



The Danube Innovation Partnership

Giancarlo Caratti

**Head of Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer
European Commission,
Joint Research Centre, Brussels**

**2nd Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region
Bucharest, 29 October 2013**



- **Striking economic differences** (unsustainable)
 - From most competitive to poorest regions
 - from most highly skilled to the least educated
 - Huge differences in research expenditure
 - Quality education systems and academia
- "EU Danube Strategy" supports **regional collaboration** and development among the Danube countries.
- **Innovation and the exploitation of research** are key drivers of economic growth and development



Innovation Union (Commitment 21)

..mechanisms are needed to further strengthen **knowledge transfer offices** in public research organisations, in particular through **transnational collaboration**

EUSDR – Building Prosperity in the Region

Targeted support [...] will stimulate **excellence** and deepen **networking** between **knowledge providers, companies and policy-makers**. The region must use national and regional funds better, and benefit fully from the European Research Area. [...]. Developing regions downstream can benefit from the **experience of more innovative** regions upstream



The European TTO CIRCLE



► Memorandum of Understanding signed on 19 October 2011 in Grenoble, France

TTO Circle plenary session June 2013, CERN-WIPO, Geneva ◀



**25 Public Research Organizations
Accounting for \approx 130.000 researchers and
support staff**

CEA (France)

CERN (International)

CIEMAT (Spain)

CNR (Italy)

DTI (Denmark)

ENEA (Italy)

ESA (International)

ESRF (International)

ETH (Switzerland)

Fraunhofer (Germany)

Helmholtz Association (Germany)

ILL (International)

IMEC (Belgium)

INRIA (France)

JRC (International)

Max-Planck Gesellschaft (Germany)

Research Councils UK (UK)

RISE (Sweden)

SINTEF (Norway)

Teagasc (Ireland)

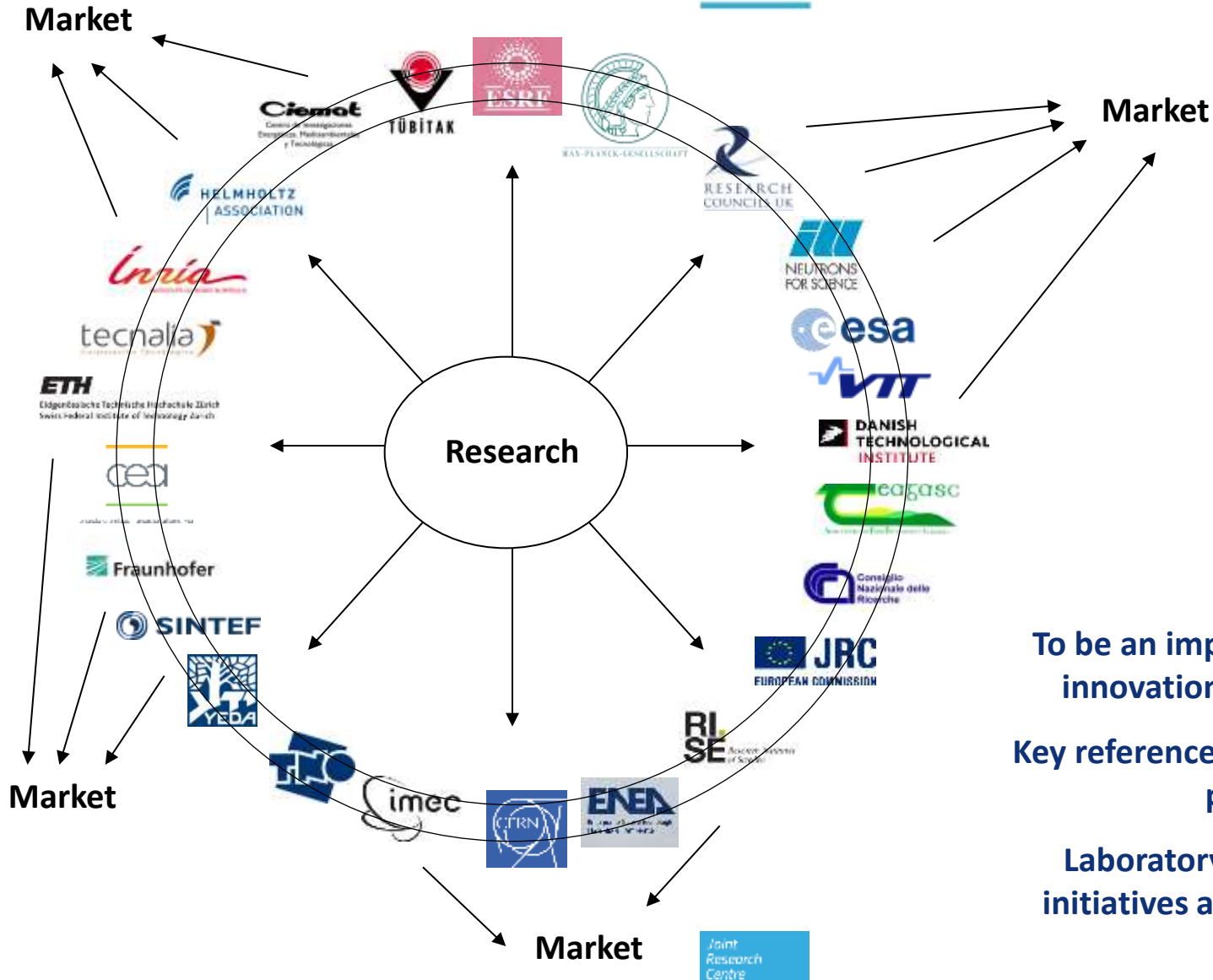
TECNALIA (Spain)

TNO (The Netherlands)

TUBITAK (Turkey)

VTT (Finland)

Weismann Institute (Israël)



Vision

- To be an important actor of the innovation chain in Europe
- Key reference for national R&D&I policies
- Laboratory for testing new initiatives and synergies in TT



We propose a Partnership to design and implement actions to accelerate innovation and technology transfer in the Danube

- Relying on experienced **international organisations** (e.g. TTO Circle, EIF, OECD, LERU, WIPO)
- **Holistic strategy**: actions at the education, research, technology transfer, early stage and growth financing level
- Involvement of actors at **all governance levels** (regional, national, European and global)



- **TTO (Set-up) Guidelines** – guidelines on how to set up/operate a technology transfer capacity in your organisation (based on e.g. WIPO, ASTP/Proton Europe)
- **Innovation funding guidelines** – practical guide on the different sources of funding for innovation available at EU-level (based on e.g. DG Regio, EIF)
- **Technology Transfer Summer School** – TTO training for up to 100 technology transfer professional from the Danube (e.g. jointly with WIPO, ASTP/Proton)
- **Technology Transfer Secondment Programme** – Secondment opportunities for technology transfer professionals to foster TT in other countries (e.g. TTO CIRCLE)
- **Technology Transfer Financial Instruments** – financial support mechanism for innovation in the Danube region based on existing financial instruments (e.g. EIF)
- **TT e-learning module** – customised e-learning module on IP management and technology transfer (e.g. JRC, WIPO)

Today on the agenda



- **WIPO** on TT Challenges in the region
- **Steinbeis** on concrete technology transfer mechanism
- **HEPTech** on transnational technology transfer in High Particle Physics domain
- **EIF** on regional technology transfer financial instruments
- **General Discussion** on possible follow ups
- **Workshop dinner** at Marriott Hotel from 20h00



Thanks for your attention !

Conclusions and follow up



- Very interesting presentations
- Lots of challenges but also lots of potential in the Danube area
- Heard about many interesting instruments and initiatives from the Danube area and beyond
- List of potential instruments has been provided
- Instruments are only proposals
- Need to follow a bottom up approach and receive your input
- Future meetings should be focused on discussing progress in the implementation of specific support initiatives
- Next meeting: May 2014 - Austria