



**STRENGTHENING THE RESILIENCE OF
TEXTILE, AEROSPACE, AND CONSTRUCTION
SMES TO TRANSITION TOWARDS GREENER
AND MORE DIGITAL SECTORS WITH SOCIAL
AND BUSINESS INNOVATION**

Grant Agreement number 101091494

Deliverable - D5.4 Networking platform operative report and manuals

Lead partner: 

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In Transit aims to strengthen the resilience of textile, aerospace and construction SMEs towards greener and more digital sectors with social and business model, with a mixed support mechanism including individual assessment support and a lump sum and coaching to ensure their consolidation and sustainability. In Transit will provide an open online collaborative platform involving innovation actors from the aerospace, construction, and textile sectors that will serve as a space for sharing best practices and as a matchmaking system for new ideas for innovation and circular economy and new collaboration partnerships.

The present document compiles the main aspects for the operation of the online networking platform aimed at external SMEs interested in meeting potential partners for submitting joint applications for any of the calls for In Transit, for further cooperation development and establish synergies and valuable connections.

The present deliverable is developed within the framework of the Work Package 5 - *Communication, Dissemination, and Exploitation of Results* with AEI Tèxtils as platform manager and WP leader.

The aim of the deliverable is to support SMEs to better understand the procedures and operation of the online platform for networking tool to maximize their impact.

KEY WORDS: IN TRANSIT; TEXTILE SECTOR; AEROSPACE SECTOR; CONSTRUCTION SECTOR; SMES; NETWORKING PLATFORM

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In Transit Project

European construction and textile industries are seeking to embrace new market opportunities to grow and increase their competitiveness through the creation of high-added value products, which is particularly relevant in this unprecedented time.

In Transit will provide dedicated support to SMEs through a combination of different mechanisms to enable cross-sectoral and cross-border innovative activities. In Transit will facilitate the uptake of advanced manufacturing technologies as part of the digital transition of the textile, construction and aerospace industries.

The consortium partners that bring this cross-regional partnership to life have an extended network, which comprises seven innovation clusters from advanced manufacturing, construction, and textile industries, one business incubator and accelerator one university and one research center.

Participant Organization Name	Country
ATEVAL - Asociación De Empresarios Textiles de La Región Valenciana	Spain
AEI Tèxtils - Associació Agrupació d'Empreses Innovadores Tèxtils	Spain
CSS – Slovenski Gradbeni Grozd, Gospodarsko Interesno Zdruzenje	Slovenia
ATHENA/CORALLIA - Athina-Erevnitiko Kentro Kainotomias Stis Technologies Tis Pliroforias, Ton Epikoinonion Kai Tis Gnosis	Greece
FCTA - Fundación Corporación Tecnológica de Andalucía	Spain
TUS – Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest	Ireland
POLIMI – Politecnico di Milano	Italy
SPG - Science Park Graz GmbH	Austria
PRODUTECH - Associação Para As Tecnologias De Produção Sustentável	Portugal
IRT JULES VERNE – Institut de Recherche Technologique Jules Verne	France

Table 1 – In Transit Consortium Partners

The consortium will capitalize on their ecosystems and their strong networks and partnerships across Europe and their participation in other European projects.

The IN TRANSIT project enables SMEs to benefit from the rise of sustainable and innovative business models and practices. The Project can significantly disrupt business practices by merging advanced technologies and contributing to a more sustainable ecosystem. IN TRANSIT offers services leading to digital uptake towards more sustainable production patterns, connecting SMEs with innovation networks and digital solutions providers to assess them about the system that better suits their circular business model. The Project will collaborate with SMEs, connecting them with innovation, knowledge networks, and digital solutions providers with a multi-sectoral approach.

IN TRANSIT members can offer cross-border high-level expertise in various domains of competence. Moreover, IN TRANSIT is a bridge to connect SMEs with other relevant stakeholders in Europe (technology clusters, digital innovation hubs, open innovation test-beds) with whom close connections are already established.

1.2 In Transit incubation space for innovation

To be able to seed innovative industrial value chains and circular business models and the needed link for establishing cross-border and cross-sectoral partnerships, it will be created a collaboration space with activities directed towards cross-sectoral and cross-border cooperation building, generating trust and get-to-know the different sectors involved by embracing social non technological innovations.

The In Transit incubation space for innovation will be an open-innovation collaboration space to promote cross-sectoral innovation, generate innovative and sustainable business models, processes, or products, and the point of encounter between established industry and entrepreneurs. This space will connect the different innovation actors across the EU from the textile, construction, R&D, and DIH.

The online space will gather and direct relevant reports to the different sectors' training materials collected from different sources during the preparation and mapping. The space will also host the different webinars towards fostering cross-sectoral collaboration prepared by the consortium members.

Partners will provide through the platform support and training to SMEs on various types of funding for their project and how to leverage them and funding options at each region with the overall objective to push for scaling up the new innovative or circular business models.

1.3 In Transit objectives

The In Transit project enables SMEs to benefit from the rise of sustainable and innovative business models and practices. The project can significantly disrupt business practices by merging advanced technologies and contributing to a more sustainable eco-system. In Transit offers services leading to digital uptake towards more sustainable production patterns, connecting SMEs with innovation networks and digital solutions providers to assess them about the system that better suits their circular business model. The Project will collaborate with SMEs, connecting them with innovation, knowledge networks, and digital solutions providers with a multi-sectoral approach. In this regard, In Transit presents the following main objectives of the project:

Support Objectives of the European Green Deal with EU SME Strategy

To promote business models innovation by SMEs with a mixed support mechanism including individual assessment support and a lump sum and coaching to ensure their consolidation and sustainability. All the activities shall be aligned with the EU Circular Economy Action Plan, setting out sustainability principles and specific requirements linked to environmental and social aspects in resource-intensive industries (textile & construction as such, and ICT & electronics for aerospace). The activities also reflect the European Industrial Strategy, improving resilience in three industrial ecosystems prioritized as textile, construction and aerospace.

Stronger innovation support ecosystems supporting the green, social and economic transition of SMEs as a path towards building a more resilient European industry

Provide an open online collaborative platform involving innovation actors from the aerospace, construction, and textile sectors and countries that will share best practices and as a matchmaking system for new ideas for innovation and circular economy and new collaboration partnerships. Incentives for leaders to share their best practices with peers should be identified in the context of EU support to industrial ecosystems.

In this open innovation and collaborative space, In Transit will implement a strategic framework to seed, explore, and scale-up new sustainable and digital value chains based on the EU Green Deal, New EU Industrial Strategy: building resilient, autonomous European industries, and EU SME Strategy guidelines to shape the SMEs' transition towards a greener business model. Joining pioneering technologies, innovative business models, and new partnerships transforms a business's ability to drive economic and societal impact.

Foster cross-regional and cross-sectoral links

With dedicated learning visits in combination with innovation workshops and matchmakings to establish the seed for collaboration among sectors by identifying potential partners for commercial and innovation cooperation that will ultimately generate growth opportunities for SMEs. Increase competitiveness and resilience of SMEs through the uptake of advanced technologies to become greener to support capabilities and capacities to increase uptake by SMEs to adopt resource efficiency, eco-innovation and/or circular economy strategies and practices through advanced technologies.

In Transit enables strategic collaborations with technology companies to access state-of-the-art digital technologies in the textile, construction, and aerospace industry. The competitiveness of the European industry concerning scalable new products implies overcoming barriers not just in terms of higher technology readiness but also access to testing facilities (DIH).

Increase the resilience of SMEs by supporting their transition to more sustainable business models

Increasing SME competitiveness and resilience through cross-sectoral inter-cluster cooperation and establishing new sustainable and digital business models.

The In Transit space for innovation will foster open innovation tools among SMEs to promote a cultural shift to collaboration with other SMEs and innovation actors. In addition, it will create a marketplace (and entry point) for potential entrepreneurs and investors to engage and identify suitable partners to build collaborative structured projects capable of addressing cross-sectoral and emerging challenges offered by CE and digitalization.

2. ONLINE PLATFORM FOR NETWORKING

2.1 In Transit online networking platform

The online platform for virtual networking is based on B2Match software and is accessible through the following link: <https://community.intransitproject.eu/> (the networking platform will be available from 31st May 2023).

The platform is accessible from the main page of In Transit project through the link pointing to the community as well.

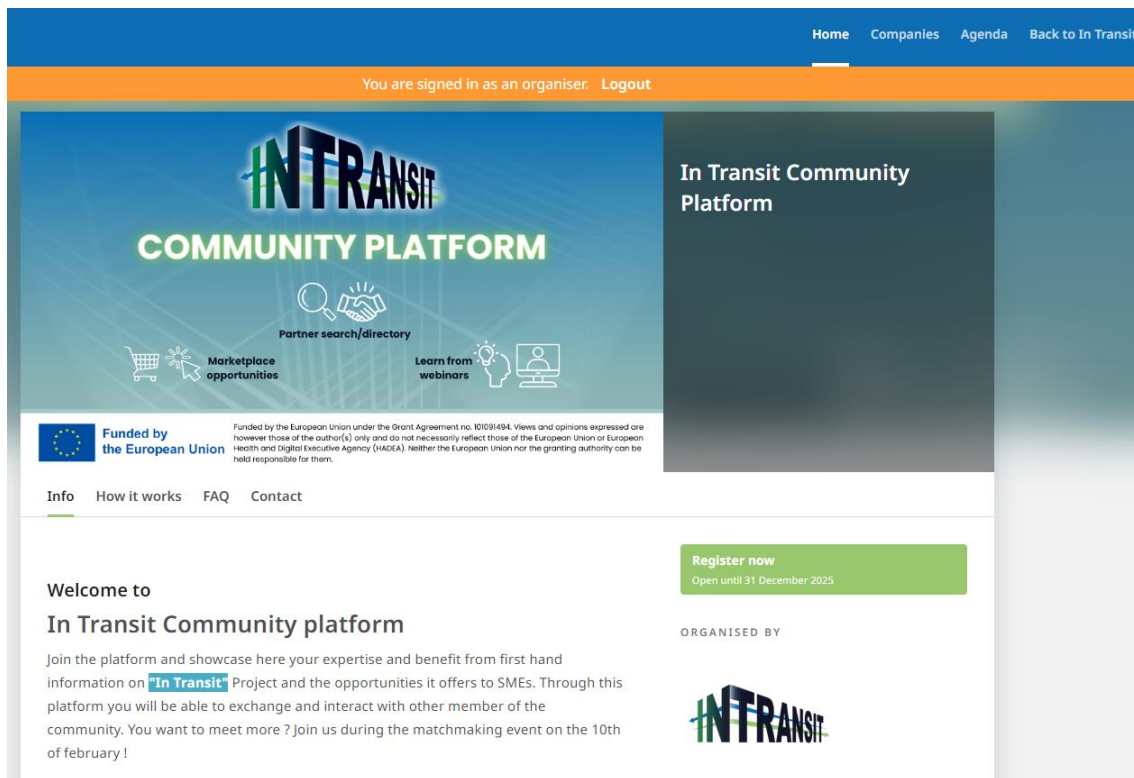


Figure 1 – Homepage of community platform for networking.

2.2 Virtual matchmaking events - How do they work?

A matchmaking event is a quick and easy way to meet potential cooperation partners. 20 minutes run fast, but they are enough to build first connections before the meeting ends and the next talk starts.



Figure 2 - Preview of functionality of videochat of the In Transit community

1) Registration

Register via the [Register](#) button.

2) Publish a business profile to showcase your needs

Create a clear and concise business profile to raise your visibility on the b2match platform.

Your profile should describe who you are, what you can offer to potential partners, and who you want to meet. A good profile will generate significantly more meeting requests.

3) Browse profiles of attendees

Go to the [participants list](#) to find out who is offering interesting and promising business opportunities.

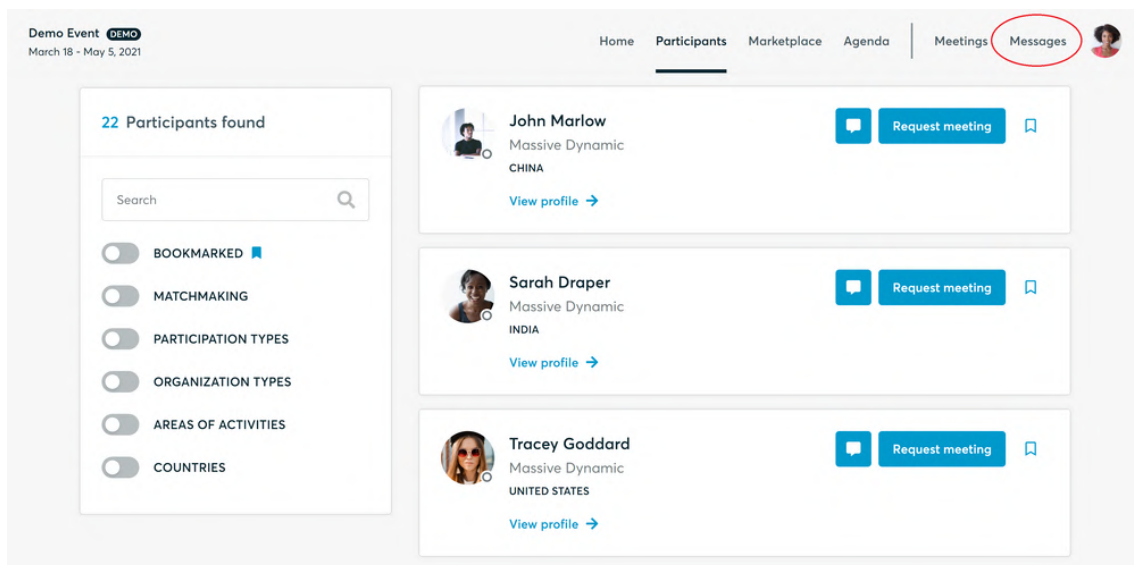
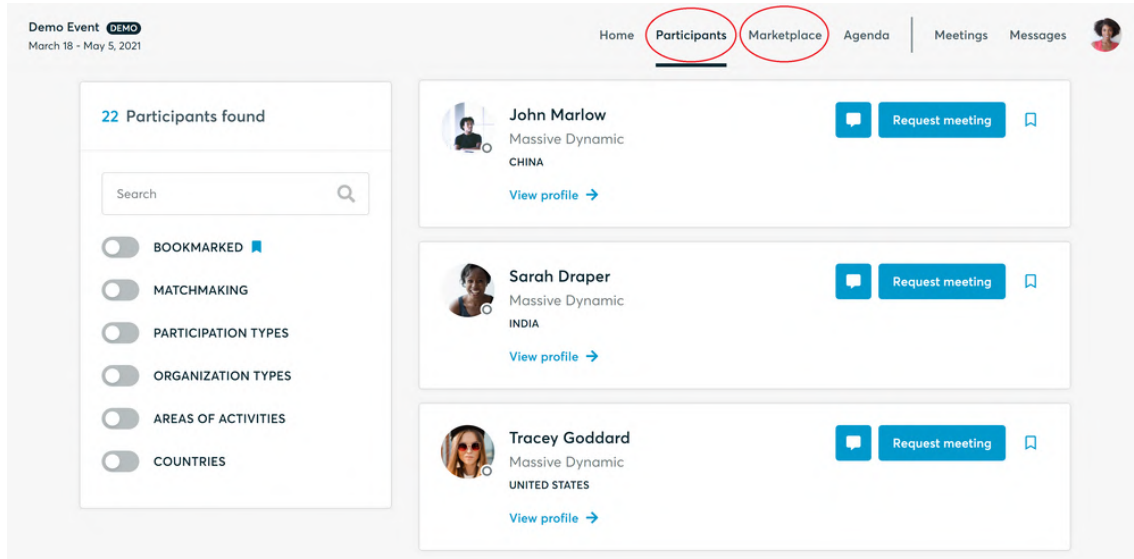
4) Send & receive meeting requests

Browse [published participants profiles](#) and send meeting requests to those you want to meet during the event.

5) Matchmaking Event

Access your meetings in [My Agenda](#) or [Meetings](#), where you have your complete schedule for the event and the list of your meetings. Check your camera and microphone and don't be late!

How to initiate a Virtual Meeting?



Demo Event **DEMO**
March 18 - May 5, 2021

Home
Participants
Marketplace
Agenda
Meetings
Messages

22 Participants found

☐ BOOKMARKED
☐ MATCHMAKING
☐ PARTICIPATION TYPES
☐ ORGANIZATION TYPES
☐ AREAS OF ACTIVITIES
☐ COUNTRIES

John Marlow
Massive Dynamic
CHINA
[View profile](#)

Request meeting

Sarah Draper
Massive Dynamic
INDIA
[View profile](#)

Request meeting

Tracey Goddard
Massive Dynamic
UNITED STATES
[View profile](#)

Request meeting

Demo Event **DEMO**
March 18 - May 5, 2021

Home
Participants
Marketplace
Agenda
Meetings
Messages

Sarah Draper
Massive Dynamic
[Send message](#)
[Request meeting](#)

M
R&D Institution / Startup
Massive Dynamic

Massive Dynamic is an awesome innovation organization. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.

VALUE CHAIN

[Sales & Distribution](#)
[Service / Maintenance / Supply](#)
[Software & App Development](#)
[Testing & Analysis](#)

Registered on August 18, 2020

Demo Event **DEMO**
March 18 - May 5, 2021

Home
Participants
Marketplace
Agenda
Meetings
Messages

1:1 Meetings

Camera and microphone test

ALL 15
ACCEPTED 11
PENDING 0
CANCELED 4

AVAILABILITY

The meetings and sessions schedule is displayed in the Europe/London time zone (the current time is 10:53). [Change](#)

Next meetings

Jane Doe, Project Manager at b2match

Sarah Draper, Massive Dynamic

12:30 - 13:00
Wednesday, May 05
Online Video Meeting

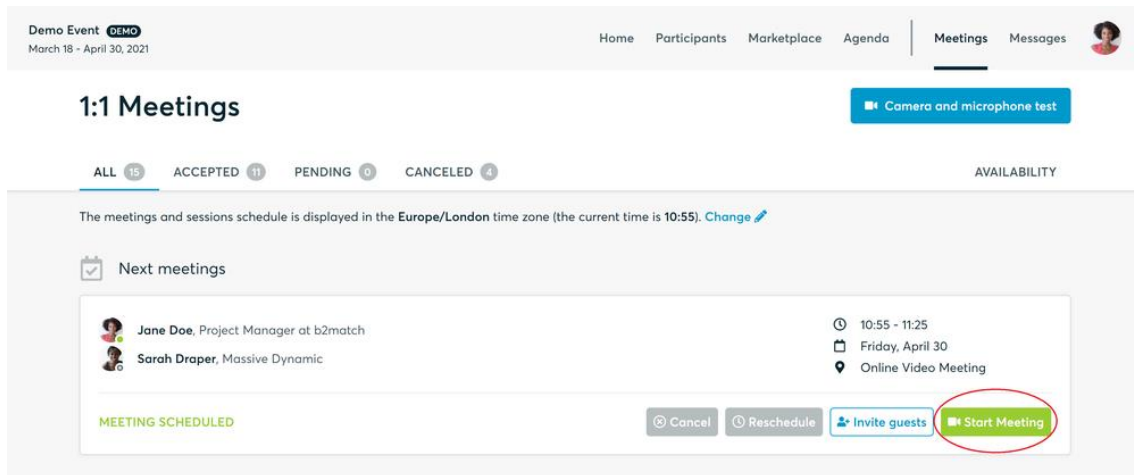
MEETING SCHEDULED

Cancel
Reschedule
Invite guests
Starts in 5 days

Deliverable 5.4 version: 1.0

PUBLIC

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Technical requirements for Virtual meetings

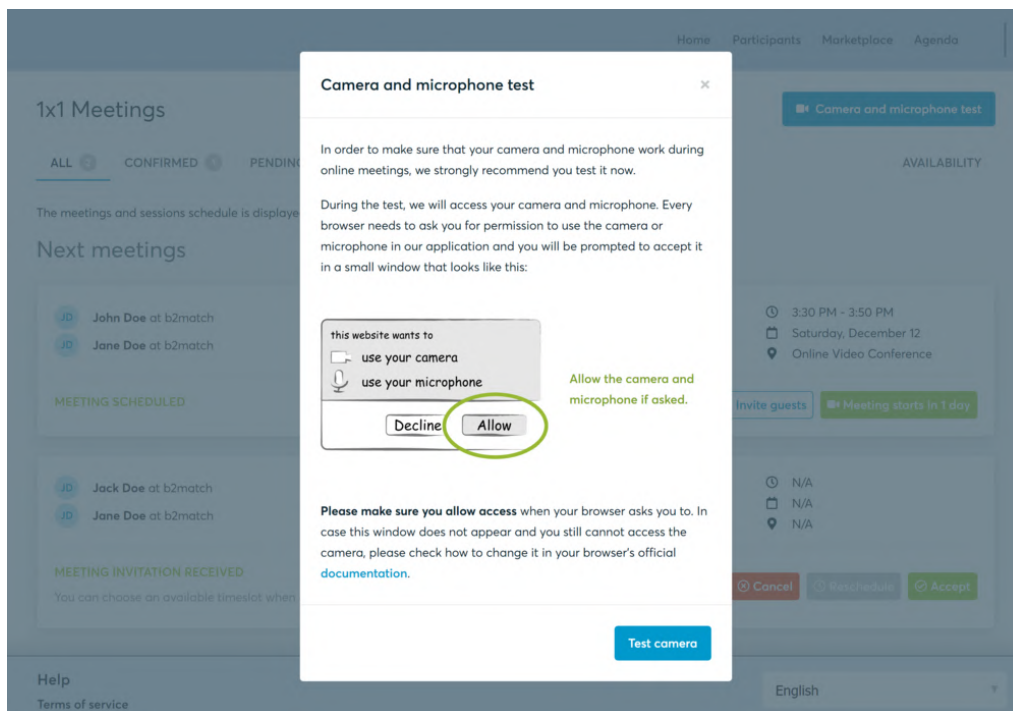
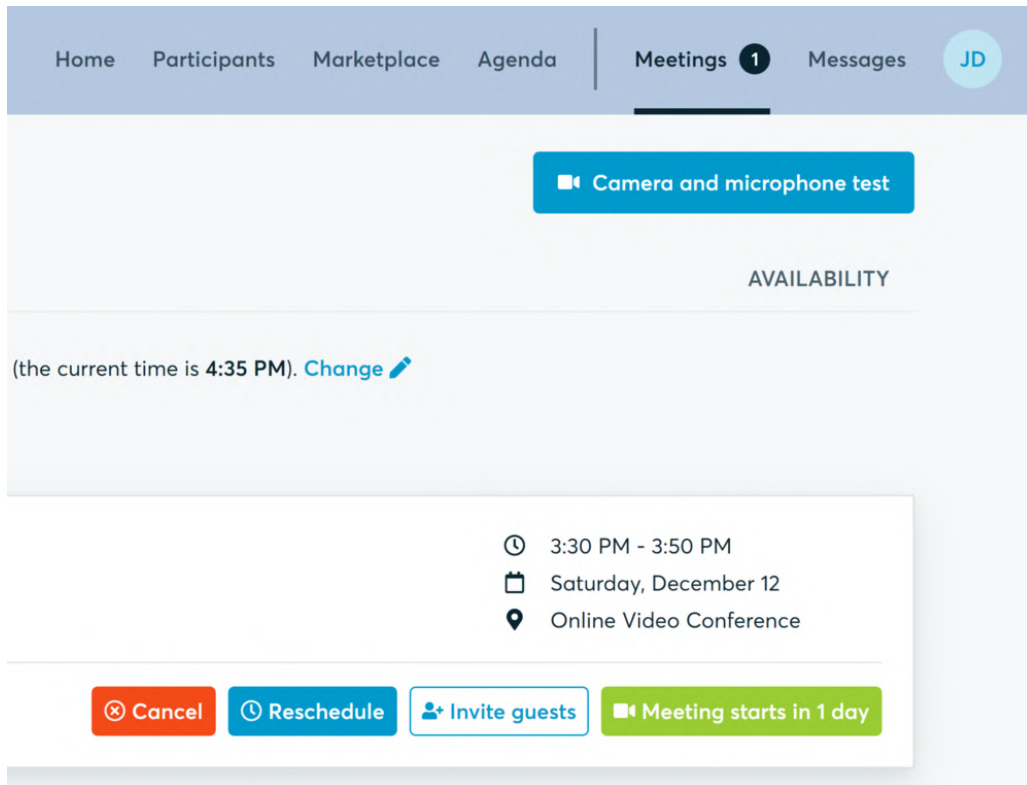
The virtual meetings take place through the b2match video tool, which is integrated in the b2match platform and it doesn't need to/it can't be downloaded.

- install the latest version of your browser
 - o [download latest Google Chrome version](#)
 - o [download latest Mozilla Firefox version](#)
 - o [download latest Microsoft Edge version](#)
 - o [find out what browser you're using and if it is up to date](#)

Use a device with an incorporated webcam or a webcam. Without the camera, the meeting can still take place in the audio mode.

Microphone and camera

You can test your microphone and camera in your [Meetings](#) list, once you are logged in to your b2match profile. In order to do this, you need to click the blue **Camera and microphone test** and follow the instructions.



If there are issues, the system will indicate the browser's documentation's regarding the microphone and camera usage

- browser's permissions to use the microphone and camera
 - o [Using your camera and microphone in Google Chrome](#)
 - o [How to manage your camera and microphone permissions with Firefox](#)

- system's permissions for the microphone and camera
 - o [how to set up and test microphones in Windows 10](#)
 - o [change the sound input settings on Mac](#)

Additionally, you can do the following checks:

- test your microphone with other apps, such as Google Meet, Skype, Zoom, etc.
- run [Twilio's network test](#), which will start an automatic diagnosis to check if Twilio has permission to use your microphone and camera
 - o Twilio is the name of the software we use for online meetings

3. ONLINE PLATFORM FAQs

3.1 Profile

What do I do if I forget my password?

- Click [here](#) or click [Login](#) in the upper right corner of the event website
- Click the "Forgot password?" link
- Enter the email address you used to register for the event
- Click the [Reset Password](#) button
- You will receive an email with a "Reset Password" button
- Click the button and enter your new password in the "New Password field"
- Repeat the new password in the "Repeat Password" field and click [Reset your password](#)

Please check your spam and/or promotions inbox in case you did not receive the password reset email!

How do I change my password?

- [Log in](#) using your email address and your password.
- Go to [Account Settings](#) in your Dashboard, under your profile picture
- Go to the "Change password" section
- Type the old password in the "Old Password" field and the new password in the "New Password" field
- Repeat the new password in the "Repeat Password" field and save.

Please check your spam and/or promotions inbox in case you did not receive the password reset email!

How do I change my email address?

- [Log in](#) using your email address and your password.
- Go to [Account Settings](#) in your Dashboard, under your profile picture
- Enter the new email address in the **Account email address** field
 - Please note that you cannot change your email address to one that already exists in our system
- Click on **Update Email Address**
- Wait for the confirmation email in your inbox and then confirm it

How do I change my time zone?

- Click the [Edit my profile](#) button in your Dashboard or click [here](#)
- Select a time zone from the dropdown menu in the "Personal Information" section
- Make sure you set your time zone correctly because the agenda and your meetings will be displayed according to the time zone you have selected

Why is my profile not activated yet?

- If you see a message saying "Your profile is waiting to be activated" when you log in, it means that the event organizers have not done so yet
- If you believe your profile should have been activated already, please check the [Contacts](#) page and let the event organizers know

3.2 Meetings

How do I request a meeting with someone?

- Go to the [Participants list](#) and browse through the profiles
- Click the [Request meeting](#) button
- Choose the time and date of the meeting
- Click [Send request](#)

or

- Click "View Profile →" if you want to get more information about the participants
- Click the [Request meeting](#) button below their profile picture
- Choose the time and date of the meeting
- Click [Send request](#)

How to check if my camera/microphone is working?

- Please check that your browser has permission to use your camera/microphone
- Click the [Camera and microphone test](#) button in your [Meetings](#) and follow the instructions
- Depending on your browser settings you may be asked to confirm the activation of the Camera/Microphone through a pop-up dialog form
- If you have already declined to give your browser permission to use your camera and microphone, you will need to adjust the browser's settings
- How to adjust the microphone/camera related settings in your browser?
 - [Google Chrome](#)
 - [Mozilla Firefox](#)
 - [Opera](#)
- If none of the above works, consider switching to another device to join the meetings.

How can I share my screen during meetings?



- Click the Screen Sharing icon right next to the camera icon
- Choose what to share (your entire screen, a window, or just one browser tab)
- After you have selected, click the [Share](#) button

Please note that if you share your screen while playing a video, the other participant(s) will **not hear the sound** unless it's coming from your PC/laptop and is loud enough for your microphone to pick it up.

Can I invite a third person to my meeting?

- You can invite other people, such as your colleagues, to join the meeting
- To do so, go to your **Meetings** page and click the **Invite guests** button that is visible in all your upcoming meetings
- A pop-up window will appear with a direct link you can send to anyone you want
- When that person clicks on the link, they will be redirected directly to the online meeting
 - The person does not have to be registered for the event or have a b2match profile to join the online meeting this way
- You can access the invitation link even if you have already started the meeting by clicking the Invite guest icon in the bottom left corner of your screen



Please do not share your login information with your colleagues if you want them to join your meeting. If two people are logged in to the same profile and join the online meeting, one of them will be kicked out. **Always** use the direct link to invite other people.

Why can't I request meetings with some participants?

- Participants available for meeting requests are indicated with the **Request meeting** button. If the button is gray:
 - You may not have registered for any meetings sessions
 - please make yourself available for meeting sessions via **Agenda** or **Availability**
 - The participant you want to meet might not have registered for any meeting sessions
 - Booking rules applied by the event organizer might not allow booking specific participant groups, e.g. no meetings among Sellers & Sellers; Start-ups can't send meetings requests to Investors, etc.
 - You might not have any common overlapping meeting sessions
 - Please sign-up for some additional meeting sessions via **Agenda** or **Availability**

3.3. Agenda

How do I add sessions to my agenda?

- To add sessions to your agenda, you first have to go to the **Event Agenda** where you can see the available sessions
 - Click on the session to see the description if there is one
- When you see a session you want to attend, click the **Add** button
 - If you do not see the Add button, it is possible that you are not logged in to your profile or that the event has registration rules which prevent certain participants to attend the session
- The session will now be visible in **My Agenda**

How can I join an online session?

- Click the **Join Online Session** button to be redirected to the online video conferencing tool
 - This button will become available shortly before the session begins
 - If the button is not available, it is possible that you are not logged into your profile, or that you did not add this session to your attendance

3.4 Marketplace

How to create a Marketplace item?

- To add a Marketplace Item go to your **Dashboard** or the **My Opportunities** sector in the Marketplace
- Select the type of Marketplace Item you want to upload
 - Depending on the event, the available options may include *Product, Service, Partnership, Project Cooperation, Investment, Expertise, or Request*
- Enter the title and description of your Marketplace item
- Select one or more classifiers
 - Depending on the event, the available options may include *Market Application Keywords, Type of Service, Project Stage, Expertize Fields, Investment, Expertise, What are you looking for?, etc.*
- Click the **Save** button in the lower right corner

How can I add files to my Marketplace item?

- To add an image:
 - Click the **Add image** button
 - Select an image from your device
 - If you want, you can add more images and when you're done, click **Save**
 - The supported image formats include: .jpg, .jpeg, .gif and .png

- To add a file:
 - o Click the **Select file** button
 - o Select a file from your device
 - o Enter a name for the file
 - The file you upload will be displayed as a link, and when clicked, it will open in a separate browser tab
 - o Click the **Add file** button and then **Save**
 - o The supported file formats include: .pdf, .doc, .docx, .xls, and .xlsx

- To add a YouTube video:
 - o Enter the video title
 - o Paste the YouTube link
 - o Click the **Add video** button and then **Save**
 - o The video will appear as an embedded mini player and other participants will be able to watch it directly on the Marketplace Item

4. FURTHER QUESTIONS

In case of further questions about the operation of the networking platform please contact In Transit partnership at hello@intransitproject.eu.