

## Testimonies of funding organisations:

*“Manufacturing is still a critical sector for the Basque Country, a high contributor to GDP, a large employing sector and is vital for R&D activities. The Basque RIS3 shows that advanced manufacturing is one of Basque strengths.*

*Most manufacturing SMEs require assistance in product diversification, process improvement, so R&D is a must. The Basque Government has implemented specific programmes to support companies in these fields and has been leading the MANUNET initiative from the very beginning.*

*MANUNET has proven to be a very effective initiative helping Basque SMEs collaborate in R&D and maximize their potential for competitive feasibility and future growth.”*

**BASQUE GOVERNMENT,**  
Ministry for Economic Development and Competitiveness

*“RANNIS was approached by an Icelandic company who was looking for the opportunity to join a project within MANUNET. This company had high expectations to work in partnership with other organisations in Europe. RANNIS took this request to further examination and after looking carefully at the goal and structure of MANUNET, it was decided to apply for membership.*

*RANNIS has been partner for one year and we feel that the decision to participate was a good one for partnering up with other agencies in Europe on this very important topic.”*

**RANNIS, The Icelandic Centre for Research**

*“MANUNET provided IDEPA the opportunity to actively promote international R&D projects in the field of manufacturing, a field that eventually became a priority for our Smart Specialisation Strategy.*

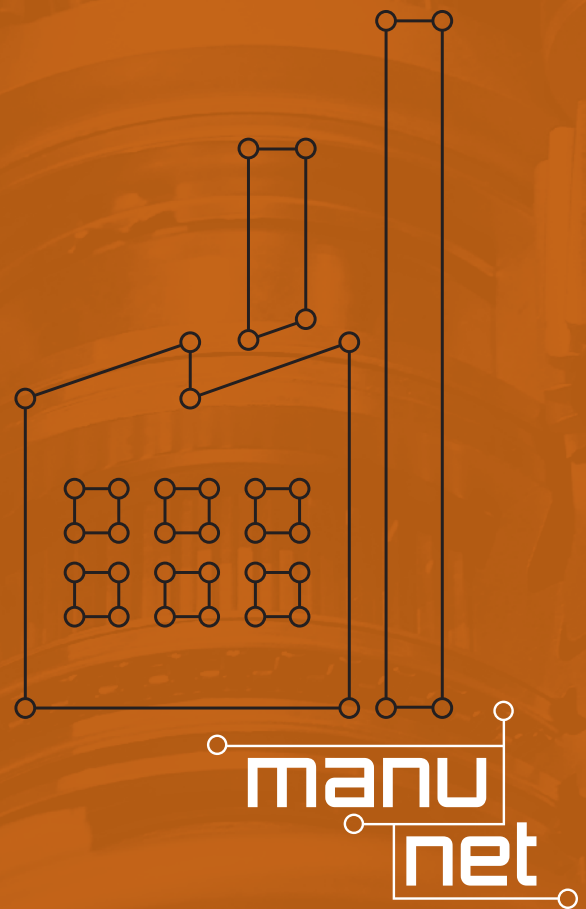
*Being associated partner, we concentrated our efforts in testing funding instruments, and we finally created a specific regional funding programme addressed to ERA-NET schemes.*

*Asturias, a one million population Spanish region, supported 12 international R&D projects on Smart Manufacturing along these four years of participation, mobilising more than 2 M€.”*

**IDEPA,**  
Economic Development Agency of the Principality of Asturias

## MANUNET FOR FUNDING ORGANISATIONS

# Driving Manufacturing Excellence into Global Competitiveness



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Funded by  
the European Union

[www.manUNET.net](http://www.manUNET.net)

## What is MANUNET?

MANUNET is a network of countries and regions funded by the European Commission. Since 2006 MANUNET has been working with the objective to promote and fund transnational research and development projects in the field of manufacturing, through yearly calls for proposals.

MANUNET gathers together national and regional agencies that use their own funding programmes to fund manufacturing research and development projects performed by companies, research centers and universities.

MANUNET is a network focused on SME needs, with a demonstrated impact, and with a clear presence in participating countries and regions. In addition:

- It is based on the national/regional programmes.
- It covers broad topics.
- It has no centralised evaluation.
- Each agency funds the organisations of its own country/region.
- It is flexible in terms of call participation and budget allocation.



## Extending the network

MANUNET is looking for organisations coming from countries and regions where specialisation in manufacturing is important for their strategy and with the adequate funding programme to fund manufacturing research and development projects.

MANUNET partners must be funding programme owners (ministries or regional authorities defining research programmes) or managers (research funding agencies managing research programmes).

## Benefits of being part of MANUNET

It is a unique opportunity for funding agencies to:

- Participate in a mature and experienced platform with equivalent organisations with the same interests.
- Increase knowledge and cooperation with funding agencies across Europe.
- Create a forum to discuss about R&D Policy and priorities in the field of manufacturing.
- Identify and share best practices to develop and implement research strategies.
- Increase knowledge of industrial and scientific communities across Europe.
- Create a critical mass at European level to carry out transnational R&D activities.
- Improve the prospects for further joint activities.

## How can SMEs benefit from your participation in MANUNET?

MANUNET is an ideal complementary programme halfway between the Horizon 2020 and the national/regional funding programmes and it is tailor-made for SMEs:

- Close to market projects.
- Short term projects and small consortia.
- Simple submission and evaluation process.
- National/regional advisors available.
- Consistent timeline (similar dates each year).
- High success ratio.

## MANUNET in figures

Since 2007 MANUNET has launched **successful yearly calls** for proposals:

- More than **850 proposals received**.
- **High involvement of SMEs** (more than 2300).
- More than **190 projects and 530 SMEs funded**.
- More than **200 M€ invested** (public and private).