

DISCOVER NE ROMANIA

Development of an Innovative Strategy Continuously Oriented to the Valorisation of the Economic Resources in North-East Romania

Make your business a success. Take advantage from innovation!

Promoter

NORTH-EAST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, Romania

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North-East Regional Development Agency was established in 1999, as a non-governmental and non-profit organisation, activating according to Romania's Regional development law and as executive body of Regional Development Board North -East. RDA is a generator for economic and social development in North-East Region. RDA prepares and promotes strategies, attracts resources, identifies and implements financing programs and offers services for sustainable economy, partnerships and entrepreneurial spirit development. With more than 50 employees, RDA implements regional development policies, covering with 5 local offices and headquarter all 6 counties in the region (Bacau, Botosani, Iasi, Neamt, Suceava si Vaslui). In 2002 RDA became a member of Thematic Networks **PARTNER** (that has the objective to stimulate development of RIS projects) and **SAIL** (with the objective to encourage academic and industrial links) accumulating expertise and developing contacts in order to stimulate innovation initiatives in the region.

Partners

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Metron SRL Italy is a consultancy company that offers services to companies, consortiums and public institutions. Metron SRL activities regarding innovation include participation to implementation of European projects **RIS Abruzzo** (faze 1 and 2). Recently METRON Srl received financing from European Commission for 3 RIS projects under the 6th Framework Programme, Specific Support Actions in Associate Countries. The financed projects will be implemented in 3 Romanian regions: project **REGIS Nord-Vest Romania**, project **DISCOVER Nord-Est Romania** and project **BUCURE TI ILFOV**.

FUNDECYT, Spain

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Foundation for Science and Technology Development (FUNDECYT) has a main role in the preparation of economic development, structural and innovative strategies in Extremadura Region, Spain. It is a non-profit organisation, established in 1995, with the main objective to stimulate cooperation between companies, universities and public administration. The initiative was launched with the support and assistance of regional authorities, Extremadura University and 2 financial companies. At present the organisation has more than 50 employees, out of which 15 are involved directly in research and development activities. **FUNDECYT** developed the service offer according to SMEs, university and technological centres needs, contributing thus to the benefit of the entire community. Following this path, FUNDECYT implemented projects in the field of cooperation (INTERREG), technological transfer (4th Framework Programme), education (LEONARDO DA VINCI) and RIS; the organisation has also the legal statute of Regional Innovation Centre (CENEO).

Consultant**INFYDE, Spain**

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Informacion y Desarrollo S.L. (INFYDE) is a private business support company, with 16 years of experience, specialised in design and implementation of territorial development strategies, particularly for regions and areas with development problems. INFYDE envisages particularly technological innovation and training as strategic resources for development process and evaluation services for policies and programs. The company team includes experts in urban and territorial planning, definition and management of industrial policies, business promotion, training and technological innovation, as well as in techniques for program's evaluation and monitoring. The company activates at national level (government, autonomic communities, municipalities, etc) and international level (especially European Union and the Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation), offering experience in the field of studies, research and technical evaluation.

Strategic objectives

- To stimulate the policy makers regarding promotion and implementation of the research and innovation policies;
- To facilitate the integration of universities and research institutes with SMEs and specialised companies by ensuring needed support in order to become members of regional, national and international innovation networks.

The objective of the project is to develop and implement the first Regional Innovative Strategy in North-East Region of Romania, in order to contribute to the valorisation of its economic potential, based on an innovation support system.

Expected results

- Preparation of the Regional Innovative Strategy which will establish the priorities regarding investments in research, development and innovation for the period 2007 - 2013;
- Creation of a powerful and functional partnership that includes on the one hand representatives of academic and research environment and on the other hand representatives of SMEs and business support organisations, capable to stimulate, coordinate and promote innovation in the region;
- Integration in European and international circuit of the created partnership;
- Identification of a pilot projects portfolio, possible to be financed from Structural Funds resources;
- Creation of technological transfer and know-how channels

Administrative structures of the project

1. Management Unit – representatives from NE RDA

The role is to coordinate scheduled activities by securing technical, administrative and financial management of the project.

2. Steering Committee (SC)

Consists of regional key-actors (political actors and decisional makers, representatives of business and financial environment), with the responsibility to supervise project's activities and quality. The meetings of the SC are periodic. Each member can formulate proposals on project activities.

The structure of the Steering Committee consists of:

- North-East Regional Development Agency
- Ministry of Economy and Commerce
- Neamt County Council
- The Businessmen Association 2003 from Iasi
- Neamt Regional Statistics Office
- Technical University "Gh.Asachi" Iasi – Centre of Research and Technological Transfer "Polytech"
- Institute of Economic and Social Research "Gheorghe Zane" – Iasi
- National Institute of Research-Development for Technical Physics - IFT – Iasi
- Institute of Biological Research - Iasi
- Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Vaslui
- PLANTAVOREL S.A. Piatra-Neamt
- ELECTROCONTACT S.A. Botosani
- CEFIDEC Vatra Dornei, Suceava

3. Reference Panel (PR)

Organised as technical body, that contributes to identification of objectives and priorities included in the Regional Innovative Strategy. Supervises the implementation and development of project activities.

The structure of the Reference Panel consists of:

- North-East Regional Development Agency – Project Manager DISCOVER NE
- Iasi County Council
- University "Alexandru Ioan Cuza", Iasi
- University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicines "Ion Ionescu de la Brad" Iasi

- University from Bacau
- University "George Bacovia", Bacau
- University "Stefan cel Mare", Suceava
- National Institute of Research-Development for Textiles and Leather, Centre for Textiles Research – Moldova, Iasi
- Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Bacau
- National Council for SMEs from Romania, Regional Office Iasi
- National Agency for SMEs and Cooperation – Territorial Office Iasi
- Romanian Commercial Bank - Piatra Neamt Branch Office
- Scientific and Technological Park TEHNOPOLIS Iasi
- Industrial Park HIT Hemeius, Bacau
- Metron SRL, Italy
- Fundecyt, Spain