European and Latin American network to promote the co-generation and development of technology based business opportunities.

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The ELAN Programme (European and Latin American Business Services and Innovation Network) is a European Union (EU) initiative that seeks to increase and diversify the EU economic presence in Latin America, by meeting the Latin American demand for knowledge and innovative technology.

ELAN also aims to boost the opportunities that both markets offer for European and Latin American SMEs, through two interdependent strategies:

**European and Latin American Business Services (ELAN Biz):** whose main objective is to provide up-to-date and comprehensive information services to European SMEs interested in doing business in strategic Latin American countries.

**European and Latin American Technology based Business Network (ELAN Network):** whose main purpose is to generate technology-based business opportunities between European and Latin American SMEs.
The ELAN Network is a space for collaboration, co-generation and development of technology based business opportunities between Europe and Latin America. It brings together key European and Latin American research and innovation actors (R&I), who promote technology based transformation processes and economic growth, in order to:

- **Promote the generation of technology based business opportunities between European and Latin American SMEs**, enhancing R&D results with a business model that responds to market demands.

- **Promote the exchange of knowledge, technology transfer** and co-creation processes to foster the **competitiveness of SMEs** and an equitable and sustainable socio-economic development.

- **Accompany innovative SMEs** in their efforts to **transfer technology** to new geographical markets.

The ELAN Network is **focused on the following sectors:**

- Renewable Energies
- Biotechnology & Bioeconomy
- Environmental Technologies
- Health
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
- Nanotechnologies
- New Materials

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**Space for collaboration, co-generation and development of technology based business opportunities between Europe and Latin America.**
Axes of The ELAN Network

- Vision that combines **strategy, technology and business opportunities**.
- **Technology** as a factor of **competitiveness and welfare**.
- Service vocation towards **SMEs** in order to enhance their **competitiveness**.
- Focus on implementing the **results of technological research** in companies.
- **Co-generation / co-development** of business opportunities.
- **Opportunities for collaboration** articulated through the **ELAN platform** hosted at [www.elannetwork.org](http://www.elannetwork.org).

- Organisation of 21 **events** in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Peru, with a focus on **technology transfer and generating business opportunities** between European and Latin American SMEs.
- Organisation of 6 **technology missions** from Latin America to Belgium, Croatia, Spain, Finland, Netherlands, Norway and Poland with the aim of generating **technology based business opportunities** and sustainable partnerships between European and Latin American R&I actors.

A Network where every event generates opportunities.
Focus of The ELAN Network: SMEs

- Identification of technology based business opportunities.
- Identification of partners, technologies and funding sources needed to develop specific business opportunities.
- Training in technology transfer, entrepreneurship and technology based businesses.
- A network of technology centers willing to support the development of new ideas, technologies and opportunities.
- A network open to investors interested in investing in technology.
- A network that generates networking opportunities between European and Latin American companies.

A Network for SMEs with a clear vision for the future, interested in taking part in the best technology based business opportunities.
Who Can Become a Partner of The ELAN Network?

- **Knowledge and technology based organisations** with an ability and interest in identifying the best ideas, in order to transform them into business.

- **Public sector actors**, drivers of the innovation ecosystem in their territories and promotors of programmes and policies that support the generation of business opportunities.

- **Organisations that promote entrepreneurship**, and are committed to finding the best technological opportunities to generate business.

- **Business support organisations** that work with SMEs committed to innovation.

- **Innovative SMEs** wishing to generate new technology based businesses and their share best practices with other SMEs.

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**Only entities that are proactive, participative, open to learning, collaborative and willing to create a win-win context may be part of the ELAN Network.**

The ELAN Network: an engine that drives the co-generation of technology-based business opportunities between Europe and Latin America.
The ELAN Network: Members

The ELAN Network, coordinated by TECNALIA, is initially composed of a group of organisations, leaders in their countries in the support, advocacy and mobilisation of the innovation and technology transfer processes.

The aim is to extend the Network to incorporate other actors and innovative SMEs, forming a wide network of partnerships and co-generation of technology-based business opportunities.