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High-Level Event: Sparking Green Innovation in Skopje, North Macedonia 17 September 2025

On 17 September 2025, NCDIEL and the GREENSMES project hosted a **High-Level Event** at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Skopje. Under the theme *“Green SMEs for a competitive, resilient and more sustainable economy”*, the event gathered key policymakers, project partners and stakeholders to explore the future of SMEs as they navigate the green and digital transition.

The morning sessions featured contributions from the Joint Secretariat IPA ADRION and TECNOPOLIS PST from Italy, alongside insights from local representatives from North Macedonia’s Ministry of Economy and Labour, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the INOVA agency. A highlight was the National SME Strategy 2025–2030 presentation, which opened a constructive conversation around real opportunities, current challenges, and practical steps for building capacity in green and digital growth.

In the afternoon, participants engaged in an interactive workshop led by Giancarlo La Pietra, an expert in innovation strategies and Design Thinking. This hands-on session encouraged participants to explore how creative ideas can be turned into actionable solutions and how greater teamwork between GREENSMES and the national strategy working group can drive progress.

The day concluded with a networking cocktail, offering a space to strengthen cooperation and exchange experiences.



This event showcased GREENSMES as a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge sharing, supporting SMEs in their journey toward sustainability and competitiveness.