



Know-Man Project Meeting in Wrocław further supports the interregional Transfer of Practices to better link economic – academic – and public actors for sharing and transforming knowledge

Modern economy is based on knowledge. The ability to utilize it is the precondition for success, also in the public area. A solution to this challenge is offered by **KNOW-MAN** Project, funded under Interreg IVC, and supposed to strengthen the development of its participating regions by stimulating cooperation of the R&D sector, business, and regional administration. **KNOW-MAN** focuses on intensifying links between the science and business, and consequently as its centre of interest has the activity of technology parks in Italy, Spain, Slovenia, Germany, and Poland.

The last meeting opening the second year of the project's activity took place in Wrocław on 9-11 February. A study visit to the Wrocław Technology Park (WTP) allowed the partners from other European regions to look at the good practices used there. Presented were also the institutions functioning in the park: the NUTRIBIOMED cluster, a business incubator, and innovative companies from biotechnology, materials technology, and IT sectors. Among the interesting solutions the most popular one was the "Technoludek" educational centre, benefiting from remarkable concentration of knowledge in WTP and using it for teaching interactive science classes to kids. Pre-school children from the whole region visiting "Technoludek" can learn, for example: how the electricity works, why do birds need their feathers, and how to conduct their own chemical experiment.

Based on the portfolio of good practices prepared jointly by all the partners *Development Tandems*, i.e. interregional teams preoccupied with implementation of selected solutions in their regions, were created in Wrocław. For example, representatives of the Wrocław Park will assist in transfer of "Technoludek's" concept to Berlin, while the idea of the "Long Night of Science" – an event popularizing science among the youth and the adults in Berlin – will be implemented in Lower Silesia in return. In order to stimulate the process of learning a benchmark questionnaire is being prepared for technology parks, in order to be used in subsequent stages of the project implementation.

The knowledge gathered in the project implementation as well as the solutions will be presented at an international conference „Good Practices in Regional Knowledge Network Management and the need for Action”, organized in Ljubljana on 6 July 2011. The conference presentation will also include the results of the project, i.e. a leaflet describing over 40 good practices strengthening links between the science and business, as well as regional knowledge atlases, constituting a kind of 'operating manuals' facilitating activity of innovative businesses. An important objective for the organizers pertains to creation of mechanisms supporting the project's results in the regions after its completion.

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