

Partner search in the CENTRAL EUROPE 3. call

Project name	Academia-Industry Knowledge Exchange Network	
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Which of the programme priorities best describes your project: (for more information on these priorities please see the About section of the programme homepage)	X	Priority 1: Facilitating innovation 1.3: Fostering Knowledge Development
		Priority 2: Improving accessibility
		Priority 3: Using our Environment Responsibly
		Priority 4: Enhancing competitiveness and Attractiveness of Cities and Regions
What is the aim of your project? What are the issues, problems or opportunities you want to address? (max. 1000 characters)	<p>Cooperation between research institutions and industry has a long history and has often brought win-win results to both counterparts in the central European space. However, the development of a knowledge-based economy induced a crucial change that is characterized by more collaborative research, a sharing of knowledge and transfer of intellectual property between academia and industry. Furthermore, traditional mechanisms of technology transfer, including licensing, the acquisition of capital goods and the transfer of complete technology packages through direct investment are being supplemented by many new modalities for gaining access to emerging technologies and markets.</p> <p>The main goal of this project idea is the launch of a transnational training network focused on linking academic and business qualifications, thereby closing the cultural gap between academia and industry by means of addressing the weaknesses and threats of inter-sectoral collaboration. The involvement of the educational, research and intermediary institutions, as well as research-driven enterprises in such a training network is an important precondition for the diffusion of know-how and scientific knowledge to industry.</p>	
Expected results (Either quantifiable or tangible) (max. 1000 characters)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set up of a transnational training network for knowledge exchange between academia and industry 2. Linking of academic and business qualifications by means of joint workshops focusing on key success factors of mutual collaboration between both sectors 3. Implementing joint strategies for strengthening human resources at the interface between academia and industry 4. Establishment of a long-term, transnational cooperation between participating universities, public authorities, R&D centres, enterprises and training facilities 	

	5. Improvement of innovation systems through better access to scientific knowledge for regional industry.
Estimated total cost (€ if known)	2-3.000.000 €
Estimated project duration (in months)	36 months
Partners involved at this stage (Please indicate if they have experience of INTERREG funded projects and which projects)	CEMIT (Tyrol, AT), collaborative research centre (Tyrol, AT), university (Bratislava, SK)
Further partners requested Please indicate the desired partner profile (country, activity sector, expertise etc.) (max. 1000 characters)	We are looking for a lead partner and consortium including universities, R&D and technology transfer centres, public authorities and industrial partners. Ideally, a consortium preparing a project proposal for Area of Intervention 1.3 Fostering knowledge development is of interest for us and our partner.
How are the partners going to jointly benefit from this cooperation project? (max. 1000 characters)	All partners will benefit from complementary resources and expertise in training, know-how and tech transfer, as well as from best practices and new measures developed for better transfer of knowledge, thereby strengthening the academia-industry collaboration in participating regions.
What is innovative about this project? (max. 1000 characters)	Based on Central Europe's high level of education, the combination of complementary knowledge from different sectors aims to improve the innovation output and ensure the connection to the leading edge of technology and business practices in the participating CE regions. With this in mind, methodologies and actions will involve territorial analysis of the partner regions with respect to the key factors in the knowledge transfer, proper information exchange between all involved partners, set-up of expert groups for development of training curricula, organisation of joint workshops and summer schools for participants from both sectors (academia and industry) and other joint actions in the transnational partner regions.
Is your project a follow-up to a previous project, or does it build on results of similar projects? If so - which programme and project?	Hands-on experience with many projects on regional and national level
If applicable, which other EU funding programmes have you applied to with this project? If so - which programme and project?	-

(Please upload at www.central2013.eu or send to info@central2013.eu for upload)

Partner Profile: CEMIT - Center of Excellence in Medicine & IT Ltd.

Mission:

CEMIT is an R&D management company which focuses on life sciences, medicine and e-Health. The mission of CEMIT is to provide management services to both local and international research partners from academia and industry in order to develop diagnostic tools, therapeutic interventions, medical information systems and preventive measures by means of collaborative inter-sectoral projects. This mission is balanced by the responsibility to act as a facilitator of economic development in the province Tyrol by means of partnerships between academy and industry.

Relevant expertise:

CEMIT focuses on offering R&D management services for research groups at regional universities and enterprises for the implementation of collaborative academy-industry projects. In line with its focus, CEMIT possesses long-standing experience in the management of inter-sectoral research projects, especially in the coordination of international, multi-partner research projects in medicine, e-Health and a broad range of life science disciplines. The main tasks in managing research projects are: general management and coordination, monitoring and evaluation, financial administration, organization of meetings, events and congresses, human resources development and training in technology transfer and business issues, supervision of reporting and dissemination of project results.

CEMIT provides all necessary expertise in following fields:

- consulting on the topics of R&D cooperation between academia and industry
- networking and matchmaking between academic and industrial partners
- development of grant proposals, building-up of inter-sectoral consortia
- providing management services for large-scale, multi-player projects
- coordination and management of competence centres by means of programme management and financial administration
- protection of research results, dissemination and communication services
- providing support services for transfer of technologies from academia to enterprises
- organisation of trainings, workshops, meetings and congresses, partnering days and face-to-face meetings with up to 200 participants
- human resources development, especially in fields of equal opportunity and gender issues

Between 2006-2009, CEMIT managed a project portfolio including inter-sectoral, collaborative projects between academy and industry with a total budget of 79 million €. In addition, CEMIT possess experience with management of large-scale European projects, including the FP6 and FP7 programmes. In 2010, CEMIT has 15 FTE (full time equivalents) who manage 30 individual projects with a total volume of approx. 45 million €, including two EU projects and the excellence centre ONCOTYROL - Center for personalized cancer medicine Ltd.

Regional development:

CEMIT is a public-private partnership of the health & life science university UNIT (70% of shares), regional innovation agency TZS (25%) and regional e-Health company ITH-Icoserve (5%). As an intermediary of open innovation, CEMIT contributes to the economic development of the province of Tyrol. In 2005, CEMIT founded “*the life science cluster Tyrol*”, which currently comprises of 50 members in fields of biotech, medical technology, pharma and e-Health. The majority of the cluster members are involved in the collaborative projects managed by CEMIT. Currently, CEMIT has regular contact with approx. 40 enterprises (red biotech and big pharma) which are partners in various collaborative projects.

In addition, CEMIT provides consulting on various topics of R&D cooperation between academia and industry. Our services involve consulting with regard to funding instruments, screening for inventions in scientific publications, advice regarding protection of research results, patenting and licensing of IPR, hands-on negotiation of project agreements between academic and industrial partners, as well as consulting on associated legal and financial issues (project budget and personnel, investments on equipment, infrastructure, cash and in-kind contributions, overheads, etc.).

Finally, CEMIT provides support services such as tailored training courses on various aspects of R&D management and cross-sectoral cooperation between academia and industry, scientific journalism, PR & marketing, negotiation of contracts and agreements between academia and industry, and screening for inventions in view of protection (IPR) and commercialization of research results.

Relevant events:

1. IT-Security in the development of health software (2006), workshop
2. FDA: Approval of medtech products in the USA (2006), workshop
3. Market entry in the USA: Approval, distribution channels and product liability (2006), international symposium with special focus on SMEs, 150 participants
4. R&D cooperation between academy and industry - legal issues (2006), workshop
5. CE Approval for diagnostic products (2007), symposium
6. Basics of good manufacturing practice - GMP in biotechnology (24.11.2007), workshop
7. Data mining in bioinformatics (2007), practical workshop
8. Commitment in the industry-academia research projects (2008), workshop
9. Approval of medtech products in China & Japan (2008), international symposium, 100 participants
10. Advances and perspectives in aging research (2008), symposium, 100 participants
11. eHealth Benchmarking (2008-2009), annual conferences, up to 200 participants
12. Austrian Proteomics Platform (2005-2009), annual meetings, 150-200 participants
13. PULMO-NET (2009), symposium, 100 participants

Quality management:

CEMIT is committed to fulfilling customer satisfaction by providing high-quality services that meet customer expectations. This goal includes the development and extension of services offered to customers coupled with the requirement for continuous improvement of all internal processes. As part of this goal, CEMIT is certified in line with “*ISO 9001:2008 Quality management systems - Requirements*” standard since 2006. To further increase the quality of the project and programme management skills, the employees of CEMIT are certified project managers (junior and senior levels) according to the requirements of the IPMA - International Project Management Association. CEMIT also has an international team of employees with a scientific background but also specific expertise in the range of support services needed for professional project management (e.g. legal issues, finance, marketing, event management, IT support, funding).