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Cross-border NETwork to foster Knowledge-intensive business Incubation and TEchnology transfer

NET KITE



- Priority 1** Promotion of socio-economic development and enhancement of territories
- Measure 1.1** Support to innovation and research in the process of local development of the Mediterranean Sea Basin countries



Project in brief

Mediterranean countries, in spite of significant investments in higher education and training, have always faced social inclusion and unemployment issues which affect territorial development processes. As a matter of fact, the static feature of local economic systems does not allow absorbing qualified manpower. On the contrary, an open innovation approach, interacting with geographically distant markets, may match smart local specialization with wider platforms of know-how and relations with global markets.

NET KITE project, inspired by Open Innovation philosophy and using Living Labs approach, is meant to support innovation transfer in order to make it functional to the growth and modernization of local economic systems and to the creation of new, qualified and sustainable jobs. The project will seek to convey innovation from research labs into the industrial sector and promote mutual exchange between young startups and/or mature enterprises.

Beneficiary

ARCA Consortium (Italy, Sicilia)

Partnership

1. European Center of Business and Innovation - CEEI Provence (France, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur)
2. Jordan University of Science and Technology - JUST (Jordan, Irbid)
3. Palestine Ahliya University College - PAUC (Palestine)
4. StartUp System Tunisie - SUST (Tunisia, Tunis)
5. DIOGENES Business Incubator (Cyprus)
6. Academy of Scientific Research and Technology - ASRT (Egypt)

Specific objective

To establish an effective transfer process of innovation in the territories concerned, resulting on one side into the generation of spin-off companies in strategic sectors for the local economy and on the other side into pathways for introducing and managing innovation in mature productive sectors, creating new employment opportunities

Expected results

- More widespread entrepreneurial culture among young graduates and researchers
- Reinforced collaboration between education and production systems to boost technology transfer
- Improved access to research infrastructures and facilities for joint university-enterprise R&D projects
- Pilot incubation schemes and technology transfer frameworks implemented
- Mobility scheme developed involving young entrepreneurs and Technology Transfer Offices staff

Main activities

- Identification of business ideas and innovative approaches in sectors such as agro-food technologies, biotechnologies, cultural heritage technologies, renewable energies & energy efficiency and innovation in public services
- Upgrade of research facilities in order to increase the accessibility of labs to young entrepreneurs
- Design of methodologies and tools, experimented on a transnational scale, to convey innovative ideas into knowledge-intensive companies
- Managerial mentoring and consultancy on technical innovation
- Coaching of potential entrepreneurs to check market feasibility of innovative ideas and support business plans development
- Transnational exchange of know-how on innovation and entrepreneurship through mobility schemes
- Organization of a Mediterranean Business Plan competition

Target groups

- Junior researchers and post graduate students
- SMEs and SMEs clusters
- Industry technicians

Final beneficiaries

- Research centers
- Business communities
- Young people

Duration

24 months (December 2013 - December 2015)

Budget

- Total budget: € 1.803.230
- Programme contribution: € 1.622.907 (90%)
- Project co-financing: € 180.323 (10%)

Website

www.netkite.eu

Contact person

Fabio Maria Montagnino

Project coordinator

ARCA Consortium

fmontagnino@consorzioarca.it / info@netkite.eu

+39 091 661 5654

