General information about Saxony-Anhalt and about the Regional Innovation Strategy

**German Federal State Saxony-Anhalt in the heart of Europe**

* Federal State of Germany
* Capital Magdeburg
* Area ̴ 20.000 Km2
* About 2,2 Million citizens
* Land of Reformation: Martin Luther posted his 95 theses in 1517 in Wittenberg.



**Science in Saxony-Anhalt**

2 Universities

Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg

Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg

5 Universities of Applied Sciences

1 College of Art and Design

2 Private Universities

26 Scientific and Research Institutions

6 Fraunhofer Institutes/Centres

5 Leibniz Institutes

2 Helmholtz Centres

3 Institutes of Max Planck Society

2 Academies and Foundations

8 Clusters, Networks, Centres

**Economic structural policy Saxony-Anhalt**

* R & D quota in Saxony-Anhalt is **approx. 1.5% of GDP**, that of the private sector is only 0.4% of GDP
* Company's stock is **characterized by SMEs**, production sites are mainly **production-oriented**
* Saxony-Anhalt is a **fast-aging region** within Europe – demographic bias

**Regional Innovation Strategy**

**Five Lead Markets with future potential in Saxony-Anhalt**

**Cross-Innovation**

**THE GUIDELINES OF THE REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY**

1. Intensification of the profile of the location of Sachsen-Anhalt through the focus of innovation policy on the Lead Markets, through highquality settlements and the use of cluster and innovation networks.

2. Integration of innovations spanning the Lead Markets from the cross-sectional fields.

3. Reviving and developing innovation potentials in the company landscape and encouraging these through prospective transfers and low-threshold tenders.

4. Targeted development of the science location and professionalism of the transfer of knowledge and technology between research facilities and companies in order to achieve an innovative edge.

5. Development and more efficient use of local research infrastructure.

6. Improvement of the competitive advantage of existing production sites through investments and an associated increase in the existing innovation potential.

7. Strengthening of the company culture through wide-scale sensitisation in the education sector and the support of company foundations.

8. Securing of skilled workers in the state through investments in an effective education system, qualifications offered through day release from jobs, encouragement of young people and the development of childcare services.

9. Internationalisation of the innovation policy: integration of local production and services in international value added chains, reinforcement of export potentials through innovation, integration into international networks.

10. Consistent equal rights for women and men.

11. Consolidating financing methods: interdepartmental allocation of funds and reinforced acquisition of project subsidies from national and European funding programmes.

12. Continual further development and success monitoring of the Regional Innovation Strategy.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

The Regional Innovation Strategy is focused on a medium-term outlook. During its implementation, market trends, international developments and structural influences must be reacted to flexibly.

To achieve the defined, demanding objectives and to occupy the position of an innovative science and business location in the identified Lead Markets worldwide, it is necessary to set priorities on themes and projects, which have particular relevance for innovative growth.

Experts from the economy, science and politics will implement the objectives of the Regional Innovation Strategy through a close networking and intensive, continual collaboration.