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European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

BioTech_InnoCluster-IVD

Development, manufacturing and sales of in vitro diagnostic (IVD) medical devices, equipment, reagents and agents and services

Good practice: PROJECT

Country: Hungary

BioTech_InnoCluster-IVD (HU) - INTRO

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Name of GP:	**Development, manufacturing and sales of in vitro diagnostic (IVD) medical devices, equipment, reagents and agents and services (GOP-1.2.1-08-2009-0020)**
Category	Project (quadruple-helix, unmet needs, OP, delivery of innovation)
Transferability:	Good practice for cooperation among business (SMEs, big pharma), formal and informal providers (SME & university clinics), academia, university, clinics, incubation entity and local government.
Sub-objective:	generation of innovation via addressing unmet needs identified by formal or informal providers of healthcare
Country:	Hungary
Project lead partner:	Project company: BIB Ltd. (Biotechnology Innovation Base Cluster, Pécs)
Professional leader:	Hisztopatológia Kft., Pécs (SME, main activities: Clinical/translational RDI, Training, Manufacturing & trading + Dermatology practice)
Subsidized by:	Economic Development OP (EDOP-121 Supporting joint technological innovation of Accredited Innovation Clusters)
Rate of subsidy:	50% (42.5% EDRF + 7.5% National Budget)
Eligible costs:	~2 M EURO
Implemented in:	01-09-2009 - 31-08-2012

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BioTech_InnoCluster-IVD (HU) - PROBLEM

Overall stength, advantages and opportunities:

- Clusters have a high potential for innovations in the development of healthcare procedures and services, devices and agents.
- Officially accredited innovation clusters + Subsidy/granting opportunities.
- A few clusters specialized for biotech, biomedical and health industry.
- Members from the healthcare providers, biotech, pharma, medical device and ICT business, local and regional public authorities, universities and academia.

General problem:

Yet, the transfer of innovation needs and ideas from the small and medium size care providers (such as from the state owned hospital staff) to companies and universities was weak in Hungary and in Central Europe.

Specific problem:

1. Big university and hospital clinics have appropriate lab infrastructure for efficient and effective diagnosis, however, access to their services is often restricted (lack of functional medicine or personalized medicine, waiting lists, travel difficulties). Unfortunately smaller and/or private care providers might help to solve access inequalities, however, there was no appropriate lab infrastructure.
2. Big university and hospital clinics have appropriate lab infrastructure for taking part in clinical trials, and saving time and costs to test new reagents or molecules for new drugs and medicines or devices. However, smaller and/or private care providers – both on the industry side and the care provider side – don't have their own or shared efficient and effective lab infrastructure.

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BioTech_InnoCluster-IVD (HU) – NEEDS

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Unmet needs:

1. Smaller formal and informal healthcare providers needed available solution for quick, reliable, accurate and cost effective diagnosis to assist the work of their staff and satisfy their patients.
2. Smaller business/industry actors needed own or shared lab infrastructure to assist in saving time and costs of developing and testing new procedures, devices, drugs, molecules.

Main objective of the project:

The project targeted on the *delivery of a solution - based on immunodiagnostic method and the development, manufacturing and sales of in vitro diagnostic (IVD) medical devices, equipment, reagents and agents and services - for* providing quick, reliable, accurate and cost effective diagnosis for both the patient and the medical doctors outside the big clinical and hospital environment.

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BioTech_InnoCluster-IVD (HU) - SOLUTION

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- ☑ Utilizing and further developing existing successful technologies (dominantly in development, manufacturing, and sales of immunodiagnostics, lab devices and equipment) and introducing new ones (genetic, genomic, in vitro and in vivo new trial models, products and services) the cluster members developed new products and services especially designed for the diagnostic infrastructure and activity of smaller formal and informal healthcare providers and business/industry actors.
- ☑ The accredited innovation cluster management – in partnership with and assisted by the R+D, education and techtransfer activities of the University of Pécs - provided its technology incubation background, and the cluster members shared their experiences in innovation, product and production design and marketing.
- ☑ The cluster is managed by a limited company owned by the Municipality of Pécs (county capital town).

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BioTech_InnoCluster-IVD (HU) - ACTIVITY

Main activities in the project:

☑ **Infrastructure: Development of laboratory for cluster members**

☑ **Work:**

- ✓ Medical device prototyping and turning invented agents, reagents and devices into production, sales and use (by involving cluster members and their partners);
- ✓ Integrating clinical research into product development cycle, market segment creation, uptake of R&D results and valorising innovation, techtransfer (by involving cluster members and their partners);
- ✓ Cooperation among care providers, universities and business - backed by incubation entity and local public authority, intellectual property management, shared facilities. (by involving cluster members and their partners).

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BioTech_InnoCluster-IVD (HU) - IMPACT

- Cluster members managed to solve the problem by innovating and developing new, simple, cost effective and environment friendly solutions and products, and successfully stabilized and increased their domestic and export markets.
- The project paved the way for additional applications for OP grants and implementation of new projects of the cluster members and their partners.
- Improving diagnostic capacities and capabilities of the smaller formal and informal healthcare providers opens doors for easier access to cure, care and rehabilitation services.

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BioTech_InnoCluster-IVD (HU) - TRANSFERABILITY

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Home care:
The project itself did not targeted home care. However, better diagnosis helps to develop innovative medicines for personalised/functional care providing appropriate solution and humane treatment with less pain and adverse reaction, and - in the best case – there is no noxious and unintended response to the drug selected or developed for cure. All these results lead to shorten hospital stay and increase the role of homecare by developing new drugs for outpatient care (e.g. for the dermatology practices of Hisztopatológia Kft.).

Learnings & transferability:
Cooperation - among cluster members, cluster management and university as partner – helped to define real and unmet needs, problems and markets, which paved the way for innovation by using and further developing existing knowledge and technologies. The whole process was catalysed by the system of accrediting innovation clusters and supporting the joint technological innovation of cluster members, however, the budget allocated for the call for them was rather few comparing to the demand. There was no target sector, however, there was a strong requirement that only AIC members were allowed to apply for the grant.
Although there were no requirements or benefits for Quadruple Helix cooperation, the cluster scheme fostered the actors to explore the advantages in co-operation. Therefore, the accreditation system could be replaced by defining requirements or benefits for Quadruple Helix cooperation and the learnings of the project may be transferred to other fields (e.g. Homecare) or regions.

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More information …

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Questions welcome