community Platform** with **800+** registered user organisations



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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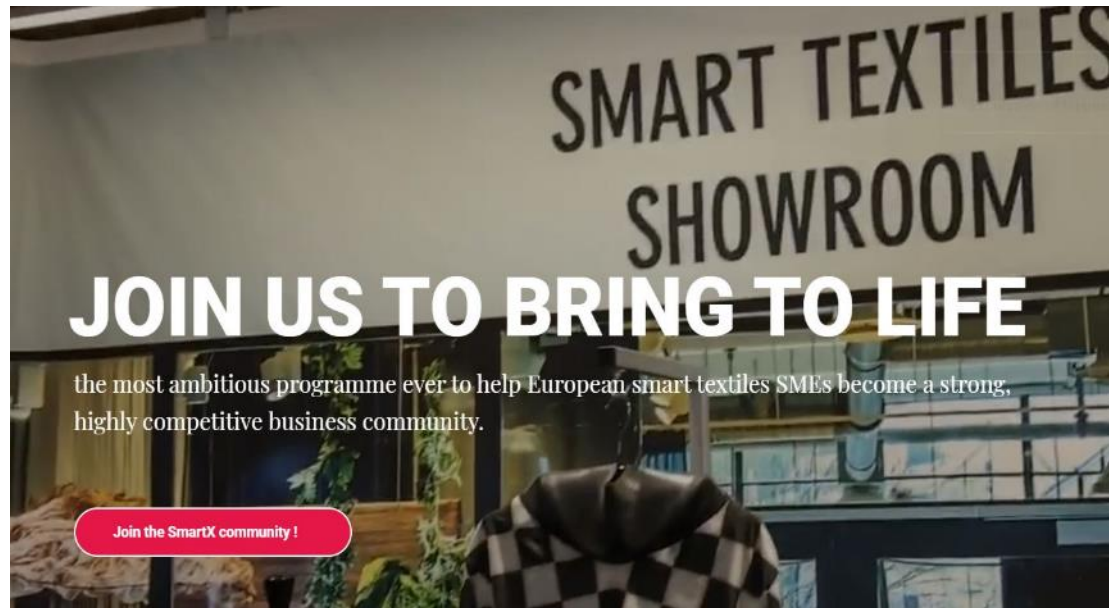
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Lessons Learned from SmartX

- **Target niche market (smart textiles/IoT) full of promising SME's & start-ups across Europe, more such niches exist in functional/technical textiles, sustainability/circularity...**
- **Cascading Innovation funding model (lump sum + expert coaching) highly attractive for SMEs**
- **Demand for funding & coaching higher than available budget: average success rate in 3 SmartX calls = 22% -> much better than average H2020**
- **Leverage effect of public funds is excellent – small grants trigger co-investment by SMEs**
- **International projects improve SME business development & market growth potential**
- **Coaching activities provide high added value to SMEs – Coaching competences of clusters to be further developed**
- **Cluster partners ensure excellent outreach to targeted SME communities (knowledge+trust)**

EU Cascading Funding at risk in HORIZON EUROPE!!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

