

INOVIA – an innovation center and the primary entry point to the world of innovation in the Žilina Region.

We are a public organization whose legitimacy and deep regional roots are guaranteed by our three key founders: the **Žilina Self-governing Region**, the **City of Žilina**, and the **University of Žilina**.

Through our five regional centers, we create connections between enterprising people, businesses, scientists, and local governments to transform bold ideas into real-world solutions.

We are a proud member of the **YNOVATE** innovation center network (Czech Republic and Slovakia), the **SK8** association of self-governing regions, the **Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)**, and the **CEE Startup Network** platform.

We help enterprising people improve the world and build a region where we want to live, work, and shape the future together.

INOVIA: IMPACT & RESULTS

Since its inception, INOVIA:

commands a network of more than 150 experts, helping businesses create new opportunities and find the fastest path from local success to international expansion.

has supported more than 100 companies and projects in the region and over 50 startups.

has engaged more than 1,000 students and over 50% of secondary schools in the Žilina Region through its student entrepreneurship program, connecting them with the real world of business.

has provided over 100 hours of guidance and consultations to 30 scientists and researchers.

serves as a strategic partner for regional municipalities, assisting them in implementing smart solutions.

organized international events for startups and the business sphere for the first time in Slovakia, putting the region on the European innovation map (e.g., CEE Startup Voucher, Ynovate Fest).

operates 5 regional centers across the region, providing services to companies, communities, local governments, and schools.

launched 4 innovation hubs as virtual platforms spanning across Slovakia (Green Innovation Hub, HealthCare Innovation Hub, Tech Innovation Hub, Social Innovation Hub).

In 2025, INOVIA launched a landmark project: Coordinated Systematic Innovation Development of the Žilina Region. This project stands on four main pillars: mapping the regional innovation ecosystem, building innovation hubs, implementing innovation support programs, and opening five regional centers: Turiec, Liptov, Orava, Kysuce, and Žilina. The project is co-funded by the Programme Slovakia and the European Union.

INOVIA is also about concrete success stories:

Global Expansion: A Žilina-based IT company used an innovation voucher to gain connections and investors, leading to active sales abroad and a visit to Silicon Valley.

Efficiency in Manufacturing: A small manufacturing firm from the Liptov region significantly streamlined its processes through collaboration with an expert, increasing its production capacity by 40%.

Ecological Innovation: By connecting with researchers from eastern Slovakia, a company in the village of Svederník obtained an ecological fertilizer, increasing yields while reducing costs.

There is much more to how INOVIA helps – visit <https://inovia.sk/blog>.

Helping enterprising people improve the world.

INOVIA: QUICK FACTS

Established: 2021

Headquarters: Žilina, Slovakia

Area of Operation: Žilina Self-governing Region

Legal Status: Interest association of legal entities

Founders: Žilina Self-governing Region, City of Žilina, University of Žilina

Key People: Vlastimil Kocián, CEO

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