





# COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION

Priority Axis 2 of the Sectoral Operational Program "Increasing Economic Competitiveness"







**The Priority Axis 2 (PA2)** is managed by the IB Research from the Ministry of National Education, which absorbed the former National Authority for Scientific Research (ANCS) this year.

Main objective of PA2 is: "Increasing the capacity of research and development, fostering cooperation between R & D institutions and enterprises, and increase access of enterprises to RDI."

In agreement with the main objective mentioned above that contribute to correct disparities in the economy, as evidenced by the National Strategic Reference Framework and contribute to economic competitiveness, was established structure of this axis.

In order to implement the PA2 and achieving goals, IB Research has developed documents required to launch competitions for which it received all necessary consents (applicant's guidelines, calls for proposals, state aid schemes, lists of eligible expenses).

# The Key Areas of Intervention (KAI) of PA2 **Eligible Beneficiaries** KAI 2.1: R & D partnerships between univer-Research Organizations (universities sities / research institutes and enterprises in and R & D institutes) order to obtain results directly applicable in Enterprises with or without R & D activity KAI 2.2: Investment in R & D infrastructure · Public universities, R & D institutes and and administrative capacity of public instituhospitals with university clinics tions Spin-offs (newly created small enterprises based on R & D results of public KAI 2.3: Increase of enterprises' access to RDI university or R & D institutes) • Start-ups (small young enterprises which implement R & D results or some industrial property rights) • Enterprises with or without R & D activity Young innovative enterprises







- During 2007-2013 period the main funding instrument from structural funds for research-development and innovation was the Priority Axis 2 "Competitiveness through RDI", of the Operational Programme "Increase of Economic Competitiveness".
- The budget of Priority Axis 2 is € 715 million, out of which € 610 million represent the ERDF contribution. This means an average of €100 million per year.
- Number of projects submitted between 2008-2013:
  - 1567 = 1395 evaluated + 170 in evaluation (130 public infrastructure + 40 private infrastructure)
  - In the period 2008-2012 were conducted 32 rounds of evaluation on average 6-7 evaluation stages per year.

From a total of 1395 projects submitted and evaluated

- ✓ 822 projects have achieved scores above the quality score, out of which
  - O 727 projects were selected within budget competition, out of which 615 + ELI-NP have signed contracts
  - O In addition, there are 170 projects under evaluation.
- As a result of this process was contracted 112% of the budget allocated to PA 2. After completion of the evaluation and contracting of projects submitted to the last two competitions closed on August 19, 2013, the contracted value will be 134.8% of the budget allocated to the axis.
- Of the 616 signed contracts were finalized 223 projects (of which 185 with final reimbursement payments)
- Payments declared to COM at the end of 2012: € 141 million eligible expenditure
  of which € 125 million public contribution. Compared to the value allocated to
  Axis 2, the amount of reimbursement claims stated to COM is 19.7% of the public
  contribution and 20.4% of the ERDF allocation (€ 610 million).
- Actual payments made by MA to the beneficiaries: € 260 million of which € 98 million pre-financing. Payments in total validated by the IB Research: € 262 million.
- Over 150 public institutions and almost 350 enterprises are supported by Priority Axis 2.
- 300 private beneficiaries are small and medium enterprises that received public funding of € 170 million. Another € 30 million were contracted with large enterprises.
- The amount of private funds raised by Priority Axis 2 is € 209 million (private co-financing of projects including ineligible costs). Each euro invested in enterprises meant 1 euro from private funds for RDI
- The volume of payments to beneficiaries is 37% of the budget of Priority Axis 2
   (€ 260 million).







- Priority Axis 2 operations were designed to complement the measures expected to be funded through the RDI National Plan II.
- 90% of the funds contracted with public beneficiaries (€ 530 million) are for the development of the research infrastructure at European standards. These measures include the funding of Phase I of the Extreme Light Infrastructure Nuclear Physics (ELI-NP) major project for building the first pan-European research infrastructure on the ESFRI list in Romania (€ 180 Million budget of Phase I).
- The main result indicators of Axis 2 and their value at this moment:

Indicator	Target for 2015	Current Value
New jobs created *	1,200	730
Patent applications derived from projects	50	112
Newly created research laboratories	50	138
Number of articles in scientific publications	250	495
Number of research results with economic impact	-	57

<sup>\*) 45%</sup> held by women