


DLA Project – Component 3 – Good Practices identification

Title	Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece
Acronym	INNOVATION POLE
Web site	http://www.innopolewest.gr/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=53&Itemid=110&lang=en
Practice logo	
Type of initiative	<p><i>Please indicate the type of the GP</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Project or service <input type="checkbox"/> IS policy / legal framework <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategic initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Network </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity building <input type="checkbox"/> Award scheme <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div> </div> </div>
DLA Country/Region	<p><i>Please indicate your DLA region</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Baden-Württemberg (Germany) <input type="checkbox"/> Estonia <input type="checkbox"/> Galicia (Spain) <input type="checkbox"/> North Hungary <input type="checkbox"/> Macedonia (Greece) </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Latvia <input type="checkbox"/> North Portugal <input type="checkbox"/> Midlands(Ireland) <input type="checkbox"/> Tuscany (Italy) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Western Greece </div> </div>
City / Region	Patras, Western Greece
Period of realization	<p><i>Insert here the start date – end date of practice realization</i></p> <p>Start date: 01/11/2006 End date: 31/10/2008</p>
Date of activation	<p><i>Insert here the date on which the case became operational</i></p> <p>01/11/2008</p>
Focus area (see DLA manifesto)	<p><i>Please indicate an item:</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> e.Participation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> e.Inclusion </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secure digital local networks <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced municipal and local </div> </div>

	<input type="checkbox"/> Full broadband access services
Type of service	<div> <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable/Not available <input type="checkbox"/> Training/Education </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Content provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IT infrastructures or products </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Awareness/Raising information <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusive services of general interest </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Participation </div>
Topic(s) (see DLA manifesto)	<p><i>According to the focus area, please indicate the topic of your practices choosing from the "i2010 Digital Local Agenda Action Goals" (see DLA Manifesto)</i></p> <p><i>e-Inclusion</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To build good cooperative partnerships and social networks to develop and maintain their capacity to develop eGovernment applications and services. Partnerships will include experts and practitioners from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local authorities Regional authorities National Government Business Universities Community and Voluntary Groups Citizens. <p><i>Secure Digital Local Networks</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To develop a common learning and working environment, implementing a sustainable Information Society strategy and launching innovative local networks which provide secure and integrated eServices to citizens and enterprises To enable interoperability whilst ensuring security, quality and integrity of data
Abstract	
<p><i>Insert here a short description of the practice (1 page max)</i></p> <p>The Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece is a union comprised of organizations from the private and public sector, aiming at the development, promotion and exploitation of innovation in the Region of Western Greece (RWG). The units that participate are Universities, Technological Institutions, Research Institutions, Scientific Parks, small & medium size enterprises (SMEs) and other organizations, that develop additional actions for the appointment of competitive abilities and the technological and commercial growth of the Region.</p> <p>The priorities of the Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece focus where the largest development of innovations is observed, together with the corresponding need by the existing or developing enterprising activity. These thematic areas, which constitute the competitive advantage of the Region of Western Greece in innovation and business activity, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Axis I. Technologies of Informatics and Communications 	

- **Axis II. Safety and Technologies of Foods**
- **Axis III. Environmental Management and Protection**

Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece includes the implementation of:

- **9 Research & Technological Development Consortia.**
- **4 activities for developing and strengthening the infrastructures of public research and technological organizations.**
- **Creation of 3 spin-offs companies for the commercial exploitation of research results.**
- **1 regional Technological Platform.**
- **1 educational-training course**
- **6 Horizontal Activities for the development of tools and methods, necessary for the viability of the Pole**

The strong points of Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece are:

- **Participation of all Research and Technological Institutions of RWG**
- **Collaboration with Leaders of the Private Sector.**
- **Unifying role held by Patras Science Park.**
- **Building the future upon the major competitive advantages of RWG.**
- **Demonstration of people's dexterities and abilities.**
- **Creation of infrastructures.**
- **The role of the Region in the management of innovation is strengthened.**

And most importantly, after the main problems are outlined, the Obliteration of Weaknesses is developed:

- **Lack of collaborations - rapport: Development and projection of collaborations – the most that ever took place in the RWG - between institutions, researchers and businessmen.**
- **Individualism - unproductive mentalities: Projection of common visions that provide added value to all.**
- **Viability of structure: Growth of vital and sensory organs in the body of the Pole (see Horizontal Actions).**



Policy context and strategic framework

Please describe briefly the context in which you operate (including EC policy, if applicable) and the local/national/European policy and/or strategic framework (if applicable). (1/2 page max)

The Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece is an approved project by the Ministry of Development – General Secretariat for Research & Technology (GSRT) in the frames of the 3RD Community Support Framework,

«Operational Programme COMPETITIVENESS»,

Priority Axis 4: «Technological Innovation & Research»,

Measure 4.6: «Creation of Regional Innovation Poles – East Thessaloniki Innovation Zone»,

Action 4.6.1.: Creation of Regional Innovation Poles.

The Public Expense of action is 50% financed by the European Union – European Regional Development Fund and 50% financed by the Greek State. Total cost of the project was 4,392,662.57 €

Scope	<input type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Province/County	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipality <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region/Nation
Target users or group	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Citizens <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industries	<input type="checkbox"/> Civil Society <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>):

	<input type="checkbox"/> Associations <input type="checkbox"/> Public Administrations	_Research Institutes_____ _SMEs_____
Description of target or users group		
<p><i>Please describe your target group and provide some information on size, composition and needs. Provide some use cases of the practice (1 page max)</i></p> <p>The Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece aims at the development, promotion and exploitation of innovation in the Region of Western Greece (RWG). The units that participate are Universities, Technological Institutions, Research Institutions, Scientific Parks, small & medium size enterprises (SMEs) and other organizations, that develop additional actions for the appointment of competitive abilities and the technological and commercial growth of the Region.</p> <p>The Innovation Pole addresses to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researchers, who want to be informed about the current situation in Western Greece concerning innovation. • Businessmen, who wish to use a mature technology or idea, or give their enterprise a strategic advantage adopting innovative ideas, technologies and / or actions. • Investors, who recognize the importance of investing in innovative activities in order to bring both regional development and to increase their sources of profit by investing in new markets with high profit margin. 		
Overall implementation approach	<input type="checkbox"/> Public administration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector <input type="checkbox"/> Non profit sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partnerships between administration and/or private sector and/or non profit sector <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ _____
Description of the way you implement and manage your initiative/service		
<p><i>Please explain the implementation and management approach followed, indicating the key components and success factors (1 page max + 1 scheme if helpful)</i></p> <p>The priorities of the Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece focus where the largest development of innovations is observed, together with the corresponding need by the existing or developing enterprising activity. These thematic areas, which constitute the competitive advantage of RWG in innovation and business activity, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Axis I. Technologies of Informatics and Communications • Axis II. Safety and Technologies of Foods • Axis III. Environmental Management and Protection 		



Figure 1: Analysis of the Innovation Pole thematic areas

The main objective of this project is to organize and strengthen the bonds between the Research/Technological and Enterprise Institutions of the Region of Western Greece (RWG) aiming at actions that will enhance the technological and innovation performance of the RWG.

This Union was created and organized around specific competitive markets and scientific areas and is committed to develop and promote the already existing technological and innovating mass and become competitive on a National as well as on an International level.

RWG allocates important scientific and technological distinction distributed in many innovative Organisms of Production of Knowledge and Organisms of Research and Technology, such as the University of Patras, Research Institutes and Technological Institutions. It also allocates many enterprises that innovate or are in absolute need of innovation for viability and growth. However, as in other regions, the relationships between all these institutions are weak and temporary.

The creation of the present Innovation Pole has set the following special objectives:

- Force concentration of enterprises, research centers and education institutions aiming at growth of activities dedicated in final common research/technological aims and in regulation of sector-based problems.
- Medium-term strengthening of the private sector's role in the growth and the competitive position of the country: Answer to the challenges the private sector is facing as far as the technological innovations is concerned, their diffusion speed and cost of application on a national and international level of competition.
- Medium-term presentation of the specific competitive advantages of RWG and long-term reduction of Regional inequalities between them.

Technology choice	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary technology <input type="checkbox"/> Open source software <input type="checkbox"/> Mainly (or only) open standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standard based technology <input type="checkbox"/> Accessibility compliant (min WAI-AA) <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
Technology solution		
<p><i>Explain the technological choices and the approach followed. Indicate the degree to which interoperability (semantic, organizational or technical), the use of standards and/or proprietary technology are important in your project (1/2 page max + 1 scheme if helpful)</i></p> <p>The technological approach that is followed, depends on the project that is implemented each time and is under the supervision of the Regional Innovative Pole of the Western Greece</p>		
Funding source	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public EU funding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public National funding <input type="checkbox"/> Public Regional funding	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Local funding <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector (s) <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary contributions
Implementation costs (overall)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> € 0 - 15.000 <input type="checkbox"/> € 15.000 - 50.000 <input type="checkbox"/> € 50.000 - 100.000 <input type="checkbox"/> € 100.000 - 300.000	<input type="checkbox"/> € 300.000 - 1 million <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> € 1 million - 5 millions <input type="checkbox"/> € 5 millions - 10 millions <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 millions
Main results, scope and benefits		
<p><i>Please, describe the main results (qualitative and quantitative) for all stakeholders involved: you should mention issues such as impact, scope, added value and results achieved and/or expected by your initiative, including user impact and user satisfaction. (1 page max + indicators of results + schemes if helpful)</i></p> <p>During the implementation of the projects joining the Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece, the following products – results were produced:</p> <p>Research & technological development consortia in priority areas for the Region</p> <p>A1: Creation of a Regional Distributed Intrusion Detection and Informing System for SMEs in issues of Information Systems Security- GO-SECURE</p> <p>A2: Interactive customer services supply system</p> <p>A3: Infrastructure and Development of Broadband Application Services Provision in the RWG</p>		

A4: Integrated system for international combined transport using smart containers - DROMON

A5: Development of the research activities of the laboratory for mycotoxins determination aiming in improvement of the competitiveness of the food industries of the Region of Western Greece

A6: Integrated System for quality certification of aquaculture fish products and their relation to seawater pollution – SAGINI

A9: Innovative Action for Plastics & Composites (IAPC)

A10: Innovative intervention tools for infrastructures and environmental impacts management

A11: Development of a viable solution for the management of olive mill wastewaters with emphasis on valorization of byproducts

Strengthening the infrastructures of public research and technological organizations

C1: Laboratory for enhancement of the computer system's security- GO-STRENGTHENED

C2: Establishment and function of an accredited laboratory of determination of mycotoxins (aflatoxins and ochratoxins) in food and agricultural products

C3: Supplement of required laboratory equipment for performance of quality certification in livestock breeding, agricultural and fishery products with use of integral analytical tests

C4: Infrastructure for the development of a viable solution for the management of olive mill wastewaters with emphasis on valorization of byproducts

Activities in preparation of assistance to research units in connection with the standardization and commercial exploitation of research results

D1: Preparation for the commercial exploitation of a Boundary Element software

D2: Preparation for the Commercial Exploitation & Development of a Medical Decision Support System in Obstetrics

D3: Preparation for the Commercial Exploitation of a Biological Filter for Potable Water

Regional Technological Platforms

E1: Technological platform for the promotion of applied research in the areas of industrial systems and automation, industrial control, embedded systems and information system and network security

Education – Training

F1: Confrontation of security incidents, security strengthening and data retrieval - GET-INFORMED

Horizontal Activities (HA)

HA 1: Growth the innovative and technological identity of Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece and his promotion in Greece and abroad

HA 2: Creation of Development Plan for the Innovation Pole in Western Greece

HA 3: Technology Foresight in the Region of Western Greece

HA4: METAGNOSIS: A TOOL for optimal exploitation of the research and technological results and transfer of know-how and innovation in RWG

HA 5: Integrated network for business support services addressed at existing and new firms, with the aim of promoting innovative activities in Western Greece – FANOS

HA 6: Observatory of Quality

WaterTech Cluster

Within the frames of the Regional Innovation Pole of Western Greece, it was realized that the Region of Western Greece (RWG) has a significant competitive advantage in the sector of Environmental Management & Protection, especially in technology and management of water resources. This segment was supported and organized resulting in the creation of the first innovative cluster in the RWG, the WaterTech Cluster.

The objective of WaterTech cluster is to create partnerships among businesses, research institutions and support agencies specializing in managing and processing water resources and waste water in the RWG.

The Cluster consists of all actors of the triple-helix innovation model: businesses, research & knowledge institutions, local and regional authorities.

The WaterTech Cluster is currently participating in approved European Networks and projects of the 7th Framework Programme (FP7), such as:

- Project: STInno - Sustainable Innovations and Treatment in Industrial Waste Water Clusters
- Project: SWAM - Increasing the regional competitiveness and economic growth through the RTD&I on sustainable water management

Return of investment

Please estimate the direct savings that will result from the project over its total estimated duration. The savings should ideally benefit your country/region or users. In case you cannot provide an amount, please describe your return on investment (1/2 page max+ schemes if helpful)

The direct savings that will result from the project are:

- **Collaborations between enterprises and research institutions of Western Greece, in order to exploit the synergies between them and encourage their recognisability in international level acquiring an important technological and commercial stain.**
- **Reducing the innovative gap between the Regions in Greece and the European countries and promoting their competitive efforts internationally.**
- **Reducing Regional inequalities and elevating particular Regional competitive advantages.**
- **The decisive role of the private sector to the country's growth and competitiveness.**
- **The decisive role of Regions in the effective support of policies for innovation.**
- **The accumulation of the strength of enterprises, research centres and educational institutions, in order to develop activities dedicated in common final research or technological aims.**

Lesson learnt

Describe the THREE main lessons learnt from your case (1/2 page max)

1. **Collaborations between enterprises and research institutes are more effective when the partners who develop them collaborate, so that they exploit the synergies between them**

and encourage their recognisability in international level acquiring an important technological and commercial stain.

2. The union and collaboration of organizations from the private and public sector, along with universities and research institutes can produce innovative products or results because each member complements the other, adding its knowledge and experience

Sharing features

Evaluate the potential for others to learn from your case and describe mechanisms for exchange, transfer and replication. Also, please specify whether you have shared this case or project with others (peers, public sector actors, such as governments, etc.) and the results (1 page max + schemes if helpful)

The Regional Innovative Pole of Western Greece has made several publications. These include:

- Publications of articles in local or national newspapers
- Paper publications in conferences and journals

Could the GP be available for a DLA "on site" study visit?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Conditioned (*please specify*):

