

Workshop on an R&D&I Infrastructure case

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Aid to Scientific and technological park of Gijon

*State aid reference number
N263/2008*

*"The aim of the notified investment
is to facilitate growth and
sustainable economic development
in the region of Asturia through the
promotion of innovative business
activities by expanding the Scientific
and Technological park of Gijon
(hereinafter "the Park")."*





Description of the project

- Construction of a hub building and provision of innovation advice and support services for companies located in the Scientific and Technological park of Gijón.
- 22 SMEs are currently located within the park and it is foreseen that the park will be opened to around 20 other SMEs.
- The Park of Gijón is the only technological park in Spain entirely promoted by the municipality through the Centro Municipal de Empresas de Gijón, (hereafter "CME").
- The investment project will offer some facilities to SMEs that they would normally be able to afford or could not access on the same conditions.
- A key aim is to incubate and support the growth of companies that undertake R&D&I sector and are located in the Park.



Description of the measure

The measure is jointly financed by the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism (hereafter "EFM "), and municipality of Gijón.

The EFM support is in the form of a grant to the municipality. The support to the project is aimed at being transferred to the SMEs located in the Park (tenants). The financial support will be channelled to the SMEs as follows: the EFM will provide the fund to, **the municipality of Gijón** in order to encourage it to construct a building which can be used as an industrial centre, a technology centre or incubator, this **will be managed by the CME**, which will **rent space and provide services for the SMEs**.



Centro Municipal de Empresas de Gijón (CME)

CME is the manager and promoter of the project. It is a public company that is 100% owned and controlled by the municipality of Gijón.

CME has no other economic activities. It only operates and manages the building, which is owned by the municipality of Gijón.

In addition to its high specification premises, the technology park offers SMEs innovation advisory and support services.

All revenues from the rent of work space to SMEs are reinvested by CME in the activities of the Park to enhance and expand the innovation advisory and support services it can offer SMEs and the improve of the centre.



Beneficiaries - SMEs

The primary and only beneficiaries of the project are the SMEs located in the technological park of Gijón (the tenants).

They pay a market price for the workspaces they rent.

As tenants they also have access to innovation advice and support services.

They pay a market price for these services, which they receive from external consultants, they can claim a grant, not exceeding EUR 200,000 per beneficiary within a three-year period will be given to them.

The grant for innovation advice and support services is paid by the municipality of Gijón, through CME, to the tenants.





Assessment of the measure

The task is to assess whether State aid is present at each of the following three levels:

First level: Municipality of Gijón (investor)

Second level: CME – the manager

Third level: SMEs – the tenants