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S P E C I A L E
PARTNERSHIP REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2
(FP6-2004-KNOW-REG-2)

NUMERO 2 - APRILE 2005

Approfondimenti monografici su tematiche di interesse per la Regione Abruzzo

PRESENTAZIONE

Sperando di fare cosa gradita, in questo numero dello Speciale presentiamo una ricca serie di richieste partnership relative a Regions of knowledge 2 (FP6-2004-KNOW-REG-2). Si tratta di proposte che - in generale - reputiamo molto interessanti e ci auguriamo che possano suscitare il vivo interesse di tutti (anche perché siamo giunti alla fase finale della elaborazione e della presentazione dei progetti).

La maggior parte di queste opportunità ci viene fornita per il tramite di due network specializzati, la rete I.R.E (Rete di riferimento della Commissione per tutte le iniziative legate a “Regions of Knowledge”) ed ERRIN (“Progetto pilota” varato in occasione della prima edizione di Regions of Knowledge”, alle cui attività la Regione Abruzzo, ed in particolare il Servizio di collegamento di Bruxelles, partecipano attivamente.

Ricordiamo che la scadenza per la presentazione dei progetti è fissata al 19 maggio 2005. e naturalmente invitiamo tutti coloro che abbiano bisogno di ulteriori indicazioni, ivi inclusa la necessità di contattare direttamente i partner, di non esitare a comunicarcelo.

Di seguito riportiamo il link al bando pubblicato nella Gazzetta Ufficiale:

http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/it/oj/2004/c_325/c_32520041231it00020005.pdf

(Servizio di Collegamento con l'U.E.)

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 – IDEA PROGETTUALE (Coventry University Enterprises / West Midlands)

Support for the coherent development of policies

Introduction

The integration and co-ordination between private and public RTD investment, and appropriate support through RTD policy and infrastructure is essential in enabling the economic progress of the

European Research Area, but also in the establishment of the social and other economic structures in European regions.

Coventry University Enterprises proposes to submit an application under the 6th Framework Programme, Strengthening the foundations of the European Research Area, Support for the coherent development of policies – **‘Regions of Knowledge 2’. Proposal Outline**

The project aims to provide appropriate mechanisms, resources and outputs which will enable the development, understanding and integration of regional RTD policy at a regional level, including the co-ordination of private/public investment and understanding of the complementarities between RTD infrastructures.

The development of concrete measures to enable the delivery of appropriate structures and policy on RTD require an understanding of the issues affecting the mechanisms and infrastructure, together with the ability to recognise the good practice in many areas.

As a key element of this proposal, initial primary research will be undertaken into the strengths and weaknesses of the individual partner regions, highlighting the potential areas of knowledge exchange, learning and future policy development and implementation. Additional consideration will be given to the strengths and opportunities offered through those regions not directly involved in the project and the impact of these on further integration and the raising of standards.

Foresight approaches are commonly undertaken at the regional level, in many cases with passing reference only to the national and European environment. The approach of this proposal recognises that, in delivering foresight for economic development, that investment in RTD, both small and large, operates on a global scale and the issues affecting policy development and implementation, and as a consequence the

development of the individual region, needs to be concerned with international trends. **A direct result of this project will be the creation of consistent foresight scenarios for regions across Europe and a global and European analysis of trends and drivers affecting RTD investment, policy and infrastructure.**

This proposal builds in part on the work of the West Midlands region, which has been cited by the European Commission with regard to its work on Regional Foresight. This approach brings together key actors from within clusters in each region (not just researchers and academics) and explores the global challenges and opportunities that they face, to draw together a global regional foresight. *Partners are sought with similar areas of expertise and knowledge, or who are looking to undertake foresight activity of this type for the first time.*

The project will bring together people from regional development organisations, enterprise, the science base and key actors involved both in policy development but also implementation from across Europe to form a network to produce a coherent and consistent set of regional foresight scenarios and a global and European analysis of economic trends and drivers

The project will also transfer the principles and knowledge gained within the Coventry University Enterprises, Creativity Lab to the other partner regions. The Creativity Lab is a purpose built facility designed to communicate future scenarios and to encourage people (both in the public and private sector) to think differently and to plan for the future.

Partners are sought with experience of the development and exploitation of future scenarios, or who are interested in initiating this area of work.

This project will pilot a delivery mechanism for the development of inter-European foresight scenario’s for regional innovation systems in the area of RTD, Information and Society.

Key to ensuring the coordination and cohesive integration of new models, mechanisms and policy is the provision of the ongoing support for those undertaking this for the first time, or who are looking to develop new innovative approaches to RTD investment. It is often the case that actions or reports are developed and promoted, with limited support given to the resource needed for implementation.

The project aims to establish a mentoring network which will be initiated through a series of study programmes in the partner regions, but will subsequently be integrated into the mainstream activities of the partners and continue to be supported through the coordinators own programmes and ultimately widen the activities across other Member States. The project will include regional workshops, study visits and a conference.

The ultimate objective of the project is to enable the development of new policy structure at a regional level, ensuring the implementation of appropriate mechanisms for competence, understanding, exploitation and increased investment in RTD

The project will involve key individuals at all levels, in particular those responsibility for the establishment of policy mechanisms, but also those directly involved in the provision of investment and management of RTD, including proposals for future Structural Funds support

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REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 – IDEA PROGETTUALE (RITTS-Lüneburg)

On 31st December 2004 the EU published its call “Regions of Knowledge II”. The objective of this tender consists in the increase of the share of research and development in the regions or rather in the creation of prerequisites in the regions to initiate activities of research and development.

RITTS-Lüneburg or rather the cooperating organisations and persons will take part in this tender. We consider this programme as a great chance to increase the R+D-Activities in our region to obtain an additional value for the region and for the participating RITTS-Partner.

During the first step of this project, we would like to register all instruments offered in the region which are used to initiate R+D-Activities in a concise stock-taking. In the exchange of experience with other project-partners, these instruments are to be optimized or new instruments shall be developed so that better R+D-Activities for the regional economy can be initiated.

Together with representatives of economy, science and administration, the region of Lüneburg already developed and tried out a few instruments in its RITTS-Network: Research-Days, the Innovation-Platform InnoPort, the Round Table for innovation support and so on. We would like to refine on these or rather to evolve new instruments with the experience of transnational cooperation partners, which will help to overcome obstacles of the enterprises concerning research and development.

For the application and the realization of the project, we are therefore looking for active partners, who have ideas and/or experiences to support R+D-Activities.

The region of Lüneburg is located between the cities of Hamburg, Bremen and Hannover and it is structured very heterogeneously: The districts in the surroundings of big agglomerations with the

corresponding advantages and areas with rural structures, vast infrastructure and sparsely population.

The region of Lüneburg is located between the cities of Hamburg, Bremen and Hannover and it is structured very heterogeneously: The districts in the surroundings of big agglomerations with the corresponding advantages and areas with rural structures, vast infrastructure and sparsely population. Accordingly various are also the competences and development priorities: They include for example subjects like logistics and aircraft industry (mainly in the agglomeration areas), but also subjects like food economy and tourism – mainly in the rurally structured regions.

RITTS-Lüneburg is a well established network with several universities, a mixture of medium-sized enterprises and a good cooperation of the local actors. So far, we were able to win the collaboration of the following partners in the region:

- Chamber of handicrafts Lüneburg-Stade
- University21 (Buxtehude)
- Chamber of industry and commerce Lüneburg-Wolfsburg
- Chamber of industry and commerce Stade for the Elbe-Weser area
- District administration Lüneburg
- University of Lüneburg
- Organisations of economy support in the region of RITTS-Lüneburg

Of our project partners we expect an active participation concerning the application and of course in the following work on the project. It would be desirable, if the RITTS- Partner regions were located in a short distance to the metropolis and already realized successful R+D-Activities in the region, so that an effective exchange of experience and knowledge can take place in a mutual benefit.

During the period of application we will work on the corresponding documents in Lüneburg or rather coordinate the cooperation. Voyage activities are not considered to be necessary at that time, but the communication will first take place by email and phone.

If you are interested in collaboration, please send us a short email or call us until 12st April 2005. We are looking forward to hearing from you!

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As far as you are preparing an application and you are still looking for a partner or a syndicate, we would be pleased to get information about your plan. In this case we would like to discuss with you about the possibilities of a cooperation and the exchange of experience.

Further information on RITTS you can find here: www.ritts-lueneburg.de

With kind regards for a successful cooperation

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 – IDEA PROGETTUALE (Nordland Research Institute)

The Nordland Research Institute in Norway is looking for partners for a potential project proposal under the 'Regions of Knowledge 2' call.

The aim of a potential project – where Nordland Research Institute would either submit a proposal or act as a partner – is to develop research and innovation policy that is relevant for the County of

Nordland and similar regions in Europe (see partner characteristics). A proposal would focus on fostering cooperation and joint learning between peripheral European regions with mature industrial structures. Nordland Research Institute would like to focus on benchmarking, networking, sharing of experiences and development of new regional policy measures related to investment in RTD as a means to revitalise mature industries such as metal industry, materials industry and chemical process industry. The project should help to create a better regional and global competitive environment for these industries by means of developing RTD policy in a regional industrial context.

Interested and interesting partners should have the following profile, thus being similar to Nordland County, whose regional authority stands behind this initiative:

- Peripheral or semi-peripheral region.
- No large cities (Bodø is Nordlands largest city with approx. 43.000 inhabitants).
- Business structure characterised by mature industries, e.g. metal industry, materials industry and chemical process industry.
- Weak links between industry and universities or academic institutions in the region (Bodø University College have approx. 5.000 students).
- A need on the part of regional authorities to develop new RTD policy measures in order to revitalise mature industries.
- Nordic, Baltic and Eastern European regions are of special interest.

If you are interested in this suggested proposal, please contact:

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REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 – IDEA PROGETTUALE (RDA South Moravia)

Vladimir Gaspar, Director of the RDA South Moravia, Czech Republic is looking for partners „to map and document the development potential of South Moravian region in the European-wide ‘bio technological area’ and collect and analyse information on best practices in involving wider public in the research policy making”. The second request comes from South Estonia: the Institute of Baltic Studies has recently completed the regional Innovation Strategy for Tartu and South Estonia region and also finalized 2 foresight actions on ICT and Biotech. They are looking at the moment for cooperation possibilities within the Regione of Knowledge scheme.

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 – IDEA PROGETTUALE (Bretagna)

The aim of the project would be to contribute to the development of regional dimension of RTD policy and RTD investment through a specific focus on the issue of governance at regional level.

The project partners would mainly be regional authorities.

The project would for instance include :

- Analysis of regional R&D policies
- Analysis of governance models in the different regions
- Identification of governance issues to tackle through common actions
- Building of an integration model for regional policies and governance

Co-ordinating role: Y / core partner

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REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Castilla y León)

The regional development office of Castilla y León (ADE) is interesting in coordinating a proposal aimed at Benchmarking, technology foresight and economical intelligence service in the following sectors:

- 1- Aeronautics
- 2- Transport
- 3- Biotechnology
- 4- Information Technologies
- 5- Renewable energies.

The service will be based on the dissemination of technology audits distributed through the enterprises of the regions.

We would like to look for partner regions with similar characteristics to Castilla y Leon. This is to say, developing regions, with an important budget focus on innovation, and with high presence of traditional industries (SMEs- micro SMEs).

The ideal partner would be a regional authority, although universities or research institutions are also welcome if they have wide experience in some of the reference field.

Co-ordinating role: Y

Contact person: Veronica Beneitez

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Catalonia)

Country/regional Telencetres/PIAPs will provide eGovernment, eBusiness, and eLearning, and, overall, contribute to better connectivity and use of ICTs

The initiative will include

1. A Gateway as an interactive portal for information on sustainable development and....(to be defined).....
2. Support networks for sharing solutions and experiences
3. mobilize local content and engage local and regional stakeholders including governments
4. Exchange experience about the continuous effort and investment needed to maintain them. The amount of voluntary effort to sustain a dynamic web resource with on-going interesting and useful content

To address this problem, we have proposed that administrations play a larger and more visible role in institutionalizing the generation and collection of development and local-oriented information resources¹

The social role of the regional and local governments/administrations historically has been to create, store and diffuse knowledge, a collection of activities that partially parallels some telecenter operations. Yet, few major programs link telecenters to universities or other institutions as an *institutionalized* source of information. Universities and local communities could play a significantly broader role in the world's efforts to employ ICTs for sustainable development and poverty reduction. For example, they could:

- (1) Conduct *continual* research on community information needs so that appropriate information resources can be developed. This could also supply a regional and local dimension to continual, long-term e-Readiness studies.²
- (2) Convert its own research and "academic" knowledge into education, information, and training packages suitable for community use.
- (3) Mobilize, interpret, integrate, and package information from external authoritative sources and tailor it to the needs of populations in surrounding regions
- (4) Train students in the application of ICTs to development problems by: assigning them as student interns at community telecenters, having them collect indigenous case studies and "lessons learned" related to development initiatives, involving them in data collection and processing related to e-Readiness and information needs analysis studies, and training them in the process of information packaging.

¹ R. D. Colle and R. Roman, Challenges for the 'Telecenter Movement' in R. D. Colle and R. Roman (eds), *Telecenters and ICT for Development: Critical Perspectives and Visions for the Future*, special theme issue of *The Journal of Development Communication*, Vol. 12/2 (December 2001).

² E-Readiness is an assessment of a country status regarding ICT infrastructure, the accessibility of ICT to the population, the suitability of the policy environment for ICT effectiveness, and a country's everyday use of ICT. A major challenge in the e-Readiness world is gathering reliable data at the local level and building appropriate programs there.

(5) Design and execute ICT training programs for various community groups, especially those that are likely to be by-passed by conventional ICT training.

Summary

It is important to emphasize that an effective endeavor to create locally relevant content is strongly connected to creating awareness about the information services (and potential opportunities) a telecenter may provide. A telecenter is a new resource in the community, and therefore it is a demand-creating project

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (VÁTI Hungary)

Present the socio-economical effect of RTD investments on Hungarian regions (studies, research).
Establishment a knowledge-centre supporting best-policy transfer for neighbouring countries (regions) e.g. Romania, Croatia and Bulgaria (workshop, conferences).
Formulate a network from regions with special emphasis on involvement of “expert regions” from e.g. East Germany and/or Austria (web centre).

Co-ordinating role: Y+partner

Contact person: Ms. Villó VARGA

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Kaunas Region, Lithuania)

PROJECT

Governance of RTD policy on regional level, including the issue of competence of regional level in RTD policy and interaction with national level

PROJECT AIMS

The already existing Centres of Excellence with a targeted thematic focus ought to become the centres attracting and integrating the catalysts which could have an impact at the regional and national level by contributing to the development of a critical mass:

- enabling the generation of new knowledge and innovations through the bundling of existing competences, manual learning, coordination and collaboration between regional policies and initiative; and
- triggering the visibility of Lithuanian actors as attractive partners for Europe-wide projects.

To implement these integration activities and to develop a framework for a wider mobilisation of support and resources through policy making processes and in order to have a sustained impact on growth and employment, the project aims at:

- The integration of regional activities through networking and creating regional partnerships for improved RTD performance and greater RTD investments
- Better and more efficient use of Structural Funds in supporting RTD Investment to compliment the measures which are already being implemented, such additional financing of research institutes from Structural Funds, so that their impact has a wider spread throughout the region where innovations aimed to be generated
- To improve the outreach of regionally-based clusters and their achievements by making them more accessible to individuals in other regions and by facilitating individual contacts
- To attract cooperation and trust between R&D institutions and SME's trough and to better define the interface between the research and business sector
- Create synergy

Project will focus on following main objectives according to the topics listed above:

1. Networking;
2. Raising awareness;
3. Fostering capacities.

PROJECT OUTPUTS

The expected benefits would be manifold. They should help:

- to support and raise overall (EU + MS + private) RTD investment in the field, by showing a common vision and a consistent strategic framework at EU level for both RTD funding and deployment initiatives. This common vision/ path will help concentrate efforts and resources and avoid fragmentation, thus contributing to restructuring and optimising research in Europe and building the ERA. It will also help the sector in question to achieve its optimal size and structure;
- to accelerate the generation of new knowledge, innovation and the uptake of research and technologies, improving the competitiveness and productivity of the sectors concerned;
- to support the development and networking of regional clusters in the field and to help regions identify and address particular challenges and relevant opportunities;
- exchange of personnel from partner regions, covering diverse RTD stakeholder groups, but especially those involved in design and implementation of RTD policy and those deciding on RTD investment – both private and public;
- to remove obstacles at EU, national and regional levels for deployment and to facilitate/ accelerate the market penetration of new technologies: the technology demonstration process will be an important element in this regard;
- to contribute to achieving a coherent and consistent policy and regulatory framework in the regions by taking account of both risks and benefits: any deficiencies in current policies can be identified and overcome;
- to make the EU more attractive both for researchers and industrial investment; the project will also act as an early warning system to alert policy makers to the ever changing needs of the sector and its consequences for society in general, for example in terms of skill shortages or infrastructure deficiencies;

- to increase public awareness, understanding and acceptance of the technologies concerned and the policy choices necessary to maximise the benefits for all stakeholders.

PROJECT TARGET GROUPS

This project is targeted primarily at

- regional administrations;
- national governmental organizations and decision-makers;
- centre of excellence;
- universities and other training and education facilities;
- end users in industry and commercial structures;

Research centres especially:

- Institute of Chemistry (CHI)
- Institute of Biochemistry (BCHI)
- Institute of Biotechnology (BTI)
- Semiconductor Physics Institute (PFI)
- Energy Institute (LEI)

Co-ordinating role: Y/N

Contact person: Renata Koerfer
Lithuania Liaison Office for RTD

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Regione Piemonte)

BACKGROUND

Regions are key actors for the fulfilment of the Barcelona goal of the 3% of GDP for research and development. In particular, they usually have the right size in order to promote new and effective RTD investments.

Nevertheless many disparities and differences in terms of development are still present from region to region and especially from Region of Objective 1 and Objective 2 and new accession countries. In order to guarantee an efficient and functioning development of a network among different Regions and to allow the enhancement of the ERA net, disparities should be eliminated and priorities at policy level for new and better investment should be recognised by policy makers.

THE ROLE OF FORESIGHT

Regions have recently started to use the Foresight Methodology for planning RTD policies.

Having evolved over time by widening its scope, Foresight has in fact become an appreciated tool to constructively bring awareness of long-term challenges into daily decision-making and to underpin the prioritisation and selection of strategic long-term goals for public authorities.

Promoting successful innovation strategies can be a difficult task for policy makers if there is not a clear perception of which are those technology paths more likely to yield the greatest economic and social benefits. That's why policy makers have increasingly embraced the adoption of Foresight methodologies to shape Science & Technology policies, thus improving the quality of their decisions through the strengthening of a long-term, future-oriented approach.

Much of the current interest in Foresight stems from the recognition within public bodies that Foresight constitutes a powerful tool when it comes to prioritising and concentrating public financial resources in a selective way in order to reduce the elements of risk and uncertainty associated with R&D investments.

Another issue is that Science & Technology policy has considerably changed in the last decades as public authorities, in order to shape S&T policies, need to interface themselves with a growing number of actors that contribute directly or indirectly to the development of science and to the diffusion of new technologies. Foresight provides a valuable tool to stimulate dialogue and interaction between the different stakeholders of society.

THE AIM OF THE PROJECT

The creation of a consortium made up of partners showing different backgrounds in terms of development and RTD policies management is aimed at comparing different experiences in the implementation of regional analysis through Foresight studies.

The use of a common methodology for identifying priorities at policy level of those sectors which need to be enhanced in the different regions, will lead to a joined knowledge of the areas of excellence and shared research fields in every region.

The network of areas of excellence between the regions involved is one of the main expected output of the project. This network will enable an easier interaction among actors dealing with the same topic of research, thus enhancing public-private partnerships and cooperation activities at international level. In that way a coherent development of policies among the Regions involved is also foreseen as a remarkable deliverable.

*The project should be implemented through the following **actions**:*

- Identification for each Region involved of the “regional thematic priorities” in line with what is expressed by the Commission for the VII FP.
- Collection of studies and existing analysis for each “thematic priority”
- Promotion of a Foresight study for the sectors conceived by the project
- Organisation of meetings to sum up the results and compare the output of the project in the different regions involved.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

The project should function as a hub to promote new and better investments in RTD.
The expected outputs of the project are supposed to be:

- a programmatic document to be presented both regionally and nationally
 - joint technical initiatives for regional investments in RTD at regional level and at consortium level
 - the creation of a network of areas of excellence between the regions involved
- the promotion of co-operation linkages between different parties involved

Co-ordinating role:

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Region of Piedmont

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REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (South Denmark)

The envisaged initiative explores the opportunities for optimising context conditions for Innovation, R&D, and R&D investment through regional administrative reorganisation and structural reform of regional and local government.

Regional and local government in Denmark are currently experiencing profound reform and reorganisation. This reform is historically unparalleled both in scale and scope and it has the ambition of modernising governance for decades to come – and, in addition, to mobilise regions and their competitiveness within the Global Economy.

The reform provides a unique window of opportunity for taking a closer look at institutional drivers of innovation and R&D in the EU – and for generating directly applicable imperatives for policy and institutional design.

Regional partners will be University of Southern Denmark, Science Parks and venture capital institutions.

For cooperation on the above-mentioned themes, the South Denmark region is looking for partners, which have already experienced – or will be experiencing - similar reform of local/regional government.

Co-ordinating role: Y/partner

Contact person: Morten Kröger, morten.kroger@southdenmark.be
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REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (South East Ireland)

Introduction:

The South East Region of Ireland is the most underperforming region in Ireland. Its levels of unemployment are the highest in the country, and the level of income per capita is the lowest. It is the region with the lowest uptake of third level education places among the student population, and most students that graduate from the third level institutes in the region leave the region to find employment. It is the region with the fewest number of multinationals per employable person in the country therefore the economy is very much dependent on agriculture, indigenous SMEs mostly in the traditional sectors of engineering, manufacturing and agricultural produce processing, tourism and related service industries.

Overall proposal:

We intend transforming the South East into a knowledge-based, knowledge-lead, Entrepreneurial Region.

Based on recent economic research we are of the opinion that upgrading knowledge and increasing technology diffusion across the South East region will increase the economic structure and wealth creation process in region. Our aim is to create innovative, interactive clusters across the region whose participants will be a combination of industrialists, business people, entrepreneurs, academics (both technological and research based) and regional policy makers/implementers. We also envisage that these clusters will be supported and developed within the canopy of a Regional Cluster. The purpose of the Regional Cluster will be to develop, inform, implement and monitor the effectiveness of policy for the Entrepreneurial Region.

Project proposal specific to Regions of Knowledge 2:

Whilst there may be pockets of activity between enterprise support agencies and local industry, between the third level institutes and local industry, and between enterprise support agencies and third level institutes, and so on, no coherent plan or policy exists that brings all the stakeholders together to create a knowledge-based, knowledge-lead entrepreneurial region. An added complexity is the region's structure in that it consists of five independently managed counties (sub-regions), each with their own goals and objectives.

The purpose of this proposal is to set up a project that will analyse the RTD of the whole South East region and clearly identify the bottlenecks that are hindering the economic development of the region. The outcome of this research and analysis will be a unified policy for enterprise and technology development in the South East of Ireland.

This South East regional policy will be the foundation upon which the development and implementation of the knowledge-based, knowledge-lead, entrepreneurial region will be based.

Proposed regional partners:

This project will be lead by the Centre for Entrepreneurship at the Waterford Institute of Technology. The Centre's remit is to research the entrepreneurial activities and enterprise development activities on a regional and international base, to identify best practice based on the research and to implement education programmes to enhance the development and sustainability of industry in the South East.

The project will be supported in the region by, the South East Regional Authority, the South East Regional Assembly, Enterprise Ireland, South East Business Innovation Centre, and the five county managers comprising the region.

Proposed international partners:

Whereas we have already started the process of identifying potential partners within the EU, nothing has been confirmed yet. Our main aim in attending the Project Networking Session on 18th February 2005 is to discuss the project proposal in more detail with potential partners.

Coordination role: Y

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Kathryn Kiley, kkiely@wit.ie

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Flanders (BE)/ IWT-Vlaanderen)
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Organisation

Flanders (BE): IWT-Vlaanderen

Contact person

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Interest area

IWT is currently involved in a KnowREG 1 project, and would like to involve as many regions as possible beyond the current consortium in order to compare the regional RTD performance, analysis of regional RTD instruments, integration into regional development strategies and use of benchmarking and networking to evaluate trends and provide guidance to policy-makers on RTD issues. Therefore, they are interested in being partner of a consortium with a coordinator who intends to submit a proposal with a similar scope definition for Regions of Knowledge 2.

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Berne (CH)/ Economic Development Region Berne)

Organisation

Berne (CH): Economic Development Region Berne

Contact person

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Interest area

Topics of Interest

• *Scientific Knowledge and Technology Transfer:* A recent analyses has shown that our region as most others in Europe has not optimal and efficient structures for knowledge and technology transfer. Major problems among others are the scientific gap between suppliers and users (SMEs), too many inefficient players with not well-defined activities and local versus national or even international aspects. • • •

RTD expenditures and Growth: Switzerland as well as our region has had a relatively high level of R&D expenditures in Europe. The rate has been at a constant level of about 2.7 % of the GDP for many years; a modest increase to about 3 % is foreseen. However, despite the high level of R&D expenditures the growth rate is insufficient and far below any industrialized country.

RTD investments in the Service Sector: The City of Berne, which provides 70 % of the employment in the Berne region, is to a great extent a service centre for the public cantonal and federal administration. RTD investments in the service sector are limited. Nevertheless, the sector can be a strong user of advanced information and communication technologies. It seems obvious that in the future the service sector as well has to face internationalization.

The role of international investors for a Region: Approximately 60 % of the private Swiss RTD investments are spent for activities abroad. In addition, Swiss investors with their close relationship to the Swiss banking sector play a very active role abroad, for example in some of the new EU member states, the eastern part of Germany and Asia

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Irish Regions Office (IE))

Organisation	Irish Regions Office (IE)
Contact person	Eamon O'Hara Irish Regions Office Rond-Point Schuman 6 B-1040 Brussels Tel.: +32 2 282 8477 Fax: +32 2 282 8475 GSM: +32 49 812 0822 E-mail: eamon.ohara@iro.ie Website: www.iro.ie
Interest area	Contact point for Irish regions interested in being partners of proposals.

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Castilla La Macha (ES)/Fundación Insula Barataria)

Organisation	Castilla La Macha (ES): Fundación Insula Barataria
Contact person	Mr Miguel Angel Ayllón Fundación Insula Barataria C/ Rio Valdemarías s/n E-45001 Toledo Tel.: +34 925 23 38 50 Fax: +34 925 23 37 70 E-mail: miguelangel.ayllon@ibarataria.org
Interest area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyse R&D policy evolution through a benchmarking exercise in order to optimise regional investments in R&D.• Identify better innovation financing at regional level: instruments, resources, actors involved, etc.• Compare best practices and experiences among different regions. All activities should take into account the Lisbon Strategy and the Barcelona Process.

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Gabrovo (BG)/Regional Governor)

Organisation	Gabrovo (BG): Regional Governor
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Contact person	Ms Diana Nesheva EU Projects Developer, EU Resource Investigator Tel.: +359 2 9860075 Fax: + 359 2 9860076 E-mail: diana.peneva@gmail.com
Interest area	The region of Gabrovo considers all topics relevant to this call as interesting and useful. The region will work with a high tech business incubator in Gabrovo and a foundation promoting European ideas in this region.

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Poznan (PL)/SPEKTRUM)

Organisation	Poznan (PL): SPEKTRUM
Contact person	Ms Sylwia Klatka SPEKTRUM Centrum Wspierania Współpracy Międzynarodowej Sadowa 29 PL-61-657 Poznań Tel.: +48 506 22 80 74 Fax: +48 61 657 64 44 E-mail: S.Klatka@spektrum.org.pl Mr Holger Zeiser SPEKTRUM Centrum Wspierania Współpracy Międzynarodowej Przedstawicielstwo / Representation Berlin PF 84 01 03 D-12531 Berlin Tel.: +49 172 307 50 17 Fax: +49 30 652 99 34 e-mail: H.Zeiser@spektrum.org.pl
Interest area	SPEKTRUM Centrum Wspierania Współpracy Międzynarodowej is a non-profit foundation. Its activities focus on developing a cross-border network for science, economy and technology in the Odra region covering the western Polish Wojwodships and the federal states of Berlin and Brandenburg in Germany. SPEKTRUM supports technology oriented SMEs, scientific institutions and public authorities in the Odra region and beyond in

the development of new RTD projects, the application for European co-funding, administrative project coordination and the active dissemination of project results. It is also working to identify and overcome barriers for cross-border cooperation of SMEs and their involvement in R&D actions.

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Malta (MT)/ Malta Enterprise)

Organisation	Malta (MT): Malta Enterprise
Contact person	Mr Mark Scicluna Bartoli Malta Enterprise Enterprise Centre Industrial Estate SGN09 San Gwann Malta Tel.: +356 2542 3425 Fax: +356 2542 3401 E- mail: mark.sciclunabartoli@maltaenterprise.com
Interest area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Programs to quantify and increase the current regional R+D expenditure• Research and implement a program based on the American Small Businesses for Innovation and Research (SBIR) where 2.5% of the American government budget is spent with SBIRs (positive discrimination for innovative SMEs)• Research and implement a KTP (Knowledge Transfer Program in the UK) or a Fusion (Ireland) type program to assist knowledge transfer between the regional universities, colleges and industry.• Long-term incentives to increase the local graduate and post-graduate S+T graduates including the setting up of a regional S+T post-grad campus by a foreign university.

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Nordland (NO): Nordland Research Institute)

Organisation	Nordland (NO): Nordland Research Institute
Contact person	Mr Roar Samuelsen Nordland Research Institute N-8049 Bodø Tel.: +47 75517693 E-mail: roar.samuelsen@nforsk.no
Interest area	<p>The aim of a potential project – where Nordland Research Institute would either submit a proposal or act as a partner – is to develop research and innovation policy that is relevant for the County of Nordland and similar regions in Europe (see partner characteristics). A proposal would focus on fostering cooperation and joint learning between peripheral European regions with mature industrial structures. Nordland Research Institute would like to focus on benchmarking, networking, sharing of experiences and development of new regional policy measures related to investment in RTD as a means to revitalise mature industries such as metal industry, materials industry and chemical process industry. The project should help to create a better regional and global competitive environment for these industries by means of developing RTD policy in a regional industrial context.</p> <p>Interested and interesting partners should have the following profile, thus being similar to Nordland County, whose regional authority stands behind this initiative:</p> <p>Peripheral or semi-peripheral region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No large cities (Bodø is Nordlands largest city with approx. 43.000 inhabitants).• Business structure characterised by mature industries, e.g. metal industry, materials industry and chemical process industry.

- Weak links between industry and universities or academic institutions in the region (Bodø University College have approx. 5.000 students).
- A need on the part of regional authorities to develop new RTD policy measures in order to revitalise mature industries.
- Nordic, Baltic and Eastern European regions are of special interest.

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Zürich (CH)/ Zürcher Hochschule Winterthur (ZHW))

Organisation	Zürich (CH): Zürcher Hochschule Winterthur (ZHW)
Contact person	Mr Vicente Carabias-Hütter, dipl. Natw. ETH Zürcher Hochschule Winterthur (ZHW) Zentrum Sustainability Postfach 805 CH - 8401 Winterthur Switzerland Tel.: +41 52 267 76 74 Fax: +41 52 268 76 74 E-mail: crb@zhwin.ch
Interest area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability in regional development under fierce global competition • Improved models for better scientific knowledge and technology transfer at regional level • RTD investments expenditures and growth – the high Swiss R&D level versus the insufficient growth rate far below any industrialized country • Role of clusters policies to improve R&D investments • Application of participative and prospective methods (Delphi questioning, scenario analysis, future workshops, comparative analysis for good practice identification) • Policy and network analysis for improved governance • Analysis of regions performance • Comparative analysis through benchmarking indicators

REGIONS OF KNOWLEDGE 2 - IDEA PROGETTUALE (Canary Islands (es)/ science, technology and innovation office (octi))

Organisation	Canary Islands (es): science, technology and innovation office (octi)
Contact person	Mr. Antonio Collado Technology Advisor. Project Director OCTI Santa Cruz de Tenerife Canary Islands Tel: +34 607159192 email: acollado@canarias.org www.gobiernodecanarias.org
Interest area	The main objective of our office is to promote increased and better regional investment in research. The focus of our KnowREG-2 proposal is on TOURISM. We will develop the regional dimension of RTD policy and RTD investment at regional level by improving the “Quality of the Destiny” in order to increase the tourist competitiveness of the region. In order to achieve that objective, our interest is to propose the development of a platform which facilitates, within the Tourism Sector, a continuous Benchmarking procedure with other tourism-oriented regions in Europe.

La Sede di Bruxelles della Regione Abruzzo è a disposizione per valutare richieste di approfondimento su tematiche specifiche da trattare nello speciale mensile

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