



European University-Enterprise Network

European strategy for closer cooperation between the academia and enterprises

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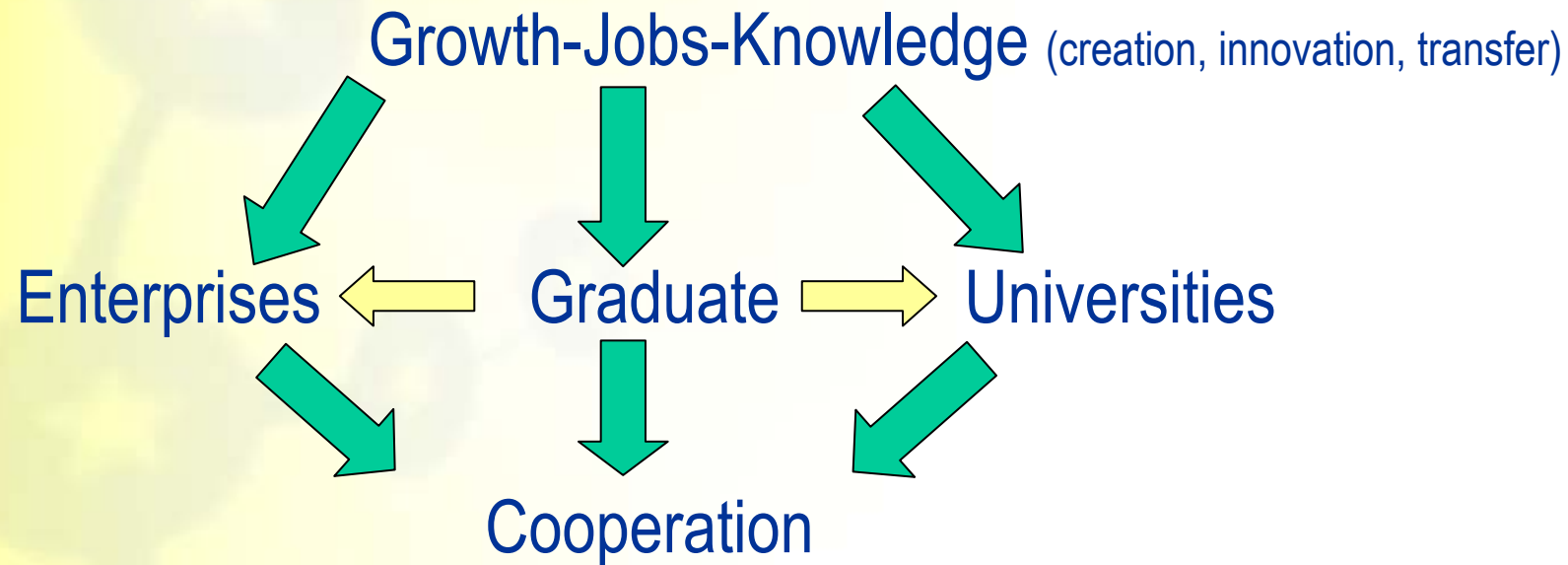
EUE-Net

- Initially started as EUI-Net
- EUE-Net – a new stage – addressing the needs of micro and small enterprises
- 82 Partners in all European countries
- 3 years of EUI-Net
- Well established instruments
 - Annual EUE-Net Conference
 - Special Interest Groups = Sub-Networks
 - Technical meetings – each 3..4 months



Lisbon agenda

A simple model

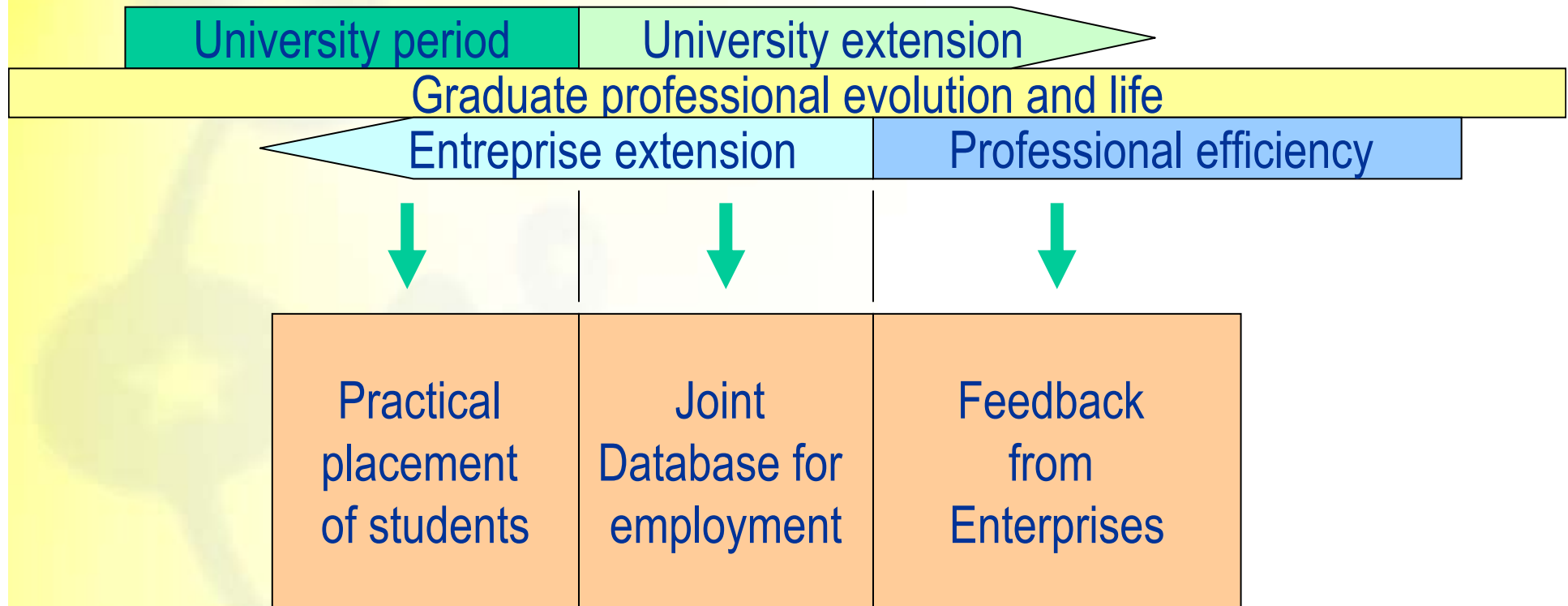


- Demonstrates the crucial importance of U-E cooperation
- Cooperation \Rightarrow graduate !
- EUE-Net addresses this challenge systematically



UE-net

Three areas of cooperation



↪ The three dimensional approach of EUE-Net
→ Three corresponding projects ongoing



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Project 1: *Q-PlaNet*

Quality of practical placements

- Background:
 - Practical placement – not enough regulated (U&E)
 - Best practice: local U-E arrangements
 - Increased mobility (Erasmus, Leonardo etc) – no arrangement, difficult to set up
- Urgent need: the two systems need to interact
 - Ideally – the 2 systems must integrate Practical Placement of students in their current Quality Systems !!
- EUE-Net current action → Quality Standards and “European Network of Regional Reference Centres” for PP



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Project 2: Network of Career Development Offices (*CDO-Net*)

- Local actors
- Maintain databases of graduates or students approaching graduation and available positions in enterprises
- Usually 5000-20000 records
- Several hundreds of CDO's in Europe
- CDO's are the natural job mediators between U-E
- EUE-Net goal: European Network of CDO's
 - Globalisation of mediation at European scale
 - Assembled database: European barometer of employment needs and qualifications available (matching offer and demand)



UE-net Project 3: *Enterprenaut*

- Background:
 - In Europe only 40% of students think about creation of their own business after graduation (60% in USA)
 - Entrepreneurship is not yet a generic skill (and general subject in the curricula)
- Two EUE-Net experiments at European scale:
 - Defining and promotion of Entrepreneurship in University: Tailored offer to entrepreneurs, massively integrating recognition of non-formal and informal learning
 - Promotion of mobility of entrepreneurs within University (*Enterprenaut*)



Two experimental Entreprenaut mobility flows developed

- Partners: Entrepreneurs from Brussels and Brescia
 - Host: University Transilvania of Brasov
- Duration: 1 week. Content:
 - Attending some classes with students (see what and how is taught)
 - Giving some lectures with academics (“learning by doing”, “learning by teaching”)
 - Language training
 - Sketch of their business expansion with selected students
 - Follow up (in May – July ‘07): linked student mobility
 - Expected result: students will create their own job or business, entrepreneurs accumulating formal University transferable credits
- Very positive feedback from the entrepreneurs
- Long term target: Tailored training offers for entrepreneurs, massive non-formal and informal learning



Lessons learned

- University-Enterprise cooperation - very complex issue
- Only graduates taken into consideration. What about research and Innovation ?
 - Some instruments already in place by DG Enterprise Research (IRC's, CRAFT, COST, etc)
- Unless an official European framework for U-E cooperation is established, U-E cooperation will remain scattered, just as result of occasional projects like EUI-Net



Lessons learned (2)

- Institutional building and systemic approach.
- Powerful instruments and substantial framework creation
 - Concretely: **stimulating U-E cooperation incubation**
 - Standards and guidelines (for example introducing of a new ISO 9000 process “Internship”)
- Call for projects - all European countries must participate
 - a bottom up approach to stimulate innovative cooperative schemes and rapid generalisation at European level



Conclusions

- EUE-Net is an initiative at European level aiming to explore the complexity and dimensions of the U-E cooperation
- It identified three main areas of intervention and the necessary framework
- Could be the starting point for a better dimensioned European approach in terms of resources



Thank you for your attention !

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