**SMEs and Researchers met online – proving that even in the difficult times of COVID19 it is still possible to boost innovation opportunities**

***Research and Technology Organisations, SMEs and clusters of companies from Central Europe met on an online platform to set up innovative projects and ideas based on cutting edge technologies. KETGATE Project organised this matching event and assisted companies.***

KETGATE and 38 Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) Local Contact Points from all over Central Europe have joined forces to organize this completely [virtual brokerage event](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQ1ijQFJtQU). The goal of this event was that SMEs and RTOs **get together to workout cooperation agreements**.

The meetings were planned to take place in Budapest (Hungary), however to face the current situation generated by the outbreak of the COVID-19, we decided to upgrade the event to a completely virtual environment.

This unique matchmaking activity gathered more than 300 participants from 23 countries. More than 300 pre-arranged b2b meetings offered companies the opportunity to meet representatives of EU leading applied research organisations and innovative enterprises. Researchers also had a chance to present their innovative technologies to SMEs’ representatives and to find synergetic collaborations with other research players active in the field of key enabling technologies.

Within the framework of the KETGATE project, companies and key enabling technologies providers were offered the unique possibility to meet and find valuable collaboration opportunities to exploit innovation potentialities.

One of the highlights of the event was **a webinar and a press conference that provided the framework for the official launch of the KETGATE Network**.

The mission of the KETGATE Network is to help businesses reach science and to help science reach businesses. For the moment, the network consists of 23 KETGATE Points covering a big part of Central Europe. All KETGATE Points are experts in the field of technology transfer and are important stakeholders in their regions. The network is called to grow, so [let us know](https://ketgate.eu/about-us/) if you are interested in becoming a part of it.

For more information please visit our website: [ketgate.eu](https://ketgate.eu/)

[](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ketgate-network-008b63149/)[](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxt2LWmMdZyb1SqLBGlPZnA)Follow the news of KETGATE Network on:

[ketgate@steinbeis-europa.de](mailto:ketgate@steinbeis-europa.de)

KETGATE project is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund via Interreg Central Europe

**KETGATE PROJECT PARTNERS**

**[](http://web.tera.hr/)**

[](https://www.steinbeis-europa.de/)

[](https://www.joanneum.at/en/materials.html)[](http://www.bayzoltan.hu/hu/fooldal/)[](https://www.ijs.si/ijsw/JSI)[](https://gapr.pl/en/)[](https://www.venetoinnovazione.it/)[](http://nca.cz/en)