



VBN INNOREG

Pilot Report

Developing a concept of organizing Interuniversity Research Centre
for Supporting Innovating Projects Development

WP3 - pilot projects
Podlaskie Marshal's Office

Contents:

1. Background
2. Description of pilot project
3. Future plans

1. Background

Białystok is the university town where several universities exist. The universities' activities mainly concentrate on educational functions. Scientific research is neglected and poorly developed, in particular concerning researches in support of enterprises and mutual cooperation between high schools.

The objective was to create the area that could support and initiate mutual cooperation between universities through taking advantage of their research developmental potential for regional development.

Research showed that the innovative development of Podlaskie Voivodship is mainly based on the *Regional Innovation Strategy for Podlaskie Voivodship*, a document adopted in 2005, of fundamental importance for development of entrepreneurship and its relations with institutions of business environment, higher education establishments and scientific units. It indicates areas in which Podlaskie Voivodship features low innovation potential, which is chiefly due to low level of expenditures on research and development sphere (R&D) and poor co-operation between R&D and economy. The knowledge potential present in R&D sphere and the technical infrastructure very often do not correspond with enterprises' needs. A structural weakness of R&D sector is focusing its activities mainly on basic research and reacting to enterprises' market needs to a lesser degree. It is emphasised that, the innovative activity is not only R&D sphere, but also production and other activities connected with introducing innovative products to the market. The innovative activity is also linked to exploitation of information technologies, including the development of entrepreneurs access to information and public services on-line.

2. Description of pilot project

Developing a concept of organizing Interuniversity Research Centre for Supporting Innovating Projects Development - The Białystok Science and Technology Park (BPN-T).

The conception of creation of Białystok Science and Technology Park (BPN-T) is based on inspiring and supporting co-operation between universities, public administration as well as between universities and economic entities. The conception assumes that (BPN-T) is to be an important knowledge and technology centre whose activity will be oriented towards entrepreneurs from Podlasie region.

Park will focus on realization of specific priorities of regional policy and town development, included in corresponding strategic documents (e.g. cluster development, specific branches) and therefore it is to be an essential part of regional and local innovative system. What's more the Park will not work as an independent entity, it would co-operate with other organization realizing projects in order to implement wider strategies. Moreover, Park will initiate entrepreneurs' behaviors among students and scientific workers and stimulate the business pre-incubation process. It is necessary to emphasize that BPN-T impact on the development of innovative actions in the region will strongly contribute to the implementation of "knowledge - based economy".

The aim of creation of Białystok Science and Technology Park (BPN-T) is to increase competitiveness of the region's economy in the result of creating the proper conditions for conducting innovative projects innovative economic activity.

The mission of BPN-T is to:

- Ø take advantage of the scientific-research potential,
- Ø Develop the high - technology industry,
- Ø provide favorable conditions for setting up and development of small- and medium-sized enterprises,
- Ø develop the infrastructure stimulating local and regional entrepreneurship.

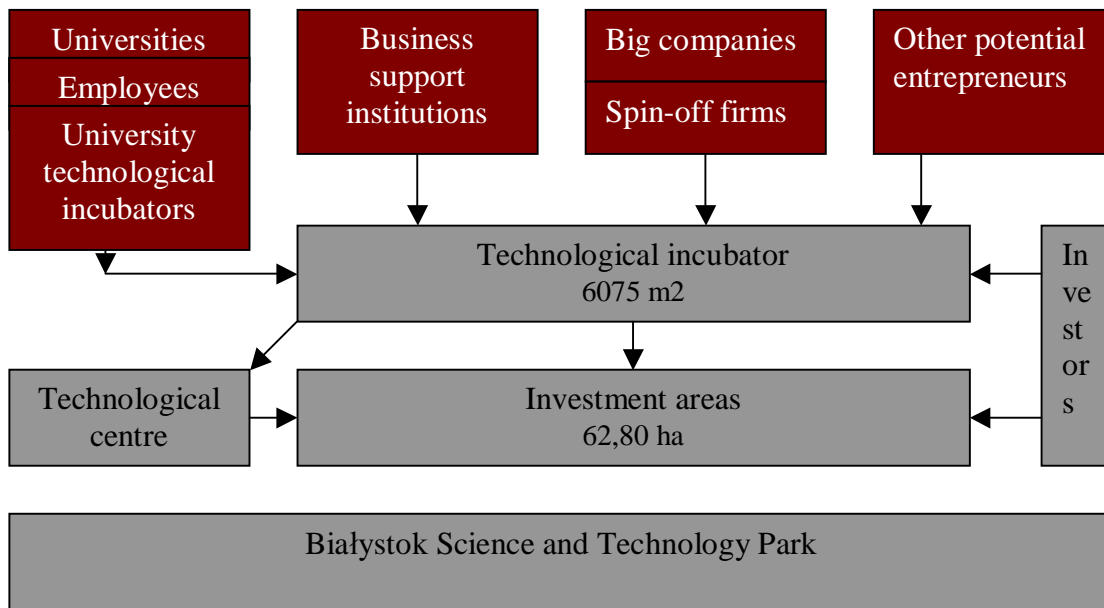
The following institutions participate in the project as a project partners:

- Ø Marshal Office of Białystok Voivodeship
 - Ø Białystok Technical University
 - Ø University of Białystok
 - Ø Medical University of Białystok
 - Ø Podlaska Regional Development Foundation
- The owner of the Park will be City of Białystok.

The partners will tend to create the multi-functional area of economic activity through:

- o supporting Innovating Projects Development
- o preparation of infrastructure for running a high-tech business
- o incubation of innovative enterprises targeted for product development, manufacturing methods and services methods, mainly in the high-tech branches
- o supporting the co-operation between scientific-research units and enterprises
- o supporting co-operation between enterprises
- o providing favorable conditions for creating high-tech workplaces
- o providing favorable conditions for technology transfer and commercialization of results of scientific-research works
- o participation in getting financial assistance available for creation and development of innovative enterprises
- o spreading best practices
- o promotion of innovative enterprises in Podlasie.

Diagram 1. General conception of BPN-T activity



Within the area of the Park the following objects (marked with grey color):

1. Technological incubator with Administration Division of the Park
2. Technology centre with Production, Services and Laboratory objects
3. Investment areas equipped with full technical infrastructure will be located.

A triple model of BPN-T activity based on:

- Technological incubator (TI),
- Technology/Innovation centre (TC),
- Investor service centre (ISC)

plays an important role in the Conception.

The stages of creating BPN-T

The BPN-T investment will be realised according to works predicted within the following stages:

The stage No 1

- Equipping an area of 3 hectares with full technical infrastructure, including the construction of the street
- The construction of the Technological incubator with BPN-T Administration Division (among others: strategic entities and the firms established as a result of business incubation process) - area of about 6 075 m², within the area of 3 hectares.

The stage No 2

- Technology/Innovation centre (TC) (production-service object) of 3000 m², within the area of 3 hectares that will have the possibility to realize so called clear production.

Figure 1. Visualisation of Technological incubator and Technology centre (in the background)
Source of information: Urban conception of BPN-T, Białystok Municipal Office, Warsaw, August 2007



The stage No 3

- provision of technical infrastructure for the area of 8,62 hectares, construction (by City Białystok or investors) of others objects of total surface of about 30 000 m²

The stage No 4

- The continuous provision of technical infrastructure for the area of 51,18 hectares

The stage No 5

- Office buildings and production buildings placed on areas of about 160 000 m² that will be realized by particular investors

Figure 2. Visualisation of BPN-T



Figure 3. Visualization of stages of the investment

Stage 1-2



Stage 3



Stage 4-5



source of information: The conception of Białystok Science and Technology Park (BPN-T), Białystok Municipal Office, Warsaw, August 2007

The localisation of BPN-T

- Ø The investment of the Białystok Science and Technology Park will be realised in Białystok from 2008 - 2013
- Ø The investment area is two kilometres away from city centre
- Ø Good connection with the express-road no 8 (Via Baltica)
- Ø The considered area is unbuilt, surrounded by forests and allotments
- Ø At present, in the central part of the area the Airport Krywlany for the needs of Białystok Flying Club is located
- Ø In addition, within the considered area the local and regional self-governments tend to create the regional airport. The construction of the airport has been included in the program of construction of airports and equipments for airports approved by Transport Ministry in 2007.

Figure 4. The localisation of Białystok Science and Technology Park in the southern part of Białystok



source: Białystok Municipal Office, Warsaw, August 2007

PROFILE OF BIAŁYSTOK SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK

The Science and Technology Park will be a home to resident - entrepreneurs basing on advanced technologies, working in accordance with knowledge - based development standards and using the potential of scientific and research development centers.

The Park is especially oriented towards firms operating in the following branches:

- biotechnology
- pharmacology
- computer science and telecommunications
- protection of environment
- focused on using renewable and alternative energy resources
- using potential of university laboratories

- health protection and medical engineering.
The following enterprises of traditional sectors, having a significant potentials and operating successfully in Podlasie., which probably may take advantage of pro-innovative activities of BPN-T and co-operations with scientific institutions have been taken into consideration and allowed to co-operate within the Park:
- advanced construction material sektor,
- woodworking industry, including furniture manufacturing industry,
- food industry, especially dairying,
- agriculture machines and equipment.

Preferred profiles of entrepreneurs - residents in BPN-T

- Ø computer science and telecommunications,
- Ø biotechnology and pharmacological enterprises,
- Ø industrial design, designing and prototyping,
- Ø environmental protection and ecology.

The advanced data communication environment including modern technical infrastructure as well as comprehensive: telecommunication, internet, programming, trainings and implementation related services and technical support should make up the essential element of added value for entrepreneurs running a business in Białystok Science and Technology Park.

The environment described in the conception, should be treated as one of key factors of competitive predominance of the Park and entrepreneurs located in it. This character of BPN-T environment makes it remarkable within others similar initiatives.

Planned capital spendings

The capital spending for realisation of BPN-T (62 hectares) amounts 140 PLN (in mln), they are planned in the following stages:

- the preparation stage (economic-legal analyses, feasibility study, technical projects of buildings, environmental impact statement etc.) - 3,8 PLN (in mln)
- the realisation stage (provision of technical infrastructure, construction of buildings and its equipment) - 137 PLN (in mln)

The realisation of whole investment will be financed by European Regional Development Fund, state budget and own resources.

Self-financing

In the first years the operation of BIAŁYSTOK SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK will be financed from state resources, until the Park achieves its self-sufficiency, i.e. until considerable amount of enterprises and institutions operates in the Park.

The self-sufficiency strategy of BIAŁYSTOK SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK covers separately the activity of Technology Incubator, production-service-laboratory object (Technology centre) and the whole Park.

Management

- Ø BPN-T will be managed by Białystok Municipal Office, on whose behalf the representative of Town Mayor will act in the range of setting up the BPN-T.
- Ø Białystok Municipal Office will be supported by working group consisted of partners and external experts

The scientific co-operation within BPN-T

The most important feature of scientific co-operation should be its flexibility. The conception says about new challenge for regional university environment - so-called Academic Cluster, which will cover scientific-research units, MSE networks, enterprises infrastructure and technology infrastructure.

Within activities of BPN-T the wide scientific- business co-operation, creation of entrepreneurial skills and attitudes among students, candidates for doctor's degree and university workers are predicted.

The participation of universities in realization of PROFILE OF BIAŁYSTOK SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK may result in:

- Improving educational offer
- Entering into relationships or intensifying existing co-operation with local business
- Increasing revenues generated by technology transfer and co-operation between firms and universities
- Increase in orders and sponsoring the research activity
- Obtaining additional resources from programs supporting entrepreneurs dealing with technology
- New possibilities in organizing attractive students training system

According to the conception the universities and scientific institutions may contribute to realization of BPN-T through:

- direct participation in building and managing Technology Park
- partnership agreement, participation in Board of Program
- fixing the formal engagement of scientific staff
- informal engagement of scientific staff

Conclusion

BPN-T should not limit its activity to concentration on the development in the capital city of the region, but it should also impact on other parts of the voivodeship. This active role of the Park should result in co-operation with others self-governments in the voivodeship. While the co-operation with the Science and Technology Park Poland - East in Suwałki has already been established, there is no such independent institutions similar to the BPN-T located in Łomża city and its vicinity. Therefore it would be reasonable to consider this local sub region of the voivodeship, where the local potential is based on High Public School of Computer Science and Enterprise and other universities, and think about setting up there the elements of co-operation network, e.g. enterprise incubators. For this reason BPN-T should be treated as an important player in the area of innovative activities, that will initiate the co-operation between different entities in the region.

4. Future plans

Future plan of a concept of organizing Interuniversity Research Centre for Supporting Innovating Projects Development concern its implementation. The most important objective is to find potential financial sources for its implementation. Projected financial sources is European Regional Development Fund within programmes available in Poland in new 2007-2013 programming period.

Planned timetable of investment spending

No	Stages of investments	Estimated cost (in millions Euro)	Expected realization
1.	Design documents	1.00	2008
2.	Technology Incubator Buiding	5.040	2009-2010
3.	Technology Centre Buiding	2.490	2009-2010
4.	Equipment for buildings (including IT infrastructure)	1.540	2010-2011
5.	Provision of technical infrastructure for the area of 3,0 hectares (roads, car parks, green areas, fittings)	0.880	2009-2011
6.	Provision of technical infrastructure for the remaining areas of 59,8 hectares	26.866	2012-2015