

Synergies between European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) & Research and Innovation Funding: The Stairway to Excellence

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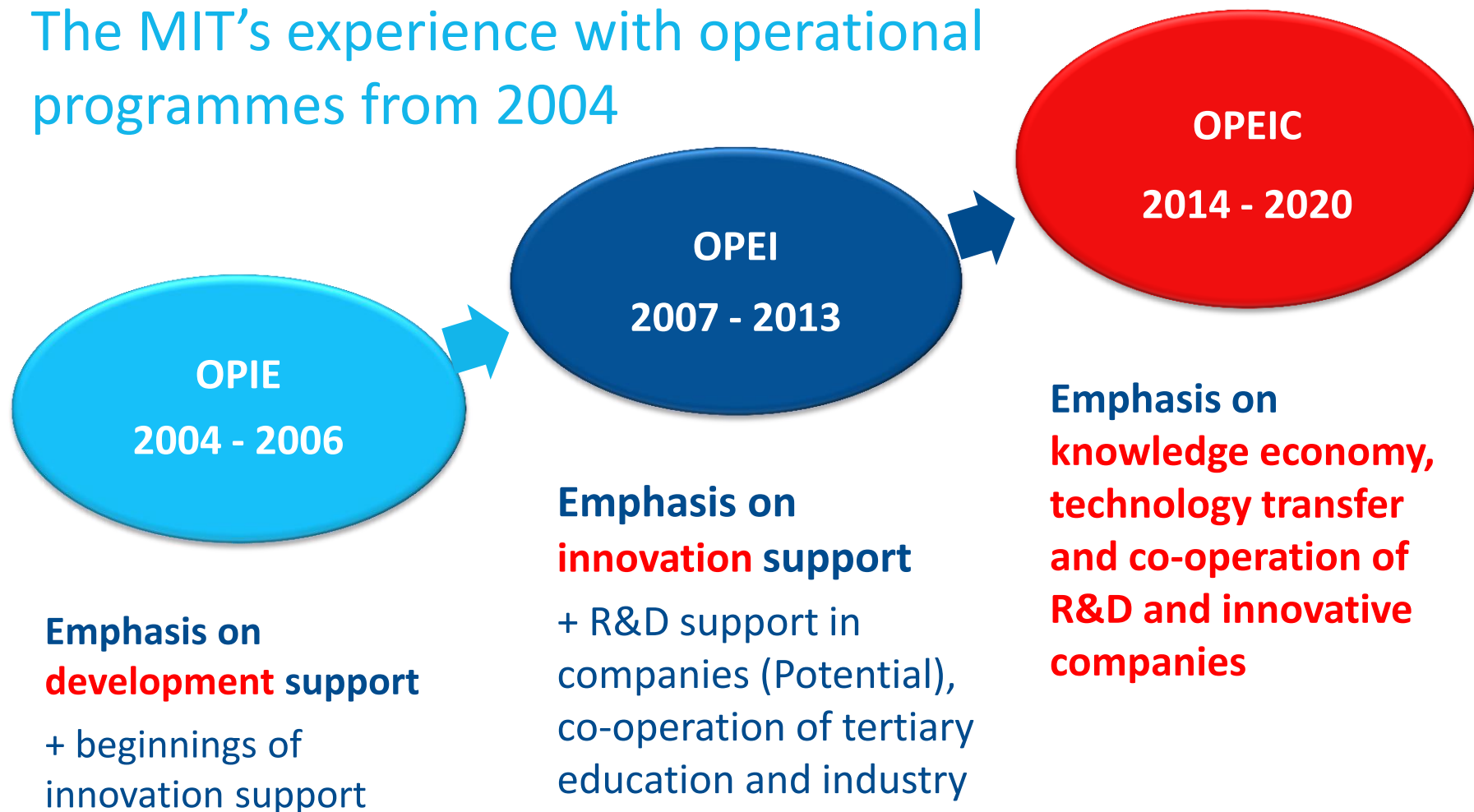
Section of EU Funds, Research, Development, Innovations
and Investment Incentives
Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic

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Launching the new programmes

The MIT's experience with operational programmes from 2004



Launching the new programmes

Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness (OPEIC)

Vision:

A competitive and sustainable Czech economy based on knowledge and innovations

Global goal:

- Increasing the competitiveness of the Czech economy by supporting the business environment, promoting innovations in the production and services sectors, energy treatment and development of ICT
- Mono-fund operational programme, co-financed with the ERDF

Shifts: higher attention to the applied research, co-operation between research institutions and universities with business, more frequent use of financial instruments (in direct support of SMES)

Launching the new programmes

Shifts in the OP EIC based on experience 2007–2013

Extension of priority areas of the current OPEI 2007 - 2013, further reinforcement of current subject-matter interventions:

- ➔ Technology transfer and cooperation of R&D sectors and innovative firms
- ➔ Shift from building the infrastructure to its development and effective use
- ➔ Emphasis on implementing higher-level innovations and non-technical innovations
- ➔ Improving synergies between OP EIC and OP RDE (OP VVV)
- ➔ Supporting technological foresight
- ➔ OPEIC follow up and value added action:
 - Financial instruments
 - Synergy to H2020, internacionalization, R & D projects

Focus of the OP EIC – Priority Axes (PA)

PA 1 **Advancement of research and development for innovation**

PA 2 **Development of business and the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises**

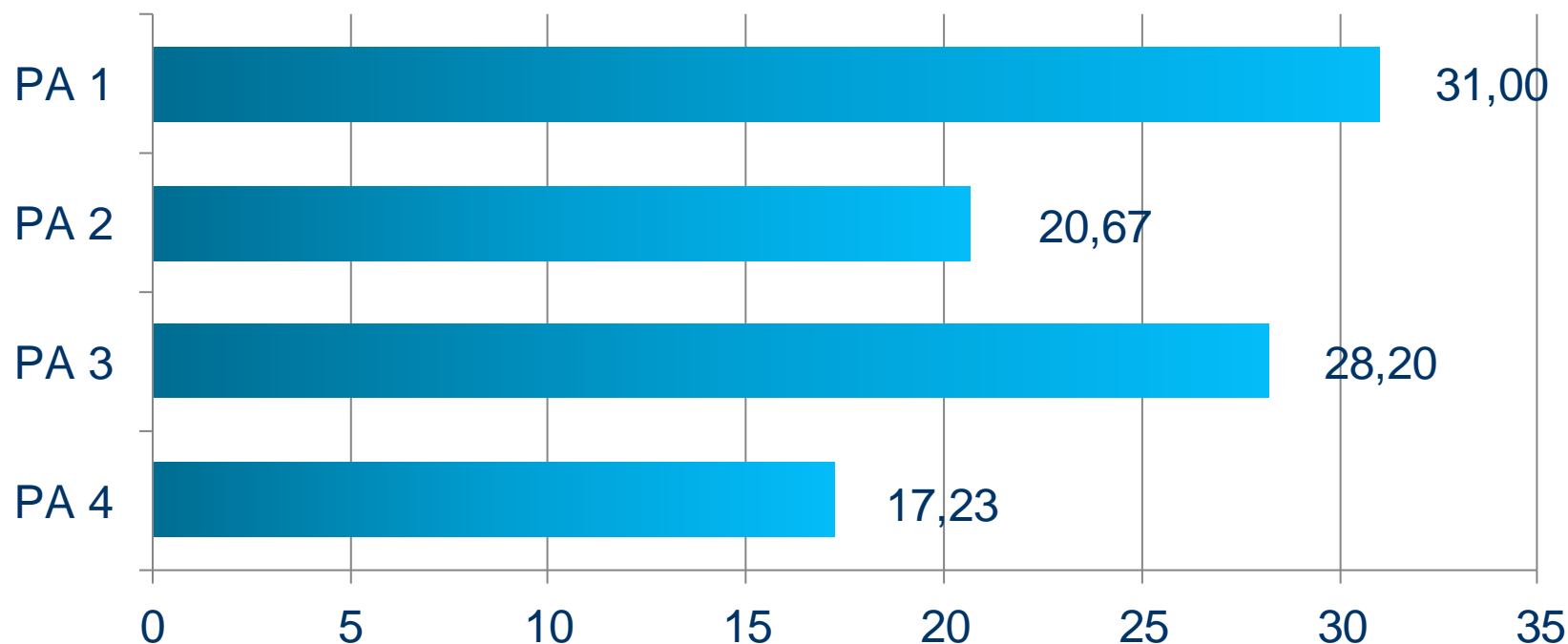
PA 3 **Effective energy management, development of the energy infrastructure and renewable energy sources, support for the introduction of new technologies in the management of energy and secondary raw materials**

PA 4 **Development of high-speed internet access and information and communication technologies**

Financial allocations to the OP EIC

Total allocation to the OP EIC: 4.331 billion EUR, ERDF contribution

Share of the total OP EIC allocation awarded to the individual priority axes (as a %)



Priority Axis 1 - Promotion of research and development for innovation

OP EIS is one of the major implementation tools that contributes to the achievement of relevant RIS3 targets. Its application will be implemented primarily in Priority Axis 1, than in 4 and partly in Priority Axis 2.

What to achieve in Priority Axis 1:

- increased use of unique know-how created,
- cooperation with the academic and research sector,
- extension of the corporate know-how for in-house innovation,
- greater internationalisation of enterprises
- greater possibilities for Czech companies to participate in European programmes or research cooperation (e.g. Horizon 2020, COSME).
- utilisation of newly built research infrastructures in the public sector with an emphasis on key cross-cutting technologies (KETs).

Priority Axis 1

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- 1.1: Increasing innovation performance of enterprises
- 1.2: Improving the intensity and efficiency of cooperation in research, development and innovation

Activities:

- Creating new services of supporting infrastructure (science and technology parks, business innovation centres, business incubators)
- Developing cooperation networks, incl. clusters and technological platforms
- Establishing partnerships for knowledge transfer among companies and universities
- Developing communication and knowledge sharing between the business and research sectors
- Extension/construction of shared infrastructure for industrial research
- commercialisation of research results through feasibility verifications ("proof-of-concept")

Priority Axis 1

	Support Programme	Investment priority
SG1.1	Innovation	1 b) promoting business investment in research and innovation and creating links and synergies between enterprises, R&D centres and higher education sector, particularly to support investments in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialization, and support for technological and applied research, pilot lines, measures for early product validation, advanced manufacturing capabilities and primary production, in particular in Key Enabling Technologies and dissemination of general purpose technologies
	Potential	
	Application	
SG1.2	Knowledge transfer partnerships	
	Cooperation	
	Innovation vouchers	
	Infrastructure services	
	Proof of concept	

OP EIC and National Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation of the Czech Rep. (National RIS3)

Vertical priority: interventions focused on specific competitive, prospective, sectoral/sub-sectoral RDI with a strong growth potential, **so-called smart specialisation domains.**

The synergistic setting of RIS3 and OP EIC has been identified in the analytical part of the OP EIC preparation.

The OP EIC main implementing instruments for the vertical priorities:

- support programmes,
- calls for submission,
- project evaluations.

Meeting the objectives and vertical priorities defined in the National RIS3 will be continuously monitored and evaluated by an external independent body.

Links of specific objectives of the National RIS3 Strategy due to Priority Axis 1

All the planned activities under SO 1.1 and SO 1.2 are based on the needs reflected in the National RIS3 Strategy and have a direct link to strategic objectives of RIS3 Strategy:

LINKS TO SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES 1:

- ➔ Strengthening the research and development capacities of companies
- ➔ Improving strategic management in SMEs
- ➔ Strengthening the co-operation and interaction between research organisations and the application sector

LINKS TO SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES 2:

- ➔ Strengthening technological co-operation of companies
- ➔ Increasing the number of new companies striving for innovations, especially higher-order innovations
- ➔ Strengthening the co-operation and interaction between research organisations and the application sector

Innovation Platforms, Entrepreneurial Discovery Process

- Findings of research activities considered in detail by the National RIS3 will be used to identify new opportunities within the **innovation platforms** and the **entrepreneurial discovery process**, which will occur in scope of interactions between partners from different innovation platforms, representing the corporate sector, research organisations, as well as the public sector.
- Innovation Platform - the specific form and degree of the verticalisation

National Innovation Platform

Ministry of Industry and Trade deputies actively participate in National Innovation Platforms.

Domain specialisation:

1. Engineering, production and distribution of power energy, electronics
2. IT services and software, electronics and electrical engineering
3. Manufacture of transportation equipment
4. Drugs and Medical Product

The results of negotiations are forwarded to the managing authorities of the relevant operational programs to implement.

New Approach and Synergy OPEIC/SME In

- ➔ New head of unit – H2020 support of projects close to OPEIC
- ➔ Launch strategy – SME Instrument/Seal of Excellence:

1 stage SMEI – feasibility study in Proof of Concept prg. – grant/ex post consideration about special call (under DG Regio discussion)

2 stage SMEI – many activities (bonification in different OPEIC prg or special call or PoC)

3 stage SMEI – investment pool – NIF (PoC) or EU investment of risk capital fund

Thank you for your attention

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