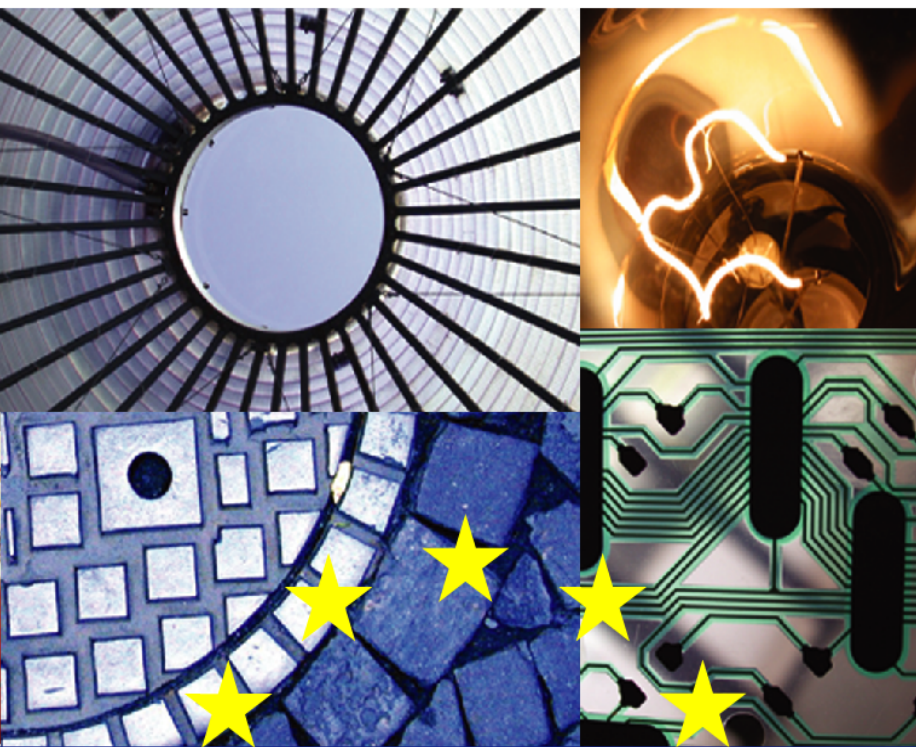




Improvement of the coordination, management and implementation mechanisms of EU Structural Instruments in Bulgaria

PHARE Twinning Project BG 06 IB SPP 01



**NOP Research & Competitiveness
for Convergence Regions
(Calabria, Campania,
Puglia and Sicilia)**

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NOP New Mission

Create conditions so that:

Cohesion Policy, aimed at overcoming regional disparities and promoting development and employment

and

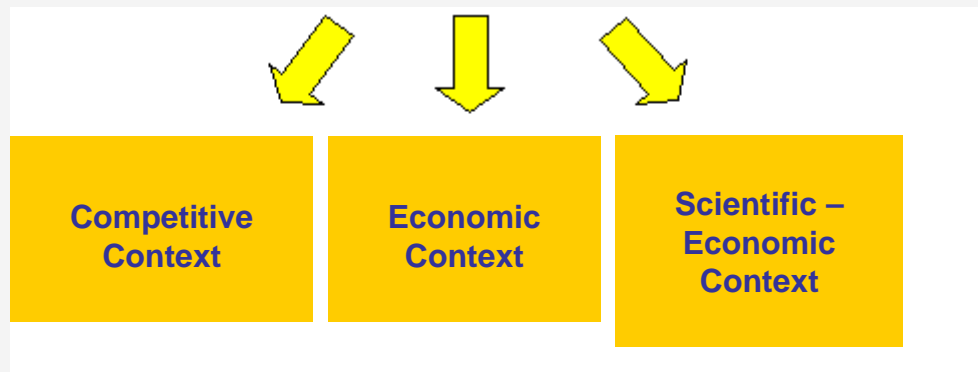
Research Policy (7 Framework Programmes) aimed at enhancing the EU scientific-technological potential

will attain strongly coordinated development, in order to compete to the creation of European research space and make our Regions competitive and attractive in the global market.

Definition of Objectives

a. Building up Objectives

Analysis of



Raised major events of the last few years to which it is necessary to respond:

- **New changes occurred in the international context (arrival of new global competitors, delocalisation, etc.);**
- **Knowledge acceleration (development of new knowledge areas, growing compenetrations between science and technology, so-called pervasive empowerment technologies).**

Definition of Objectives

b. Identifying Objectives

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

- Increase, in Convergence Regions, the capacity to produce and utilise quality research and innovation to trigger long-lasting sustainable development.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Introduce, in Regions' economy, structural modifications strengthening and creating new specialisations in sectors oriented towards science and technology.
- Stimulate and support traditional sectors innovation. General technological upgrading is considered as essential to develop competitiveness and strengthen Regions' productive fabric.

CONTEXT ANALYSIS

1. Competition Analysis

In a more and more globalised economy, the position of our Country and, within it, of Convergence Regions, reveals consolidated weaknesses growing consistently with new manufacturing specialisations (BRIC).

CONTEXT ANALYSIS

2. Scientific-technological context

Major discontinuity is revealed:

- **Change acceleration** for overlapping technological development waves (ICT, biotechnologies, new materials, nanotechnologies) which tend to deeply modify the whole productive system as well as social behaviours;
- **Growing compenetrations between science and technology:** on one side, new technology scientific contents increase (borders between basic research and technological development); on the other side, scientific activity technological contents (increasingly higher R&D investments).

CONTEXT ANALYSIS

3. Productive Context

High criticalities in Convergence Regions, marked by:

- Precocious deindustrialisation (less than 19% of industry a.v.);
- Highly bureaucratic tertiarisation, with precarious links with enterprises' demand;
- Low-tech sector specialisation – i.e. low growth rate versus new comers' offer;
- Below-the-threshold dimension of enterprises – low capability of adaptation to market mutations;
- Low productive level and, therefore, low competitiveness.

INNOVATIVE SYSTEM

- Prevalent conservative orientations in the entrepreneurial fabric
- Poor dissemination of technological innovation centres (poor consistency versus the existing productive specialisation)
- Poor presence of innovative finance structures and instruments
- Low population culture in the scientific and technological sectors

2007-2013 Main intervention instruments

- RNP priority sectors projects and “Industry 2015” Industrial Innovation Projects, both focusing on the objective of reintroducing new manufacturing and tertiary specialisations in the Convergence Regions productive fabric;
- Funds for support to R&D and industrial investments aimed at promoting innovation of products, processes and organisational nature within enterprises;
- Strengthen research structures, which will involve public bodies and industrial research centres enhancement in priority sectors for Regions’ development;
- Promote networks, both i) *horizontal*, based on the integration among various scientific actors, from an institutional, disciplinary and sectoral point of view, consistently with the transdisciplinary and intersectoral character of knowledge development; and ii) *vertical*, to create value chains of scientific-technological, manufacturing and service competencies, consistently with the progressive overcoming of distinctions between basic research and applied research.

2007-2013 Main intervention instruments

- International cooperation, in order to reinforce both quality and performance of actors of the research and technological development sectors. Overcoming any borderline is solicited by the progressive fragmentation of knowledge and cultures contributing to elaboration of “knowledge product” before and “innovation product” afterwards;
- Human capital investments that – although within the limits set by the NOP mono-fund feature – will constitute the constant complement to all programme intervention lines. Research training via research experimented by MIUR throughout 2000-2006 will become an important component of NOP action, in order to remedy low Human Resources endowment within the R&D sector in the Convergence Regions;

2007-2013 Main intervention instruments

- Two transversal integrated actions, defined and to be implemented in agreement with the Ministry of the Environment and the Department for Innovation and Technologies of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, and aimed at promoting *sustainable development* and *Information Society*. MIUR actually deems that environmental protection and safeguarding, on one side, and ICT technology dissemination, on the other, will be important drivers to induce qualified growth in the Mezzogiorno Regions;
- Some ad-hoc interventions aim to:
 - Create complementarity among national and regional actions (vertical integration among different incentives to accelerate scientific results transfer into production),
 - Promote scientific-technological cooperation between North and South,
 - Aid exchange of experiences and best practice dissemination on thematic issues, to be selected with concerned Regions.

Research & Competitiveness Integration

- One of NOP qualifying points is represented by joint programming of two Ministries – MIUR and MiSE. Such approach ensures the necessary and continued integration between policy aimed at promoting knowledge production (any nature and origin) and support to innovation in industry and services.
- Advantages:
 - Prevent scientific work from becoming self-referential, and make it receptive to external instances;
 - Prevent entrepreneurial development programmes from exclusively focusing on mere modernisation interventions, and enable them to become sounder and “long-sighted”.

R&C NOP Financial Resources

NOP overall financial resources are equal to € 6,205 mln, of which €3,113 mln ensured by EU co-funding – i.e. one of the highest in 2007-2013. Conditions exist, therefore, for research, technological development and innovation sectors to contribute to creating qualified development also in the marginal areas of our economic system.

Thank you for your attention!

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