



Establishing an academic student environment conducive to entrepreneurship and innovation in the region of Crete

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Summary of the presentation

- TUC & STEP-C
- Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Regional Development
- Universities and Entrepreneurs
- UNISTEP Approach
- PREMIO Project
- Future Steps
- Conclusions

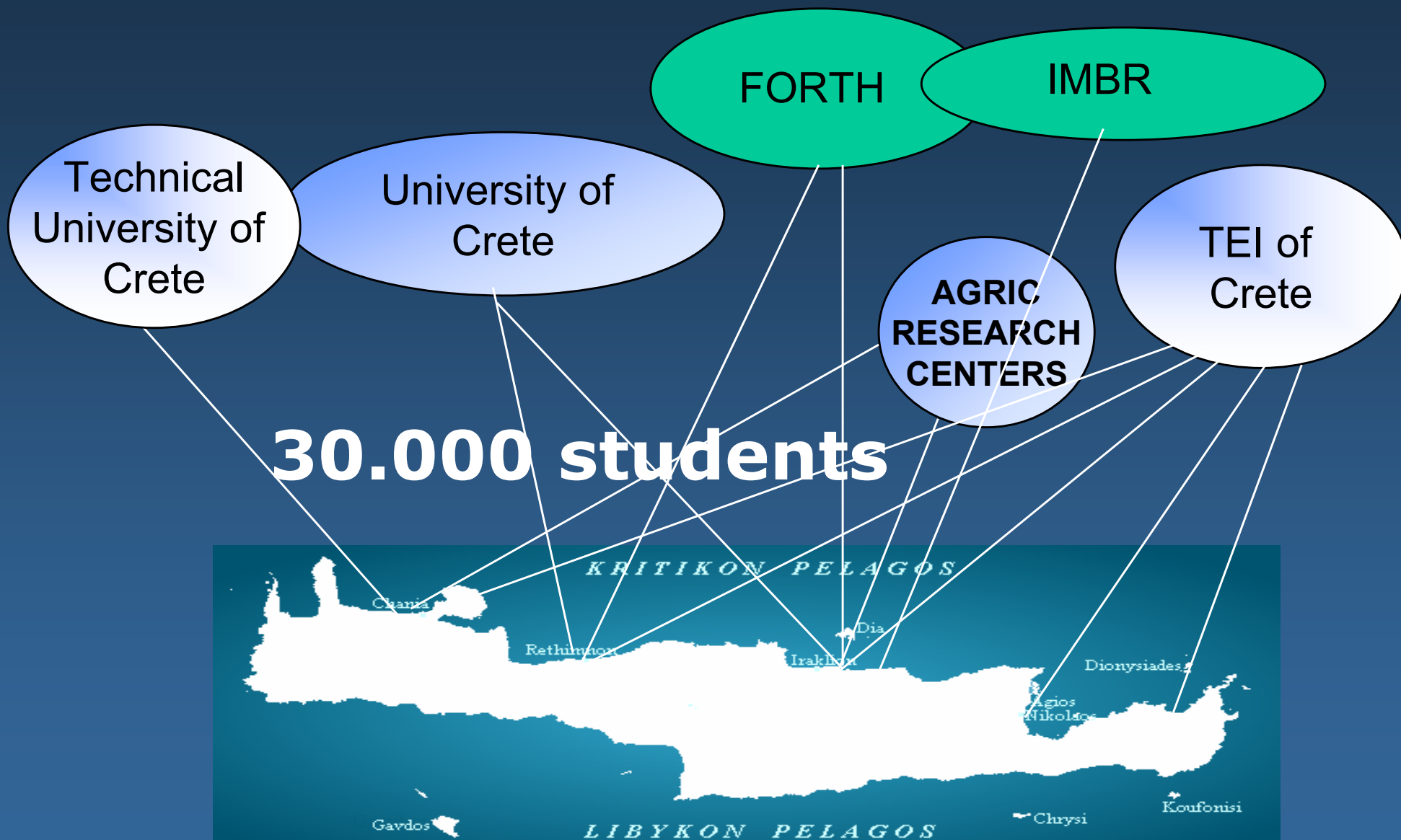


Why in Crete ?





Academic & Research Institutions In Crete





Technical University of Crete

- Established in 1984
- Has six Engineering Departments
 - Management and Production
 - Mineral Resources
 - Electronic and Computer
 - Environmental
 - Architectural
 - Sciences
- Civil
- Fine Arts



Technical University of Crete Campus



Chania



TUC data

- About 2600 undergraduate and 600 graduate students
- 110 professors
- 57 very well equipped laboratories
- Industry liaison office
- Innovation promotion and value creation projects (CRINNO, i4Crete, UNISTEP, PREMIO, Innovative ideas prize, TOUREG)



FORTH

FORTH: The largest Research Organization in the country
(~1000 employees)

**7 Institutes : Crete, Patras, Ioannina
(in the periphery of the country)**

- Institute of Molecular Biology Biotechnology
- Institute of Electronic Structure & Laser
- Institute of Computer Science
- Institute of Applied Mathematics
- Institute of Mediterranean Studies
- Institute of Chem.Eng. & High Temperature Processes
- Institute of Biomedical Research

**1 Science Park (STEP-C)
(+ 2 established in Patras, Thessaloniki)**

**HELP-FORWARD Network (in collaboration with the Greek
Industries Association)**



Science & Technology Park of Crete

FORTH' s conception of the Park: Late 80s

Construction of the buildings : 90s

Managing Company : Established Dec. 1993

Mission:

- Make available FORTH's and other academic communities research results for Regional development
- Become the 3rd development pole next to agriculture and tourism
- Attract companies and support them to become major vehicles of the Technology Transfer
- Become a Center of Learning
- Contribute to regional development

Main competences:

ICT - Biotechnology/Biomedicine -
Materials & Laser applications
Applied & Computational
Mathematic





Science & Technology Park of Crete

Incubator

- More than 100 offices and flexible lab space (~4000 sq.m)
- Financing: EU, National & Regional funds
- Incentives offered by FORTH
- Incentives offered by the National Government (spin-offs, Incubators, Technology Transfer)
- June 2008 : 18 tenants, >600 new jobs created
 >60 new companies since 1996

MANAGING COMPANY S.A. (EDAP)

- *Est. 1993, 22 shareholders*

Main shareholders:

- *FORTH & Bank of Piraeus*
- *Staff: 6 people*





Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development



- Entrepreneurship Action Plan
- Good Practices
- Higher Education can be the source
- Not happening - WHY ??
- Low Motivation
- Teaching not integrated
- Fear of failure
- Training and mentoring is essential



Recommendations from the Commission



- Need to create more favorable environment
- Remove obstacles for business creation
- Take into account cultural aspects
- Entrepreneurship integration into curriculum of sciences, arts and engineering
- In Greece - How will it be implemented? - Cultural aspects

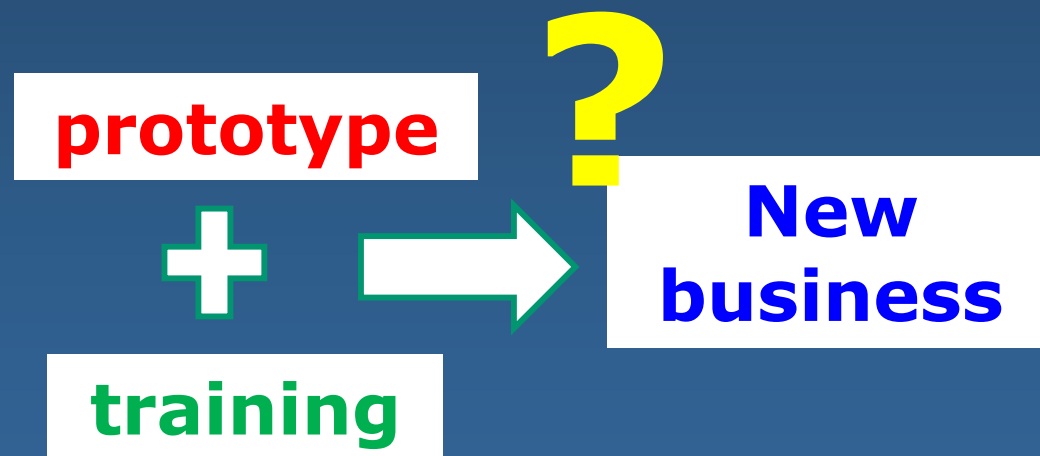
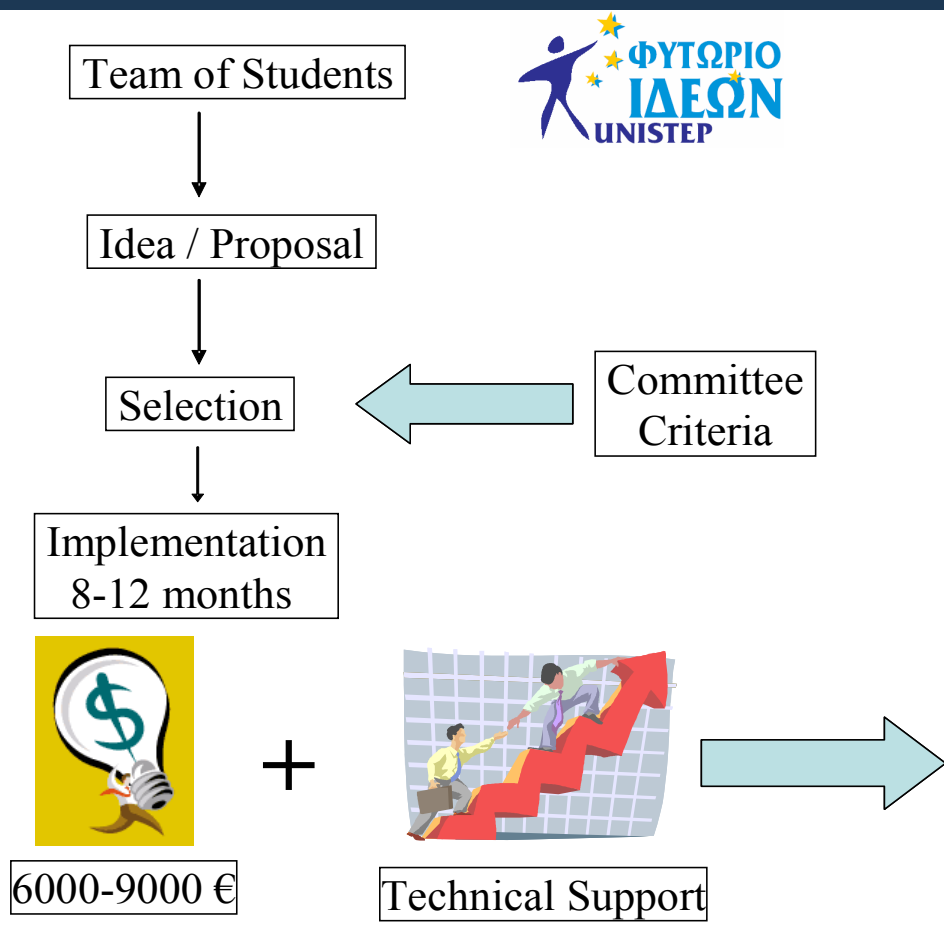


Actions in Crete

- TUC & STEP-C work together towards creating favorable environment for entrepreneurship
- Innovation promotion, technology transfer, business start-up training
- UNISTEP, UNISTEP+, PREMIO, ENTER
- Exploit Academic Knowledge, Lab Infrastructure



UNISTEP Approach



TUC - FORTH/STEP-C - UoC - TEI-C



Results - UNISTEP

- Phase I - 20 prototypes
 - Two companies created (STEP-C)
 - One to be created
 - Three major projects started
- Phase II - 15 prototypes
 - 2 to 3 projects seem promising
 - Evaluation period
- **Lessons Learned ?**
 - Very first approach of this kind
 - Strong collaboration
 - Continuation, Gen. Secr. UNISTEP=Institution
 - 4th Step, Funding of business start-up




PREMIO (Prize)

- Aid for the development of entrepreneurs
- Support from idea creation, to business establishment in a Park
- 10 partners, Portugal, Greece, Estonia, Romania
- Coordinator: Science and Technology Park of Maia (Oporto)
- Life Long Learning Program, FP7
- 2008 / 2009




PREMIO - www.premio-project.eu





PRÉMIO

• Promotion of Entrepreneurship and Innovation




QUOTES

"The best way to have a good idea is to have lots of ideas."

Linus Pauling

CHOOSE YOUR LANGUAGE



MAIN MENU

- Home
- About Premio Project
- Project Partners
- Entrepreneurship Courses
- Resources
- Premio News
- Entrepreneurship & Innovation News
- Contacts
- Newsletter
- E-Learning Platform

Home

PREMIO - PROMOTION OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

The Context

In a global economy where there is a high uncertainty on employability and company sustainability, the endeavour to create a new enterprise requires the knowledge and application of the best practices and the mastery of the most advanced enterprise management methods.

In this context, it becomes essential to develop innovation and entrepreneur abilities: a highly specialized and customised training plan is required to prepare the future entrepreneurs and innovators for the challenge to manage a technological based business in its different dimensions.

Higher education, where some of the most advanced know-how in the scientific and technical fields exists, could be the ideal environment for nesting highly advanced technological and scientific entrepreneurship and innovation.

The Goal



PREMIO - www.premio-project.eu



RSS Feeds

OPMI SHARE IT!

034383

Visitors Counter



Entrepreneurship Course Application

With the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme
ERASMUS of the European Union



promotion of entrepreneurs and innovators from higher education environments (students, professors, researchers), since the initial phase of the motivation and idea, through the first steps of formation of the technological based company until it has a sustainable existence.

This objective will be reached by the following:

- definition and implementation of a **training/mentoring course** that will support the business ideas of the trainees;
- incubation in the project partners facilities (Science & Technology Parks) of the best business plans resulting from the training course in very favourable condition;
- individual accompaniment throughout the enterprise forming stage by an international pool of experts;

The Actors

Premio is a transnational european project, developed by partners from Estonia, Greece, Romania and Portugal targeted to potential entrepreneurs and innovators from these countries, with the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme Erasmus of the European Union.

Project Promoters:



Project Partners:



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

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PREMIO Process

- Students, Researchers, Professors
- Train, interactively and on their own - through a web based platform
- Modules:

COURSE ORGANIZATION

1. Duration: 200 hours, from September 2008 to May 2009;
2. Teaching Model: blended learning regime, with attending (20%) and online (80%) components;
3. Contents: eight modules distributed in two courses of 100 hours each:

	Courses	
	Context	Application/Implementation
Modules	1.Enterprise	5.Business Plan
	2.Financing	6.Innovation management
	3.Marketing	7.Project planning
	4.Internationalization	8.Intellectual property
	Business Plan preparation and presentation	



PREMIO Process



- Each trainee, after training, proposes business plan for his idea
- Receives support by network of mentors
- Presents business plan to a forum
- Best business plans are given a prize (PREMIO) and are selected for Incubation in Science & Technology Park (Crete: STEP-C)



Lessons learned

To develop and implement student entrepreneurship program - **NEED**

- Entrepreneurial attitude, students and academics
- Education and training
- Institutional support
- Intermediary organizations (Liaison, Incubator, Park)
- Simplified procedures for business start-up



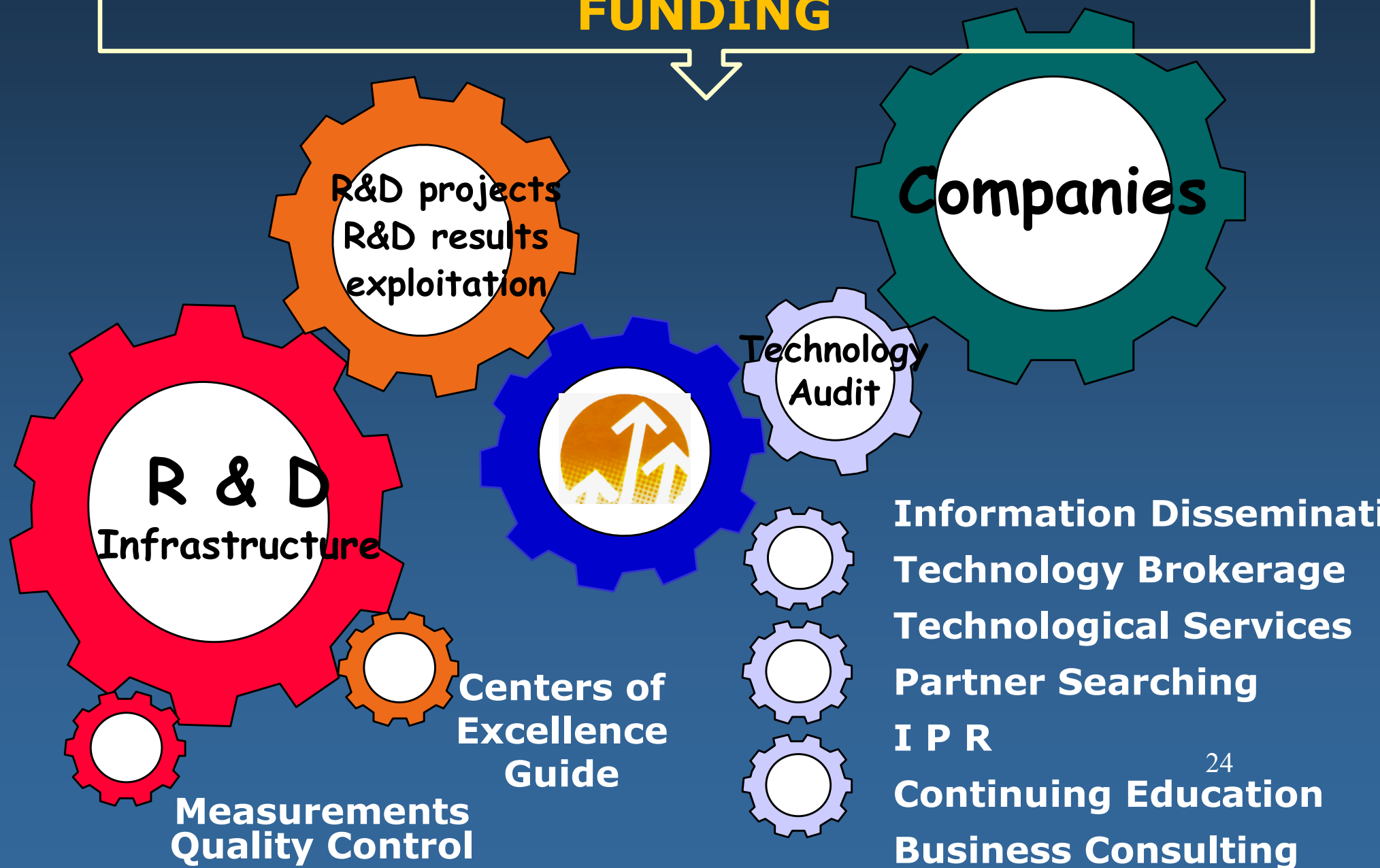
Lessons learned

- Support of mobility of students and researchers
- Mentor network is very beneficial
- Funding for the next (4th) STEP !
- E-platform could be useful - but ...difficult to enforce
- It is a JOINT EFFORT - need for an integrated approach



IASP, 1998, TTU at TTP

FUNDING





There is HOPE (! - ?)

Spin-offs at STEP-C established by Students & Researchers

- INFOCHARTA Ltd www.infocharta.gr
- CYTECH Ltd www.cytech.gr
- NOVELTECH Ltd www.noveltech.gr
- BLUEBIRD Ltd www.bluevibe.net
- TERN Ltd www.tern.gr
- VIRTUAL TRIP Ltd www.v-trip.com

(Graduated from the Incubator in 2007)



What's Next ??

- UNISTEP++ - CrossBorder UNISTEP ?
- PREMIO - European integration, Continuation
- Mentoring, Consultation
- TUC
 - support business development after prototypes
 - Business idea competition -> Continue
- STEP-C - offers space for establishment



What's Next ??

- Educational Programme - DASTA
- Innovation & Entrepreneurship UNIT
 - Integration of Entrepreneurship Course in Departmental Studies
- EC Report - Interactive Learning → PREMIO
- Funding - **Business Angels ?? Venture Capital**
- New Period for Funding - ESPA (2007-2013), National Program
- Regional Innovation Poles, Spin-Offs, Liaison Offices, Incubators





Conclusions

- Efforts to promote Student entrepreneurship in Crete
- Prototypes → UNISTEP
- Business Training & Mentoring → PREMIO
- Need for the 4th STEP, Funding → Business Establishment
- Full exploitation of
 - upcoming Funding Opportunities
 - European Collaboration



Congratulations Next Conference - Chania

