



### Corallia technology hub to drive innovation in Greece



The Hellenic Technology Clusters Initiative (HTCI-Corallia) supports state-of-the-art, innovation clusters in knowledge-intensive, export-oriented technology sectors. It is the first project of its kind in Greece whose aim is to boost competitiveness, entrepreneurship and innovation under the auspices of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology of the Hellenic Ministry of Development.

“Corallia helps Greece to become an international business focal point with the trade mark “Innovation Made In Greece.” Prof V Makios, Corallia General Director

The initiative helps to stimulate and expand the innovative activity of cluster members by providing support and offering incentives. It also helps to draw local and foreign investment to the cluster and to create a favourable environment for innovation through cluster development policies. Microelectronics and embedded systems are the focus of Corallia’s first innovation cluster, now a reference point for over 100 organisations (industry, academic labs and research institutes).

#### Economies of scale and scope

Cross-industry synergies and research collaborations are increasingly important in today’s competitive climate. They allow the members of these so-called clusters to become pioneers in their respective fields and to attract direct foreign investment.

Corallia officially came together in May 2006 with financing from EU’s third CSF through the Hellenic Operational Programme for competitiveness and entrepreneurship. It is hosted in the Athena Research Centre under the auspices of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology of the Hellenic Ministry of Development.

Corallia put in place strategic, well-organised measures:

- a one-stop shop for unique business opportunities and added-value services;
- support for the creation of new ventures
- incentives for business angels to invest early on to create favourable conditions;
- development of networks to enhance technology transfer;
- training programmes to expand the innovation-knowledge horizon;
- promotion of an ‘innovation made in Greece’ brand.

#### Seeing tangible results

Through Corallia’s activities in the area of microelectronics and embedded systems, tangible results including a significant increase in annual turnover, exports, patent submissions and job creation are achieved. Sharing the same premises resulted in substantial benefits for the cluster members. It strengthened cooperation between the companies involved and boosted research efforts.

The cluster received positive publicity, with over 200 articles and special reviews published in the local and international press. It also cooperated closely with other centres of excellence and cluster initiatives in

Europe and beyond. Subsequently, Corallia's public relations and communications programme was granted the European Excellence Award in Berlin in December 2007.

## Technical information

<b>Project:</b>	Corallia technology hub to drive innovation in Greece
<b>Program:</b>	ERDF from May 2006 to November 2008
<b>EU contribution:</b>	€ 3,090,000
<b>Contact:</b>	Corallia Clusters Initiative Ελλάδα - Ellada <a href="http://www.corallia.org/">http://www.corallia.org/</a>  Corallia Clusters Initiative EL15125, Maroussi, Athens Ελλάδα - Ellada Tel.: +30.210.63.00.770 Fax.: +30.210.61.98.818 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:pr@corallia.org">pr@corallia.org</a> <a href="http://www.corallia.org/">http://www.corallia.org/</a>
<b>Draft date:</b>	16/12/2009