Innovation Platforms

-A concept and strategy for the promotion of innovation for socio-economic development -

from

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Innovation Platforms

... a “motor” to promote innovation for socio-economic development

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Scope and Purpose

Enhancing cooperation between Africa and Europe in STI:

- **Challenges at a global scale** (energy, climate change, health, informal economies, etc.)
- Scientific **cooperation in priority areas** of common interest
- **Vehicle for economic growth**, poverty reduction and sustainable socio-economic development

Jointly (EU-Africa) tackling of key global problems

- **Scale and complexity of problems** demand for critical mass and large investments
- Need for **effective stakeholders and private sector participation** (ppp’s)
- Mobilizing **sustainable long-term financing**
- Guaranteeing **use of available knowledge and promotion of innovation systems**
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Strategy for tackling the global challenges

• Go from local (national/regional) to global needs and solutions

• Full use of knowledge triangle
  o higher education/training - develop human capital
  o research - develop new knowledge
  o innovation - vehicle for economic growth and sustainable economic development

• Build delivery research and innovation infrastructures
  o improving governance of science and innovation systems
  o promoting the use of research results (deployment of products, services, applications and solutions; IPR management)

• Answering the questions
  o How can funds from existing sources, research programmes and involved stakeholders be best combined and/or matched?
  o How can research results be best exploited and disseminated to ensure socio-economic impact and long-term financing?
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Proposed solution for discussion

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- Implement and make a common **Technology Platform** available for the execution of funded R&D projects,
- to be used as a **collaborative environment with a maximum impact** (trust and understanding, monitoring and evaluation, mutual learning), and
- **offering enabling conditions**
  - Relevant research and innovation with stakeholder and private sector participation,
  - Interested in cooperation,
  - Sharing investment costs and
  - Building on past cooperation
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- are sometimes also called Innovation Parks, Innovation Clusters, Commercialisation Parks, “Lighthouse” Innovation Clusters, etc.

- Definition: **Where ideas and R&D results are transformed into commercial opportunities;**

- They connect and enable active collaboration between the stakeholders of science, business, government, academic and finance to **accelerate the innovation process and amplify the economic and social impact of important new ideas and discoveries from R&D programs and/or from Living Labs.** An important focus is on **supporting the commercialisation of research results based on private sector participation, involvement and management (ppp’s).**

- **Innovation Platforms** are NOT a real estate program or a real estate related infrastructure.
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A model for private sector participation

• Innovation Platforms ARE NOT Industrial Parks and ALSO NOT Living Labs!

• Innovation Parks are a model and possible instrument for Collaborative Research Programs in EU-Africa STI cooperation and a platform for
  
  o Research for Innovation, and for
  
  o Exploitation of Innovation (Deployment)

• Implemented using a two-layer concept based on: Technology Platforms and dedicated ppp-legal entities (a cluster bringing industry, research institutions and other relevant stakeholders, including end-users, to foster and support innovative R&D activities at a global scale for key global problems)
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The differences

- **Industrial Parks**
  - Incentives and Infrastructures to promote *settlement of industry* in a region location

- **Living Labs**
  - User participation and user involvement in the early stages of the R&D

- **Innovation Platforms**
  - Private sector participation, involvement and management to promote deployment and commercialisation of R&D results

- **Innovation Villages**
  - Innovation infrastructure, taking a strong local context into consideration and involving a mix of public, private sector and industrial participation
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The “four tracks” for Innovation

Settlement track
- Industrial Parks
  - Market driven: Bring industry to a location; industrial development

Research track
- Collaborative Research Programs
  - Academia driven: Develop new knowledge and human resources

User participation track
- Living Labs
  - User driven: Involving users in the R&D Process and implementing tests / trials

Commercialisation track
- Business driven: Commercialising R&D results, based on ppp’s
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Complimentary to R&D Projects and Living Labs

- High-Level-policy: Decision and Setting of priorities
  - Funded by R&D Programmes
  - Agreement on a common set of HW/SW, Tools, Standards, Methods, etc., etc.
  - Transformation, commercialisation, application and dissemination of results

- EU-Africa Strategic Research Agenda
  - R&D Projects
    - Technology Platforms
      - Deployment of results; IPR Management

- Challenges at a global scale; Jointly tackling of key global problems
  - Intl. Consortia involving the „knowledge triangle“
  - Public Private Partnerships in Innovation Parks (ppp’s)
  - Local and global involvement; Socio-economic development

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EU-Africa ICT-Forum
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The specifics: Legal Entity (ppp’s) and Technology

Set of industrial partners (local and multinational), research, institution and/or other stakeholders from the public sector

- Formal and legal framework
- Technology framework

Develop and agree on:
- Rules Procedures; Contracts
- Ownership IPR’s
- Operation form

Develop and agree on a common implementation basis:
- HW / SW
- Tools, Libraries, Labs ...
- Standards Interfaces

Environment for the execution of projects to develop deployable results (systems, applications, services, solutions)

Legal Entity (Foundation, Agency, Ltd., Association, etc.)

Technology Platform

Innovation Platform
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An evolutionary next step!

- Collaborative Research based on funded projects with their own consortia
- Collaborative Research in Living Labs for user participation and involvement
- Collaborative Research in Innovation Platforms with private sector and stakeholder participation (ppp’s) using a common Technology Platform
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A Deployment Strategy

• A Strategy for the deployment and scaling of the R&D project results for key global problems (products, services, application and/or solutions) to the regions using the Innovation Platforms as regional hubs for transformation, commercialisation and application of the results for economic growth, poverty reduction and socio-economic development in the region.

• Methodologies:
  - Research Methodology
  - Deployment Methodology
  - "Local to Global” Methodology
  - Projects and Living Labs
  - Pilots and trials in Innovation Platforms (ppp’s)
  - Network of Innovation Platforms (cross platforms; cross national)
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Different Implementation Models

**Industrial Park** or **Innovation Village**

• **Centralized Approach**
  – implemented in one campus in one location (for example: Industrial Park, Innovation Village, etc.) as one joint legal entity (ppp)

• **Decentralized and Homogenous Approach**
  – implemented as a “cluster” of partners with one joint legal entity (ppp) (Sometimes also called “Innovation Clusters”), distributed in its operation over several locations for example (Industrial Parks or Living Labs or Universities or Innovation Villages etc.)

• **Decentralized and Heterogeneous Approach**
  – implemented as a “cluster” of partners with one joint legal entity (ppp) (Sometimes also called “Commercialisation Cluster”) distributed in its operation over different locations with different characteristics (for example Industrial Parks, Living Labs, Universities, Research Lab, Innovation Villages, etc.)
Network of Innovation Platforms
(“Local to Global” Methodology) for the EU-Africa-Cooperation on STI

Alignment between Technology & Socio-Economic Dimensions
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• Allow for "several speeds" of innovation and development
  (Innovation Platforms and Networks of Innovation Platforms do not need to always have the same speed in Innovation and Development);

• Support the development and training of "managers" specialised in Innovation and in Deployment

• Promote and support the IPR-management and IPR-commercialisation

• Promote, support and protect efficient use of research and innovation funds
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Summary

• Innovation for **socio-economic development**
• Needs a model for **private sector participation (ppp’s)**
• Complementary to the other **“tracks for innovation”**
• Emphasis on **deployment and commercialisation strategy**
• Allowing a **scaling from local to global**
• Allowing **different “speeds” of development**
• Training **“Innovation and deployment managers”**

... This is the vision of the **“Innovation Platforms”**
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PROGRESS

Money

Research

Knowledge

Innovation

Business *

Socio-Economic Development

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*) … developed from deployed results and IPR's
Thank you for your kind attention