

#### **PGI 00040 BRIDGES project**

Bridging competence infrastructure gaps and speeding up growth and jobs delivery in regions



Good practice theme 1 Industry-led centres of competence as innovation infrastructures & RIS3 intermediaries and Interregional Work Group 1 (IWG1)

1st interregional policy learning session Ljubljana 20 & 21st April 2016

#### CEEI-Burgos, PP8 CERTH/IRETETH, PP9



## **Good Practice Theme 1**

#### Industry – led Competence Centres as innovation infrastructures & RIS3 intermediaries

GP theme 1 is the baseline for developing the knowledge exchange within the framework of IWG1. The purpose is to identify good practices highlighting Industry-led Compentence Centres in terms of innovation infrastructures and key regional RIS3 implementation units.

The focus areas of the good practice exchange should be aligned with IWG1 priorities.

#### **Focus areas**

- Policy implementation: Competence Centres as key regional RIS3 implementation units.
- Networking issues:

. Connecting industrial companies sharing common R&D interests

. Transfer of knowledge between the markets and the academia.

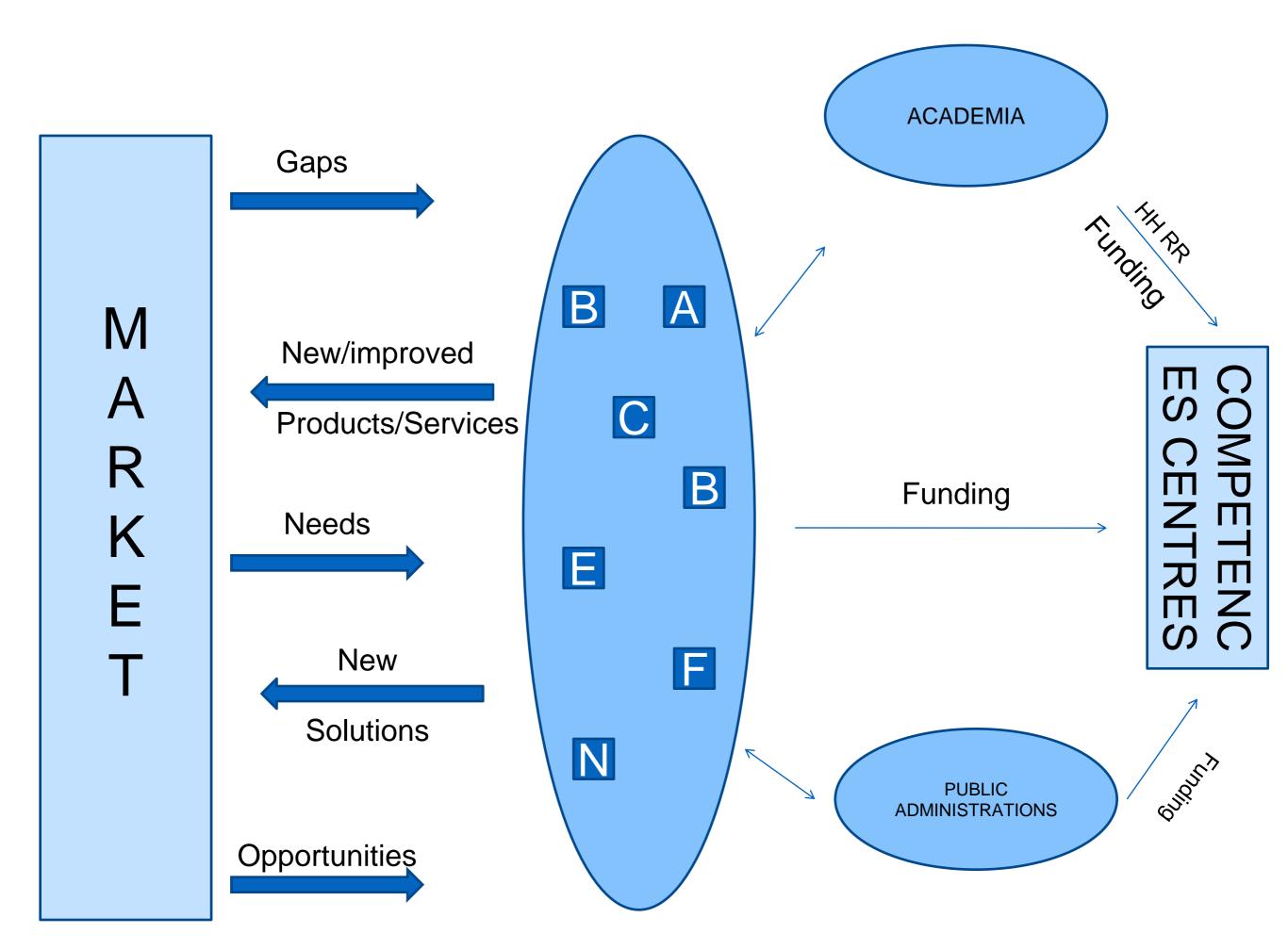
- Innovation process: Direct impact on the involved companies processes (Commercialization, technology transfer, patents and licenses, exports and spin-offs)
- Funding and financing issues: Public-private mix.

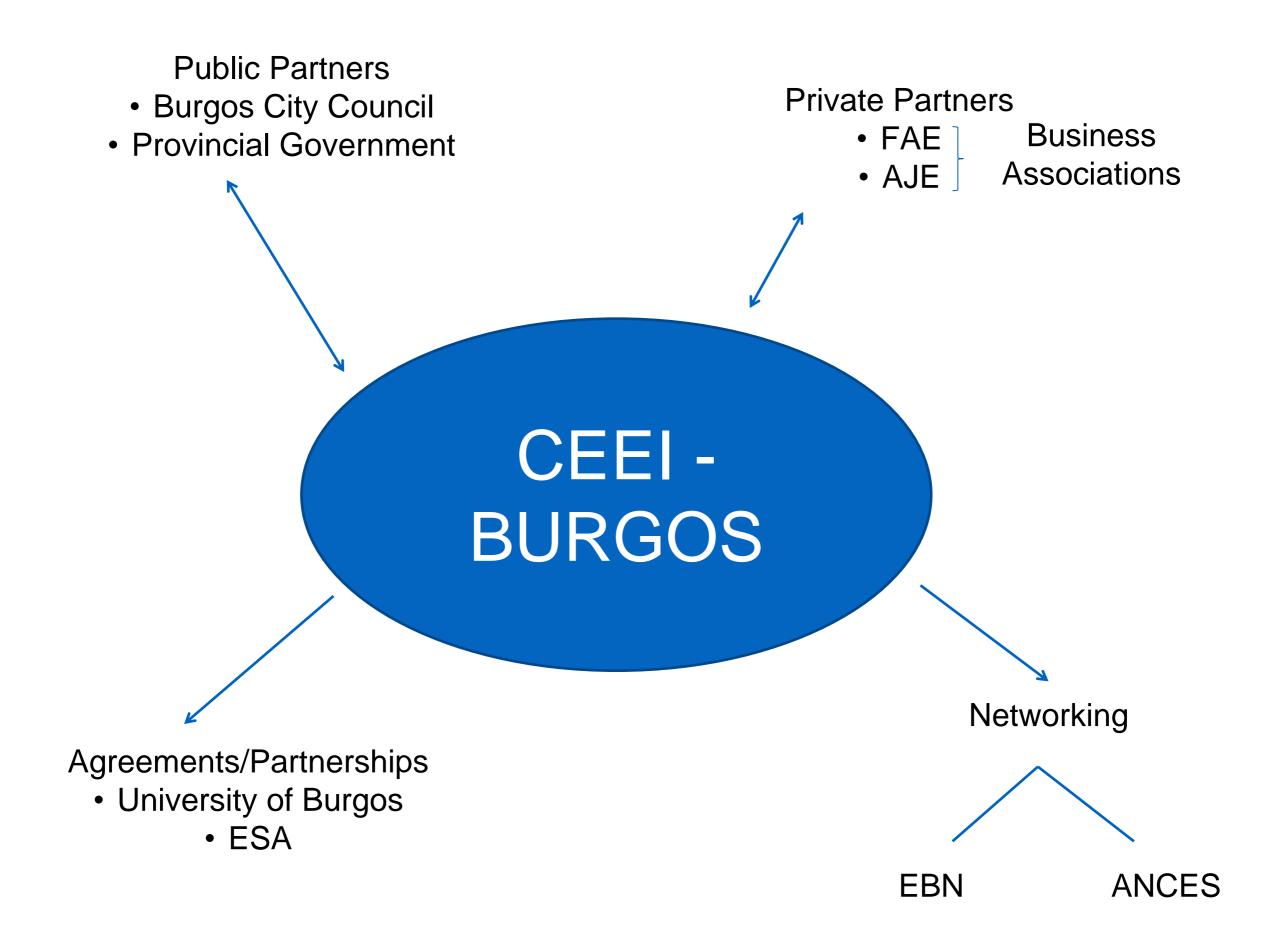
## **Critical aspects**

- Long term impact on the sales of the companies involved as a result of the innovation.
- Opportunity to engage in higher risk and longer term market oriented R&D
- Practical, dynamic and cost effective interaction between industry and academia.
- Leverage of other non-public R&D funding streams.

# **Centre of Competence**

- Collaborative entity/organization set up and led by industry, being resourced by highly-qualified researchers in association with research institutions in order to carry out market focused strategic research for the benefit of the industry related.
- Centres of Competence are normally sectorial entities/organizations.





# **Benefits for the Public Administration**

- Market oriented R&D and innovation activities in accordance with the real needs of the industry of their communities.
- Leverage of additional R&D and innovation oriented private resources.
- Talent attraction (Researchers)

# **Benefits for the companies**

- Competitive edge: Higher risk /longer term research into market opportunities.
- Strategic direction and management of the CCs direct input/influence.
- Easier access to IP and early influence on its exploitation.
- Networking with senior researches that could lead to further developments (Other regional, national or EU initiatives)
- Opportunity to hire highly-skilled graduates.

## **Benefits for the researchers**

- Longer term research funding mechanism
- Dynamic interaction with industry
- Opportunity to directly take part in business/industry projects: Spin off, IP exploitation...

#### **CCs and RIS3**

RIS3 path:

- 1) Analysing the innovation potential
- 2) Setting out the RIS3 process and governance
- 3) Developing a shared vision
- 4) Identifying the priorities
- 5) Defining an action plan with a coherent policy mix
- 6) Monitoring and evaluating

CCs, in reference to Structural Funds, can support the fulfillment of the ex-ante conditionality linked to the Small Business Act and that applies when the ERDF intends to support "promoting of entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators" or " supporting the capacity of SMEs to engage in growth in regional, national international market, and in innovation processes".

## GP theme 1 template

- Introduction/Executive summary
- Good practice description:
  - Conceptual background
  - Justification
  - Characterization
  - Implementation process
  - Quality management
  - Effectiveness and efficiency
  - Follow up and conclusions

#### International Working Group 1 - IWG1

- The good practices selected and described within the framework of GP theme1: Industry-led Competence Centres as innovation infrastructures, will be discussed in depth by the Interregional Working Group1 (IWG1) formed by regional development agencies, business network associations, research centres and regional authorities through their stake holders' groups.
- In BRIDGES project, Interregional Work Group 1 (IWG1) will discuss the alignment of academic and public research with enterprise and industry needs.

#### IWG1 members and coordination

- PP1: Kainuun Etu Oy, FI
- PP5: Development Agency of Western Macedonia, GR
- PP6: Soca Valley Development Centre, SI
- PP7: Pannon Business Network Association, HU
- PP9: Centre for research and Technology Hellas / Institute for research and Technology Thessaly, GR
- PP3: Lubelskie Voivodship, PL Stakeholders group
- PP4: Regional Council of Uusimaa, FI Stakeholders group

IWG1 will be coordinated by PP8 CEEI-Burgos (Centre of Competence) and PP9 CERTH/IRETETH (ESIF & RIS3).

#### IWG1 objectives and anticipated results

IWG 1 will be requested to discuss and eventually develop recommendations on the best practice basis, especially in the following key areas:

- Funding models for cost effective Competence Centres (CCs), including sustainability issues. Leveraging of resources.
- Establishment of industry-led programmes and agendas.
- Governance structures able to ensure the continued engagement of the key stakeholders.
- Coordination of activities among different CCs: Regional, national and cross-border approach.
- Performance management and metrics which encourage the desired strategic impacts.
- Competence Centres as key regional RIS3 smart specialization implementation units.

Recommendations on these aspects will be expected from the IWG 1.

## IWG1 implementation and themes

- Sem 1, establishment of IWG1.
- Sem 2, IWG1 meeting 1: Introduction of the IWG2, discussion of broad policy backgrounds and characteristics in relation with CCs.
- Sem 3, IWG1 meeting2: Discussion of results of GP theme 1 outputs and the regional benchmarking exercises and potential transferabilities.
- Sem 4, IWG1 meeting 3: Recommendation of the IWG1 members for issues to be included into the industry led centres of competence and RIS3 implementation infrastructures action plan unit AC1.
- Sem 5, IWG1 meeting 4: Following the peer review of the draft action plan, the IWG1 team convenes to adjust action & endorsement plan recommendations for the action plans.
- Capitalisation report: semester 6.

