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Welsh Government hosts Innovation ‘Learning Journey’ workshop with EU funding

This week the Welsh Government hosted a workshop (July 10 and July 11 2018) to share innovation and advanced manufacturing best practices with its European partners as part of the €937,661 EU-funded initiative [MANUMIX](#).

This four-year project involves a consortium of four European regions - the Basque Country, Lithuania, Finpiedmonte and Wales. It promotes best practice by undertaking, sharing and showcasing innovation policies while improving and strengthening current evaluation systems. Wales is the fourth region in this consortium to host the ‘learning journey’ workshop which was attended by 20 European delegates earlier this week.

Commenting on the workshop success, Mark Drakeford AM, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government said:

“We are committed to building and maintaining our European partnerships and this learning journey workshop provides the ideal platform to showcase Wales as an outward-looking economy with the technological expertise to become a world-class hub for innovation.”

The workshop also included site visits to two Welsh innovators to review the impact of instruments and policies. [Newport Wafer Fab](#) the world’s first ever compound semiconductor cluster hosted the first site visit. Sam Evans, Director of External Affairs for Newport Wafer Fab said:

“Compound semiconductors are defining technology for the 21st century and we welcome the opportunity to share our learning experiences in advanced manufacturing with our European colleagues as part of the Manumix initiative through our partnership with the Welsh Government.”

The second visit took place at [Cardiff Medicentre](#) a joint business incubation centre with Cardiff University and the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. Professor Ian Weeks, Dean of Clinical Innovation at Cardiff University School of Medicine said:

“Delegates have been able to see first-hand the vital role of Cardiff Medicentre in bringing government, academia, the NHS, and business together to develop tomorrow’s advances in healthcare today. As we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the NHS, collaborative



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partnerships like ours will be a potential game-changer in improving healthcare and providing opportunities for economic development for generations to come.”

For more information on the Welsh Government’s ‘Learning Journey’ and the MANUMIX project, visit www.interregeurope.eu/manumix/.