REGIÓN DE MURCIA

1. GENERAL INFORMATION
- Date of application: 15 January 2010
- EER year: 2011
- Applicant: región de Murcia
- Political endorsement: application supported by Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso, President of the Murcia Region Government, Miguel del Toro Soto, President of the Murcia Regional Confederation of Business Organizations, Antonio Jiménez Sánchez, Secretary General of the UGT Trade Union and Daniel Bueno Valencia, Secretary General of CCOO Trade Union, as clearly demonstrated by the declaration (attached).
- Contact person: Luis Miguel Andres, Instituto de Fomento de la Región de Murcia, +34 968 36 28 00 or +34 968 36 28 21

2. REGIONAL DATA
- NUTS: ES62 or ES620 (NUTS 2 ou 3)
- Population: 1,424,063 inhabitants
- Area: 11,313 km2
- high rate of start-ups per capita compared to national rates
- TEA (in percentage of GDP):
  o Spain, 2008: 7%
  o 2008 GEM report points out Murcia’s higher "capacity to enterprise" than regions like France, UK, Germany or Italy and close to Finland. It also excels in "new companies’ survival rate" which used to increase an annual 35%.

3. COMPETENCES / ACTIVITIES / AWARDS IN THE FIELD OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- Member of AER and CPMR
  Institutional support to entrepreneurship and business starting up: Strong political commitment to entrepreneurship and business development (e.g. Political support from Mr Valcárcel, president of the Region of Murcia and member of the CoR); Numerous alternatives (redundant pathways) in the entrepreneurship system to increase business initiatives viability; Regional assessment and funding organisations for entrepreneurs are setting-up and consolidating
  Assets availability for entrepreneurship and business development: Many regional organisations are committed to innovation and entrepreneurship promotion (INFO, CROEM, COEC, AJE, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, etc.); Entrepreneurs and SMEs may access to innovation and business infrastructures like science and technology parks (3), incubators (17), Technology Centres (10), European BICs (2), universities (3), airports (2), railway and an industrial port; Good living standards and a good economical, social and political climate, suitable for business development and entrepreneurship
- Regional entrepreneurship plan 2009-2011 with an initial public budget of 19M€ (expecting to reach 41 M€ with private funds) and an annual rise of +10%; Introduction of "entrepreneurship and SMEs development" in major regional plans like the "Self-employment Plan" or the "Industrial Plan".