

CENTRAL EUROPE PROGRAMME 2007-2013



Innovation and Transnational cooperation,
EUREGIA - Leipzig 28 October 2008

Analysis of the 1st call for proposals:
focus on innovation

Winfried Ritt
JTS CENTRAL EUROPE PROGRAMME

- ✓ “Innovation” in the context of territorial cooperation
- ✓ 1st call for proposal: Facts and figures
- ✓ Result of the quality assessment - focus on priority 1
„Facilitating innovation across Central Europe“
- ✓ Conclusions / Points of discussion
- ✓ Outlook to the 2nd call: new opportunities



“Innovation” in the context of territorial cooperation (1)



As a general programme principle...

- Context oriented innovation
- Process oriented innovation
- Goal oriented innovation

... an own priority ...

„... a process through which knowledge can be translated into new products, services or processes including those of the public sector”

„...well functioning innovation systems serve to ensure the free flow of information across the interfaces between large firms, researchers, entrepreneurs, small and medium sized enterprises (SME•s) investors of all kinds, consultants ..”



“Innovation” in the context of territorial cooperation (2)



... with three areas of intervention

Against this background, it becomes evident that **critical factors in the innovation process** are:

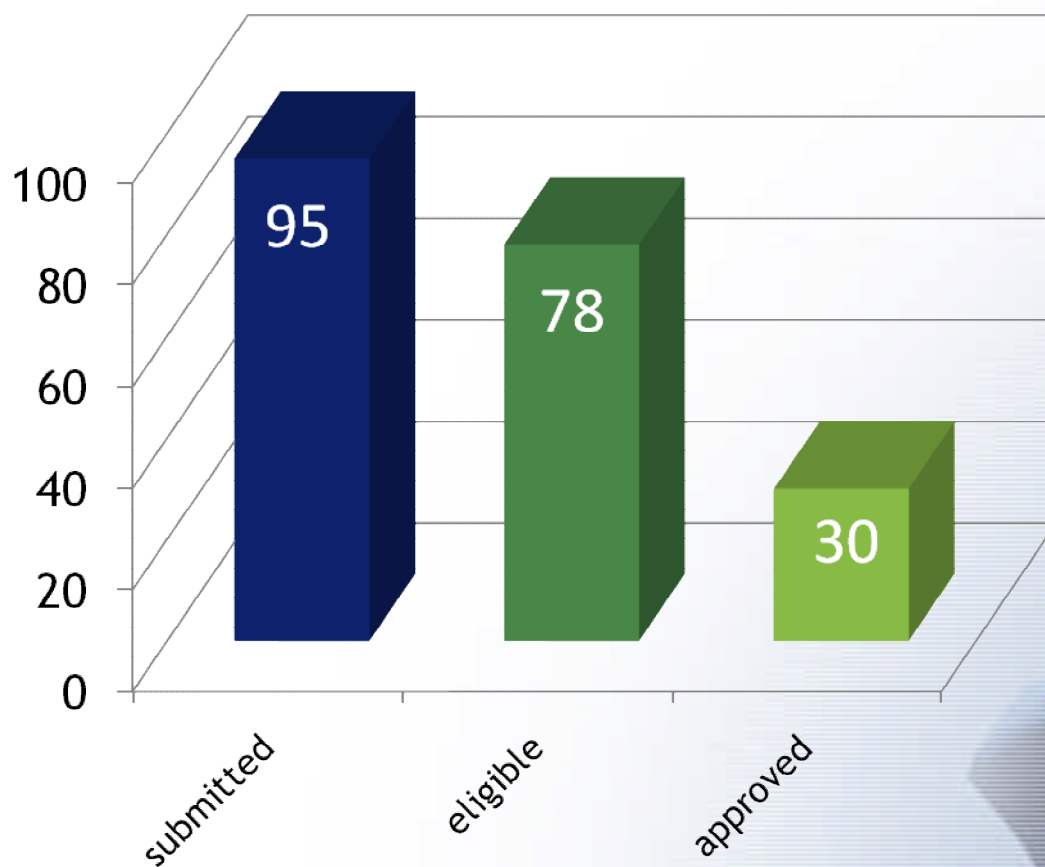
- **framework conditions**, which are (not only) set by public authorities at different levels (regional innovation policy, EU directives, international organisations etc.) - **Area of Intervention 1.1**
- intensive **communication and collaboration between various actors in the regional innovation system** (companies, universities, innovation centres, educational institutions, financing institutions, industry associations and government agencies) - **Area of Intervention 1.2**
- **knowledge**, which is available as workforce, in research organisations, in technology mediating organisations - **Area of Intervention 1.3**



Results of the 1st call (1)



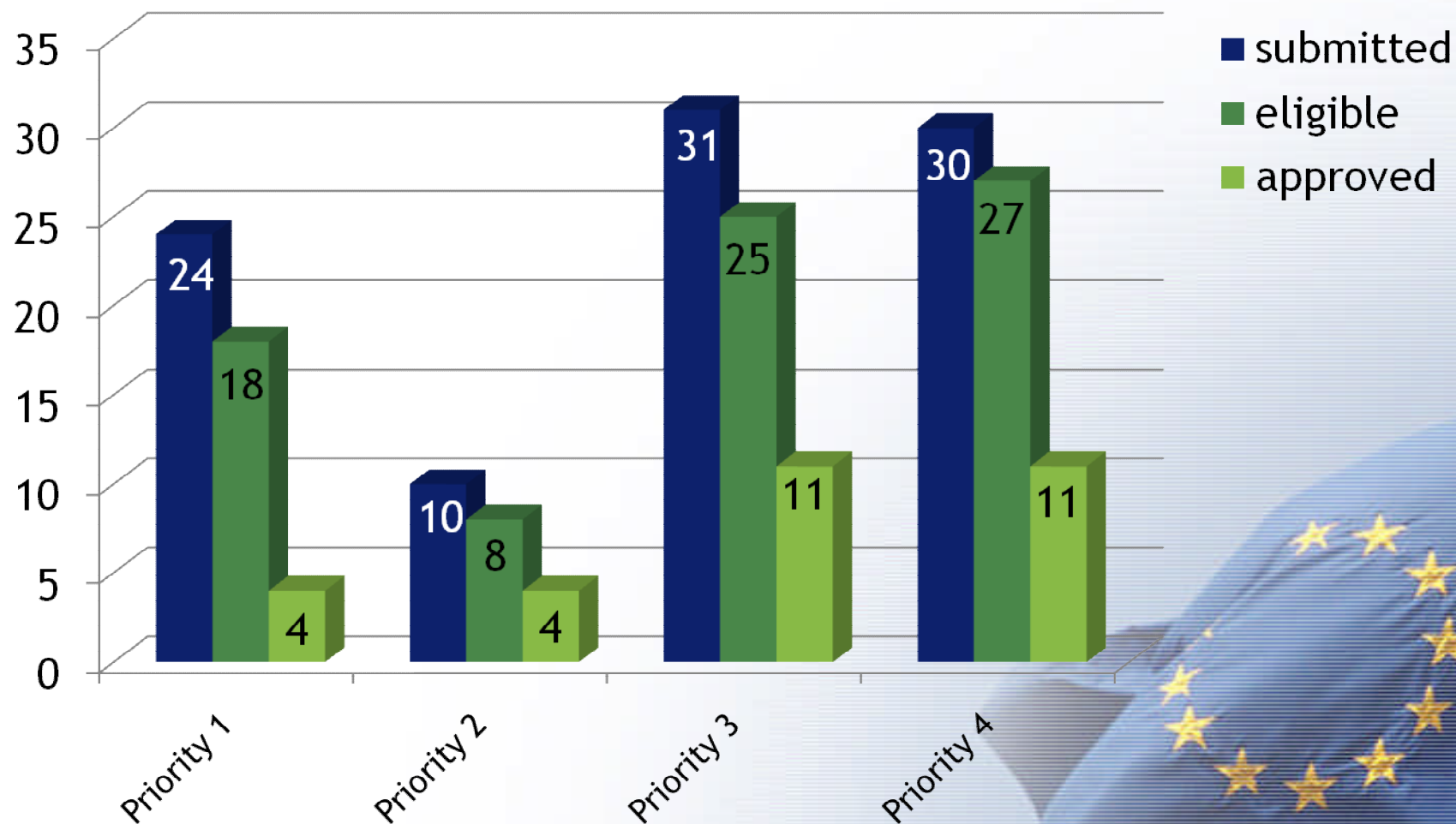
Project proposals 1st call



Results of the 1st call (2)



Project proposals per priority



Results of the 1st call (3)



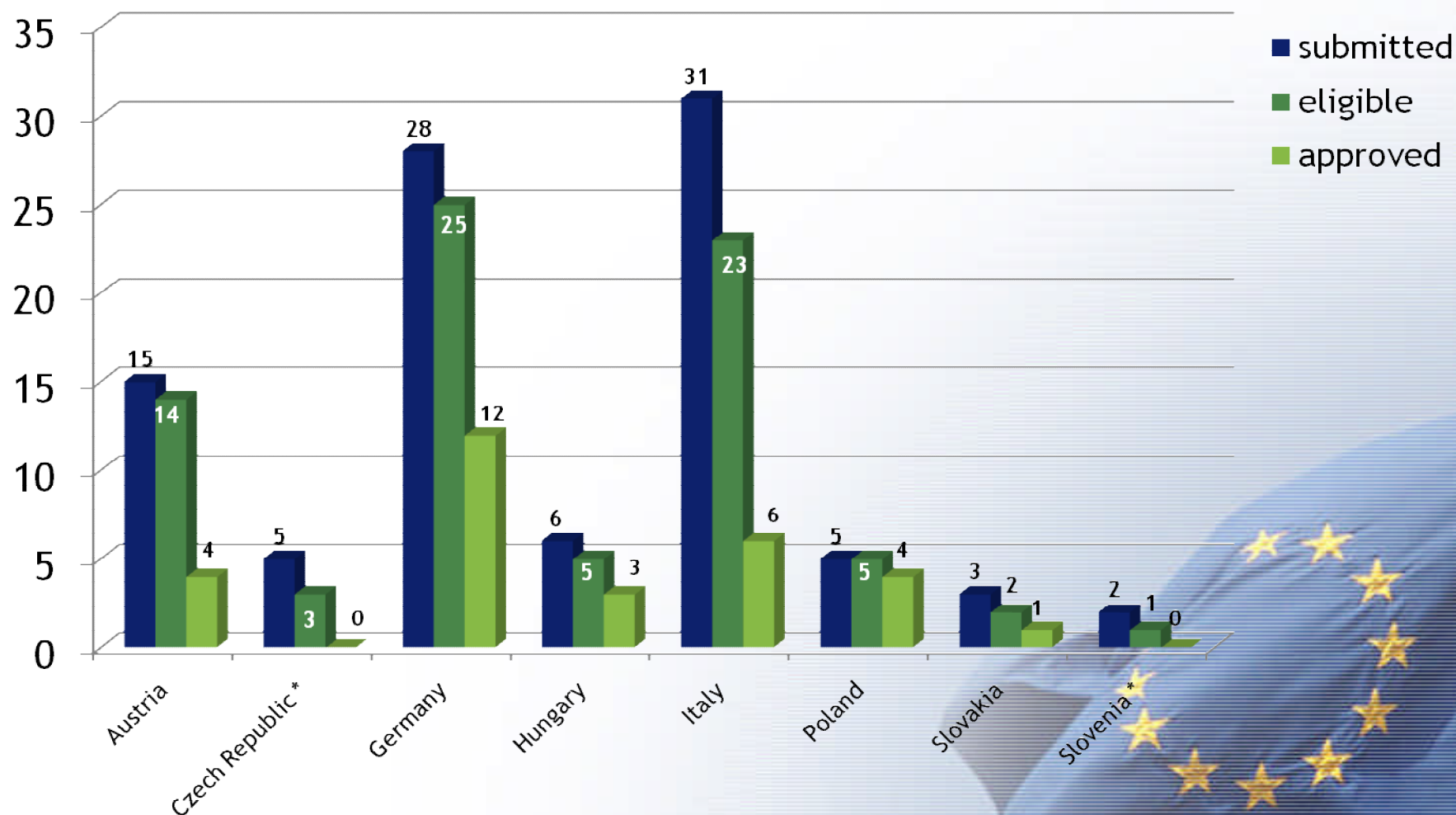
Success rate and ERDF budget allocation



Results of the 1st call (4)

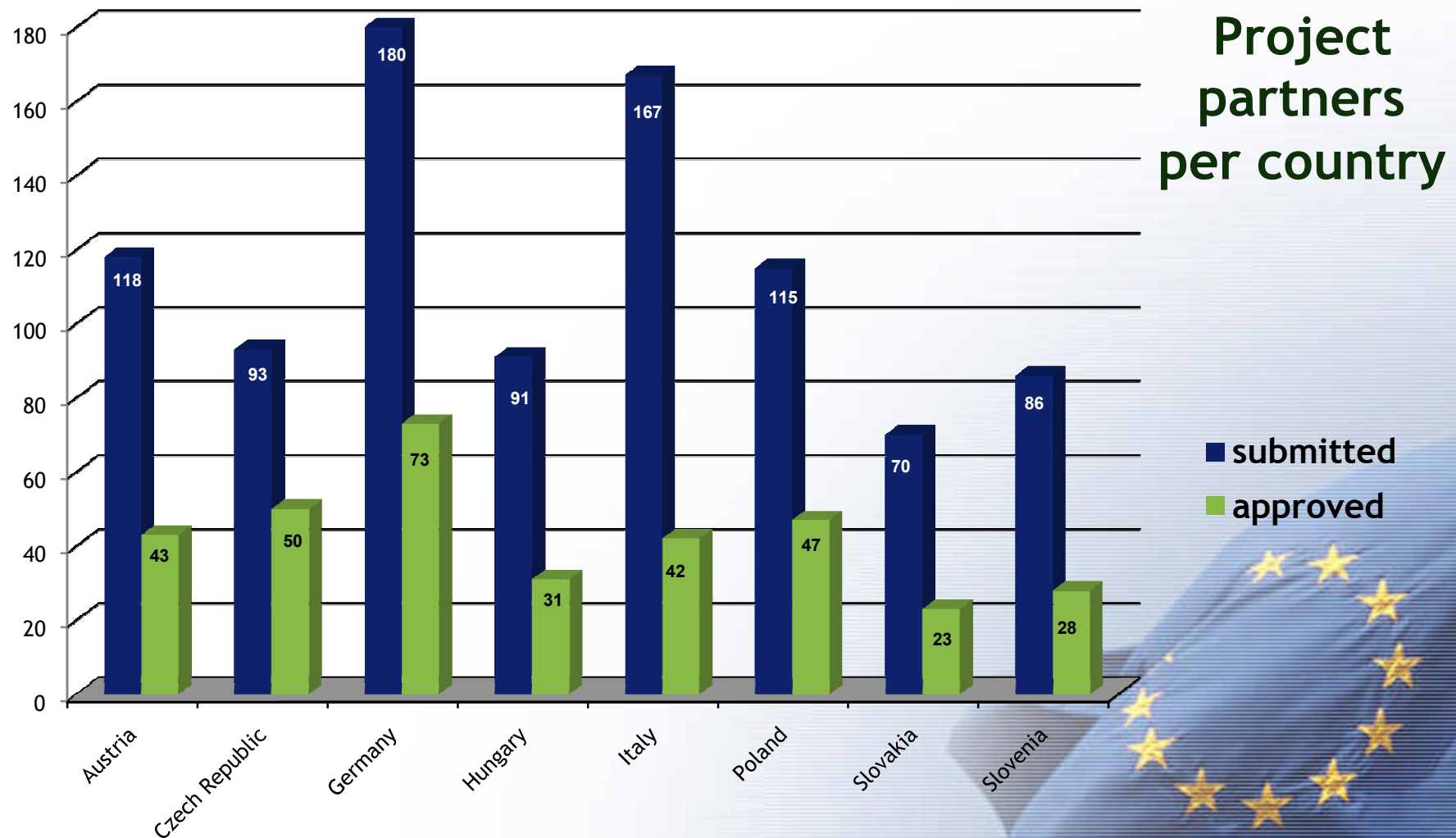


Lead applicants per country



* no project approved

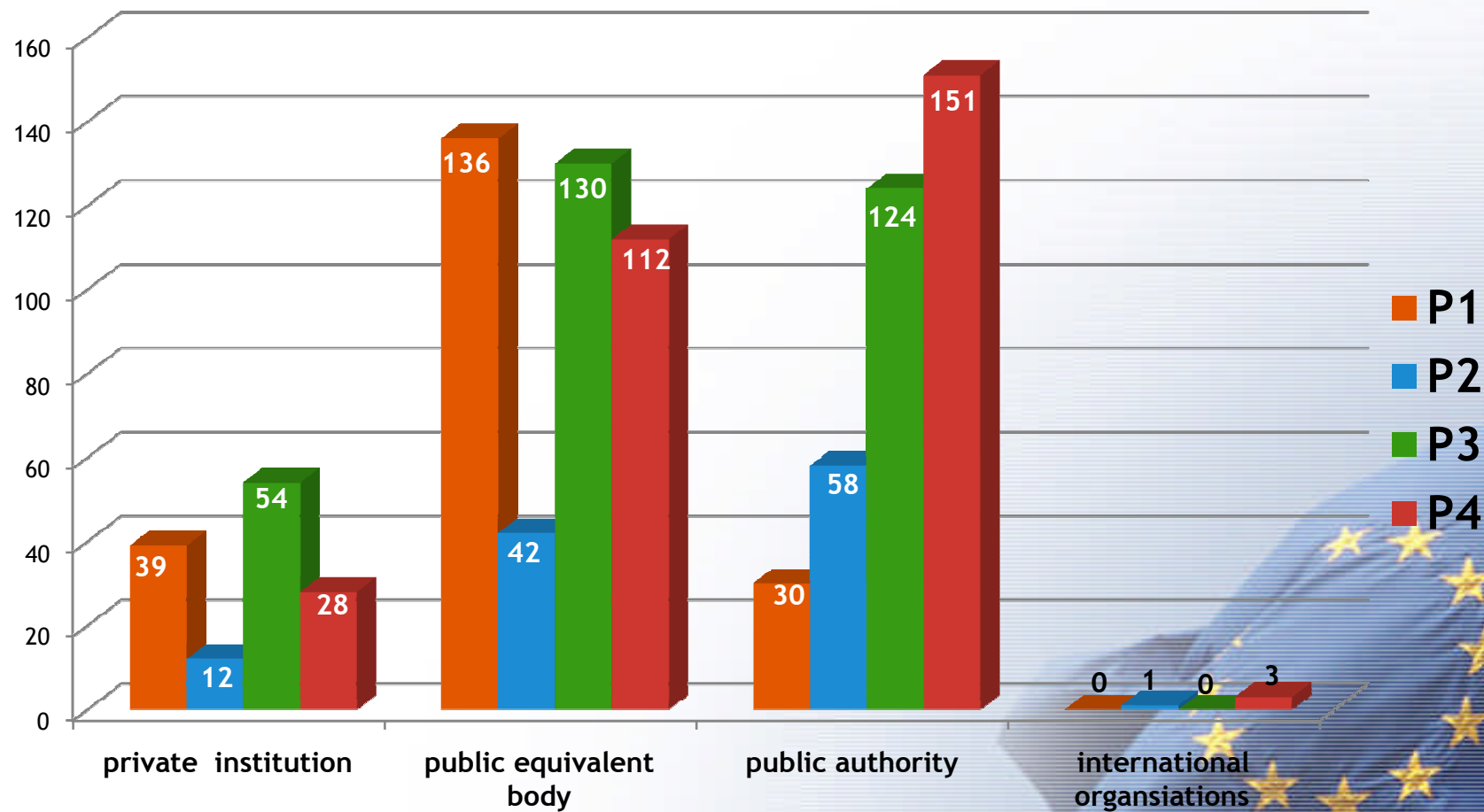
Results of the 1st call (5)



Results of the 1st call (6)



Legal status of partners



Results of the 1st call (7)



- High interest in all 8 Member States:
 - 95 applications
 - 920 partners from the public and private sector
 - Around 196 Mio Euro ERDF requested
- 30 projects(32% of submitted proposals) have been approved for funding
- 68,8 Mio. EURO ERDF allocated (around 30% of available funds, 34% of requested amount)
- Necessary improvements for all 30 projects
- High share of follow up projects in the 1st call



Result of the quality assessment - focus on priority 1 (1)



Priority 1: „Facilitating innovation across Central Europe“
proposals show the weakest performance in terms of quality and subsequently in terms of number projects recommended.

Only 4 out of 24 applications (17%) have been approved

- ... generation of knowledge and the development of new technologies (Aol 1.1): 1 out of 6
- ... diffusion and application of knowledge in new products, processes and services (Aol 1.2): 3 out of 13,
- ... development of human capital (Aol 1.3): 0 out of 5



Result of the quality assessment - focus on priority 1 (2)



Strengths of approved proposals:

- The projects represent well ambitious goals, very much relevant to the objectives of the C.E. programme and the needs of the covered regions
- Adequate partnerships of experiences partners able to implement the project as well as to sustain the results after the end of the co-financing
- 3 LP•s from old MS but majority of partners from new MS (23 out of 41)
- Outputs are clearly defined and very coherent with the planned activities



Examples of approved Innovation projects (1)



Aol: 1.1 - Enhancing Framework Conditions for innovation

Total Budget: around 3,6 Mio EUR

Partnership: LP from DE + 9 partners from HU, SK, DE, AT, PL, SI and IT

Main topics:

- The partnership will set up a directory (database) of the relevant technology transfer environment in C.E. that will be used for networking, information and knowledge management
- The project will establish a Self-assessment tool and a common C.E. tech transfer tool to monitor the performance and to organise, implement and follow up tech transfer activities
- The project partners will develop regional models for more efficient and effective transfer of research results to the market and validate the joint tech transfer tool through pilot actions

Examples of approved Innovation projects (2)



Aol: 1.2 - Establishing Capabilities for the diffusion and application of Innovation

Total Budget: around 2,7 Mio EUR

Partnership: LP from IT + 8 partners from IT, AT, DE, HU, PL and SI

Main topics:

- The partnership will develop a technology platform for SMEs for the diffusion of the best performances and methodologies of innovation application and the identification of hidden champions
- A network of facilitators at local and transnational level will be set up and trained in management SMEs organisation, territorial marketing and innovative systems for ICT application
- Project partners will implement pilot projects in order to test new services and assess their effectiveness

Examples of approved Innovation projects (3)



Aol: 1.2 - Establishing Capabilities for the diffusion and application of Innovation

Total Budget: around 1,9 Mio EUR

Partnership: LP from AT + 14 partners from AT, CZ, SK and HU

Main topics:

- The project will develop and implement tools and communications structures to improve the use of innovation potentials
- The „Mapping & Analysis“ tool will provide an overview about the RTI knowhow and will show potentials for the improvement of services
- The „EU-certified Qualification“ tool will offer specialised contents for transnational technology transfer
- The „SME & R&D Cooperation“ tool will provide a transnational cooperation instrument for mobilising cross-border technology transfer to companies

Examples of approved Innovation projects (4)



Aol: 1.2 - Establishing Capabilities for the diffusion and application of Innovation

Total Budget: around 1,8 Mio EUR

Partnership: LP from HU + 6 partners from SI, IT, CZ and PL

Main topics:

- The project will analyse models for innovation technology transfer support systems and services in order to identify most suitable cases worth to be adapted
- The project realizes a transnational inventory („RTD Yellow Pages“) as main instrument to promote transnational cooperation RTD/industry
- Four pilot actions on systems and services for innovation will be implemented
- A network of „mediators of Innovation“ will be set up to foster a bi-directional process of knowledge integration

Result of the quality assessment - focus on priority 1 (1)



Weaknesses of not approved proposals (1):

The notion of 'innovation' has not always been properly understood by the applicants:

- simple business-support orientation, or education or technology orientation without a clear link to innovation
- innovation orientation traced in the set objectives; however, proposed partnership and/or the proposed methodology is not appropriate to reach that goal



Result of the quality assessment - focus on priority 1 (2)



Weaknesses of not approved proposals (2):

Relevance is not sufficiently demonstrated:

- General and specific objectives and project idea not properly described
- Link to Priority 1 is missing (e.g. promoting public participation,...)
- Value added of transnational approach not clearly demonstrated
- Needs and constraints at regional level not clearly outlined
- Identification of target groups not satisfactorily
- Too many issues addressed in one proposal



Result of the quality assessment - focus on priority 1 (3)



Weaknesses of not approved proposals (3):

Not appropriate or unbalanced partnerships

- Lack of technical expertise and project management experience
- Partners not able to implement proposed activities
- Unbalanced partnership according to the geographical location and the nature of the organisations involved
- Unlikely capability to sustain the project results and ensuring endorsement at political level
- Key players missing (e.g. labour market organisations missing in human resource development projects, ..)
- “Network of regional networks” without demonstration value added of transnational cooperation
- Strongly focused on cross-border partnerships or too many partners outside C.E. or
- Dominance of one single country

Points for discussion (1)



- Only few applications of the 1st call are responding adequately to key challenges and main objectives of priority „Innovation“. Development of human capital was not targeted
- “Innovation” as a new priority for transnational cooperation programme, based on high level EU strategies (Lisbon goals)
- “Innovation” project can benefit from a variety of alternative funding schemes in the programme environment
- Relevant experiences and know how for the design of “innovation” project in Central Europe is available from inter-regional cooperation (INTERREG IIIC East). This potential has not been fully exploited



Points for discussion (2)



- Transnational cooperation programmes offer an additional platform for key players of regional innovation systems to capitalise their experiences and implement their results
- Promoting internal integration and enhancing competitiveness as key features for “Innovation” project in CENTRAL EUROPE. How to bridge the gap between regional competition and territorial cooperation?
- Public equivalent bodies are dominating “Innovation” partnerships (66%). Are all relevant players already on board?
- Relevant knowhow for Innovation is not always available in the “extended neighbourhood”. Has CENTRAL EUROPE the appropriate size?

Outlook to the 2nd call



- Open for all priorities
- ERDF budget around 70 Mio. €
- Indicative launch of the 2nd call: 7 January 2009
- Indicative closure of the 2nd call: 18 March 2009
- Partner Search Forum : 16-17 December in Poznan (PL)

- Private institutions as Lead Partners - Priority 1 only
- Partners from EU regions outside CENTRAL EUROPE - up to 20% of requested ERDF



JTS SUPPORT - ONLINE



Programme website: www.central2013.eu

- Thematically structured in line with four programme priorities
- Clear navigation
- Thematic News section
- Calendar of thematic and programme events
- People/Member section with networking functions: More than 1200 registered users
- Project Idea Database
- Links to tools & resources

A screenshot of the CENTRAL EUROPE website. The header includes navigation links: HOME | ABOUT | FAQ | LINKS | CONTACT | JOBS. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'CENTRAL EUROPE SUPPORTS' with sub-sections for INNOVATION, ACCESSIBILITY, ENVIRONMENT, and COMPETITIVENESS; 'WORKING WITH CENTRAL' with links for Programme Area, How to apply, Document Centre, and Tools and methods; 'CENTRAL PROJECTS' with a 'POST YOUR PROJECT IDEA' button; 'CENTRAL PEOPLE' with a 'MEET THEM' section and a 'DOWNLOAD YOUR SCREENSAVER' button; and 'LATEST NEWS' with a 'Become a MEMBER' form and an 'EVENT CALENDAR' listing dates from 16 to 19 September 2007. The footer contains links for SITEMAP, GLOSSARY, DISCLAIMER, and INTRANET. The background of the page features a faint image of the European Union flag.

JTS SUPPORT - OFFLINE



- Geographically spread Lead Applicant Briefings for every call
- Partner Search Forums
- Individual guidance to project applicants
- Thematic seminars
- Telephone + email inquiries
- National hotlines for general programme info and early-stage project guidance (Contact Points)



www.interreg3c.net - IIC East projects - - Research, Technology and Innovation



The screenshot shows the website www.interreg3c.net in Microsoft Internet Explorer. The browser title is "INTERREG IIC - Operation Showcase". The address bar shows the URL <http://www.interreg3c.net/sixcms/detail.php?id=8131>. The website has a navigation menu with links for Home, FAQs, Contacts & Links, Glossary, Newsletter, and Sitemap. There are also language options for EN and FR. A search bar is located in the top right. The main content area is titled "Operation Showcase" and "Research, Technology and Innovation". It features several project highlights:

- TEICO - Net**: TEICO-NET BOOSTS INNOVATION AND INTERNATIONALISATION IN BORDER REGIONS. Background: Recent studies have found that exports of goods and services from the Berlin/Brandenburg area to accession countries are ... [More Details](#)
- FARMER**: EFARMER HELPS IMPROVE THE COMPETITIVENESS OF RURAL AREAS. Background: In the past 15 years rural areas in the new Member States of the European Union have been facing dramatic change. The ... [More Details](#)
- INTERGETUP**: INTERGETUP HELPS TO BOOST TECHNOLOGY-ORIENTED BUSINESS START-UPS. Background: Technology-oriented start-ups are important for regional development in terms of job creation and attracting new investment to the ... [More Details](#)
- InnoTrax**: INNOTRAX SUPPORTS INNOVATION IN THE TRANSPORT INDUSTRY. Background: The operation "InnoTrax-Innovation Clusters for the Transport Industry" focuses on microsystem technology, optics and telematics in ... [More Details](#)

The website footer includes the INTERREG IVC logo and the text "INTERREG IVC". The taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button and several open applications, including "H:\03 Meetings and...", "1st call results_foc...", "INTERREG IIC - O...", "Fact and figures 1st...", and "Inbox - Microsoft O...". The system clock shows 13:56 on 10/03/2007.

CONTACT/UPDATES



For more information:

**CENTRAL EUROPE Programme
Joint Technical Secretariat**

Museumstrasse 3/A/III

A-1070 Vienna

Phone: +43 1 4000 76142

Fax: +43 1 4000 9976141

Email: info@central2013.eu

Internet: www.central2013.eu

Updates: Please register on our website and we will keep you posted!

Thank you for your attention!



EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT FUND

