The EIT KIC Co-location Centres: Concept and Practice

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Discoveries:
Finding out something not yet known

Invention:
Creating or designing something not existing before

Translation:
Processing discoveries and/or invention into innovation

Innovation:
Making changes with societal impact based on discoveries and/or invention

Excellent science & research are necessary yet not sufficient ingredients for innovation
AGE DISTRIBUTION OF COMPANIES’ CONTRIBUTION TO INNOVATION: EUROPE V. US AND OTHERS

Figure 1: Share of leading innovators by age cohort

Source: author’s calculations. Note: Figure based on a sample of 226 companies, obtained from matching firms in the FT Global 500 from 2007 with the 2007 EC-IPTS Top 1000 EU and non-EU R&D scoreboard companies. Leading innovators are thus defined both by their market capitalisation and R&D expenditures. The US has 80 companies in this sample, Europe 86 and other countries 50.
BEHRING, NOBEL, CITROEN, SIEMENS, REUTER = EUROPEAN HISTORY
BOYER, GATES AND ZUCKERBERG = U.S. REALITY!

HOW
to motivate kids
to set up garage companies in Europe?

wanted
THE CORE OF INNOVATION IS THE KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE

Higher Education

Research & technology

Industry & SMEs

ENTREPRENEURIALLY DRIVEN INNOVATION

Actors within the knowledge triangle are at the core of the innovation web beyond the traditional collaborative R&D consortia
EIT’s ENGINE: ITS INNOVATION FACTORIES (KICs)

The Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs):

• highly integrated, creative and excellence-driven autonomous long-term partnerships

• internationally distributed but thematically convergent partners

• driven by societal challenges and fostering the emergence of entrepreneurs
• **High degree of integration:** each KIC is an independent legal entity, gathering world-class KIC partners from the knowledge triangle based on a contractual relationship/partnership with the EIT.

• **Long-term strategic approach:** each KIC is set up for a minimum of 7 years to eventually become self sustainable.

• **Sufficient autonomy and flexibility:** to determine organisational structure and activities governed by a Board of KIC partner organisations

• **Effective governance:** run by a CEO and a lean management team at central and co-location level.
THE KIC MODEL (2/2)

- **Smart funding & high degree of commitment of partners**: EIT funding to KICs is max. 25% of their total budget over time with 75% to be attracted from other sources, both public and private.

- **Results/High-Impact-oriented activities**: KICs implement a Business Plan with measurable deliverables, results and impact.

- **Culture**: KICs are shaped by strong entrepreneurial mindsets and cultures.

- **The co-location model**: each KIC consists of 5-6 world class innovation hotspots building and leveraging on existing European capacities.
KICs’ EUROPEAN IMPACT & GOOD PRACTICE

Climate-KIC:
- ▲ Co-location centre
- △ RIC (Regional Implementation and Innovation Centre)

EIT ICT Labs:
- ▲ Co-location centre
- △ Associate Partner

KIC InnoEnergy
- ▲ Co-location centre
EIT DRIVING CROSS-KIC AGENDAS

**EDUCATION**
Promoting excellent education for creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship by high quality EIT labelled degree programmes, fostering a vibrant EIT student & alumni community.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
Promoting a risk taking mindset and culture by creating more favourable environments for passionate entrepreneurial talent and entrepreneurship driven innovation to flourish.

**WORLD-CLASS INNOVATION**
Developing innovative ecosystems to create and grow world-class, breakthrough innovations by exploiting KIC synergies and complementarities at European level (cross-border).
... Research on the move! ...
... Innovation powered by EIT! ...
... Entrepreneurs in the making! ...