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R&D INDUSTRY

University support for research
& development in industry

**R&D
INDUSTRY**

Programme co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
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Project "R&D industry" - University support for research and development in industry
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Priority Objective 1-1 Axe 1: Strengthening innovation capacities
Objective 1.1: Dissemination of innovative technologies and know-how.

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Project Summary

R&D Industry builds upon the Lisbon objectives and focuses on strengthening innovation capacities in the Mediterranean area. The partnership includes 5 partners from 5 countries. According to the European Innovation Scoreboard 2008 (which introduced four categories: 'innovation leaders', 'innovation followers', 'moderate innovators' and 'catching-up countries'), France is an 'innovation follower', while Slovenia, Spain, Greece and Italy are 'moderate innovators'.

The project is based on R&D activities conducted at universities.

Envisaged general lines of intervention:

Project objectives:

- Establishing a transnational software platform that will enable management of research and provide support with networking, innovation culture and dissemination of relevant information.

- Contacting 50 SMEs per partner per year. Individual mediation will be set to connect SMEs and public research institutes in various fields. 50 target SMEs per partner per year will be chosen from a public information system, and 20 of them will be subject to scrutiny regarding their IPR assets, know-how, and existing R&D activities/requirements with the intention to seek compatibility with public research institutes. With the support of the transnational

platform joint university-industry projects will have a positive impact on the economy. Through promotion of good practices, successful mediations and outcome benefits, market competition between SMEs will be encouraged and industrial R&D will be enhanced.

- Organizing supportive networking: Research breakfasts will give researchers from public research organizations and industry the opportunity to exchange up-to-date information on research findings, technologies and know-how. The Meeting of Researchers and Entrepreneurs will take place once a year to promote good practices and project outcomes. The competition 'Best Researcher Award' will call upon industrial partners of universities to vote for Best Researcher.

Capitalization measures will embrace researchers at universities, SMEs, local authorities and other relevant bodies and institutions in the region. Nevertheless, innovation is primarily encouraged at regional level where proximity and individual mediation create a greater impact. In this respect, the transnational dimension accelerates regional efforts and opens up new opportunities for collaboration.