Regional Innovation Strategy of the South Moravian Region

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Structure of presentation

1. South Moravian Region - basic facts
2. How we began with innovation policy?
3. Maturation of RIS strategic focus
4. Method of formulation and managing RIS
5. Results to date
South Moravian Region - basic facts

- 1.2 million inhabitants
- Brno – regional capital
- GDP p.c. about 74% of EU 27 average
- 80,000+ students
- 6,000+ researches (FTE)
- 2,200 IF publications/year
- 1,200 PhD graduates/year
- 270+ companies with in-house R&D function
How we began with innovation policy?

2002 – formulation of RIS South Moravia – the first in Visegrad Region

creating regional consensus and building up political commitment was supported by:

1. high unemployment rate in the region (12%);
2. establishment of Regional Authorities
3. end of Flextronics plant leaving 2,500 unemployed people behind;
4. debate about the new Lisbon strategy – role of R&D&I in regional economic development.
Maturation of RIS strategic focus

RIS 1 2002

Innovative business incubation

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Maturation of RIS strategic focus

RIS 1 2002
Innovative business incubation

RIS 2 2005
Human resources in S&T

Building up new R&D infrastructure
Maturation of RIS strategic focus

RIS 1 2002
RIS 2 2005
RIS 3 2008

Innovative business incubation
Cluster development
Human resources in S&T
Building up new R&D infrastructure
Key premises for RIS 3

- to expand interventions from start-up support to cluster development, technology transfer, talent formation & attraction and to the internationalization of R&D&I actors;

- to prepare the region for the 2007-13 EU programming period to efficiently stream funds into the region (all R&D&I-relevant Operational Programmes implemented at the national level);

- to bolster already existent partnerships by establishing permanent managing structures
Theoretical background for RIS formulation

- Constructing Regional Advantage (Cooke et al. 2006)
  - related variety,
  - differentiated knowledge bases,
  - distributed knowledge networks,
  - local buzz – global pipelines,
  - etc.
Partners

- Government
- Intermediaries
- Research Institutions
- Companies
Managerial structure of RIS

- Steering Committee
- Coordinating Committee
- RIS manager
  - Technology transfer
  - Business incubation and support
  - Human resources
  - Internationalization
Formulation of Action Plan by Working Groups
Methodological approach of RIS3 formulation

Regional Innovation Strategy 3

Company field research
R&D field research
Working groups
Regional benchmarking

Two year Action Plan for JMK
Two year Action Plan City of Brno

Regional Government of JMK
Assembly of the City of Brno
Some selected implementation outputs

- Establishment and development of implementing agencies (JIC, JCMM, TTOs)
- Establishment of talented students support system (cca 1 mil. €)
- SOMOPRO programme implementation (8 mil. €)
  - 28 researchers are in the region, two calls in preparation
- Three incubators built (10 mil. €) and other in preparation
- 146 R&D and company collaborations supported by innovation vouchers
- Science Learning Centre is being established (25 mil. €)
- Development of a prestigious incubation programme by JIC
- Realisation of five brokerage events
Selected results to date

- Creating more than 400 highly qualified jobs in 110 start-up companies, which were supported through the JIC incubation programme

- Ability to repeat agreement across the regional innovation system (e.g. establishment of JIC, JCMM, preparation of CEITEC project, influence over the SF, preparation of the Science Learning Centre etc.)

- Promoting the image of Brno as a centre of R&D&I and as a region with an advanced regional innovation policy

- Critical influence on streaming structural funds esp. 700 mil. € from OP Research and Development for Innovation to the Region
Policy lessons learned – implications for S3 in the Czech regions

- to be constantly in the field
- keeping strategic focus (specialisation) but also creating conditions for related variety
- robust governance structures in order to ensure flexibility of the strategy
- constantly developing international contacts
- to be close to the policy research (CRA, S3 Platform, etc.)
- to manage strategy as a portfolio project management
- to have a the best people on board
- not document, not only process but a state of the mind
Thank you for your attention!

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