

Nordic Innovation Centre

Contribution to Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region to Improve
the Competitiveness Through Promoting Networking, Clustering
and Open Market Conditions

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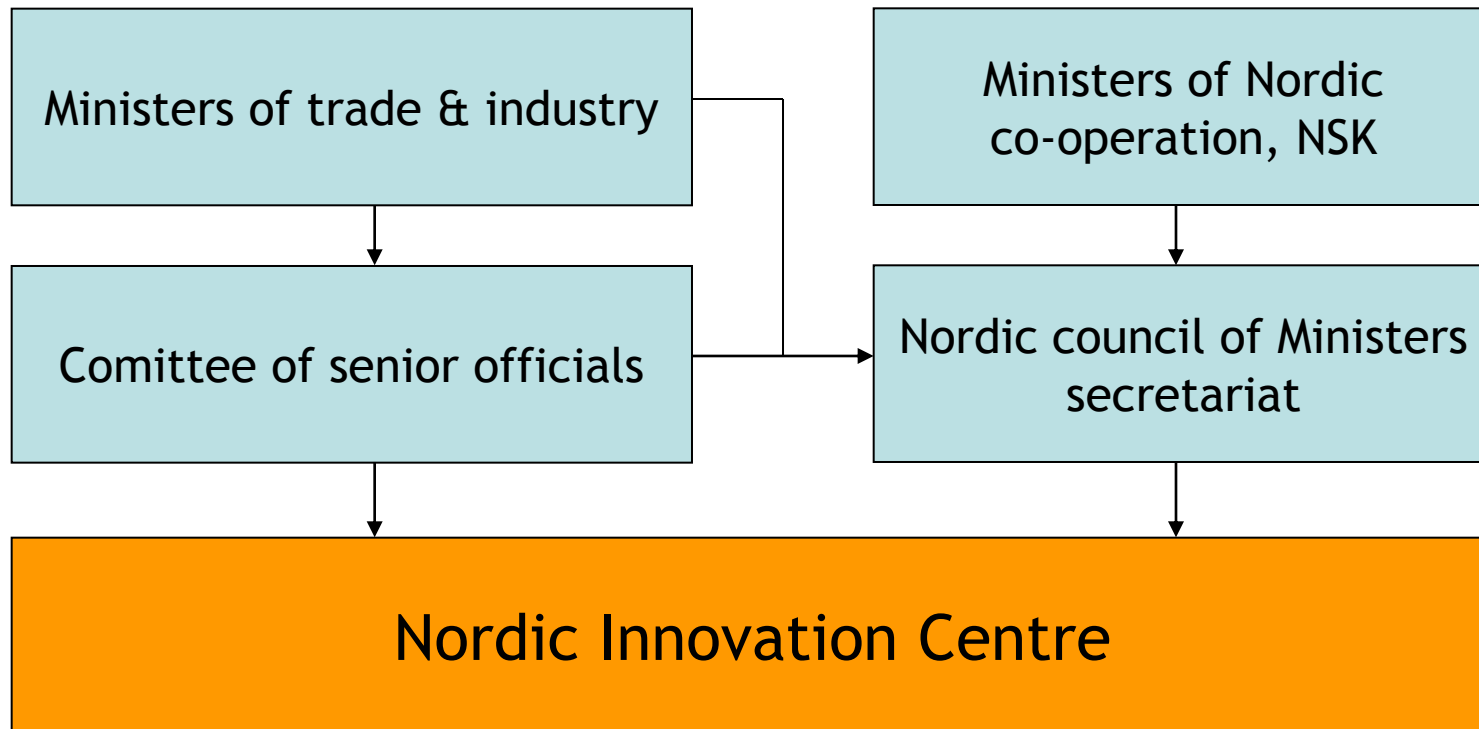
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Nordic Innovation Centre

- Geography
 - Norden
 - The extended Nordic region, Baltic countries
- Organisation
 - 14 employees
- Project portefolio
 - Total value NOK 250 M
 - NICE's part NOK 70 M



Nordic co-operation



NICe's overall mission and role

- *Making it easier to develop and run business across the borders of the Nordic countries*
- Nordic innovation Centre is the Nordic Council of Ministers single' most important instrument for promoting an innovative and knowledge-intensive Nordic business sector

Two main objectives

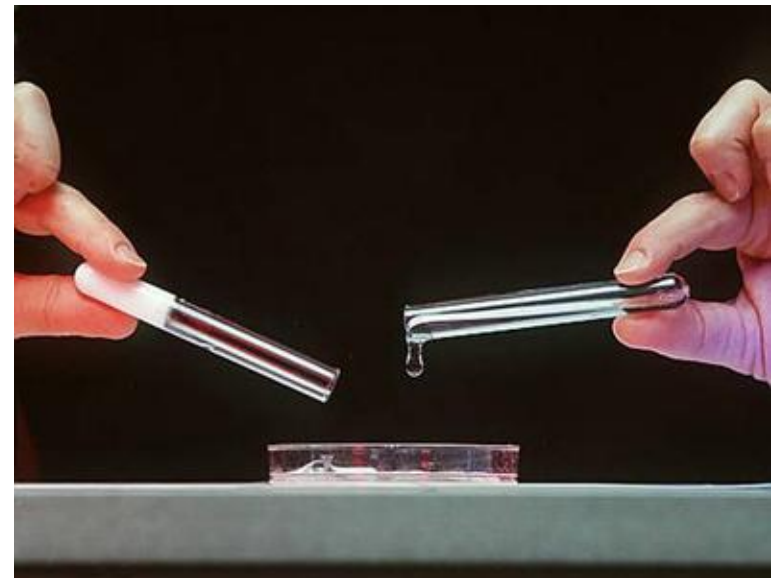
- Stimulate increased innovation through increased cooperation between the innovation systems in Nordic countries.
- Establish Norden as one, inner market and a borderless region through removal of barriers and stimulating increased competition.

Innovation - defined

- An innovation is a new product, a process or an organisational change which creates commercial success.
- Research results or inventions can only become product innovations through interaction with commercial interests

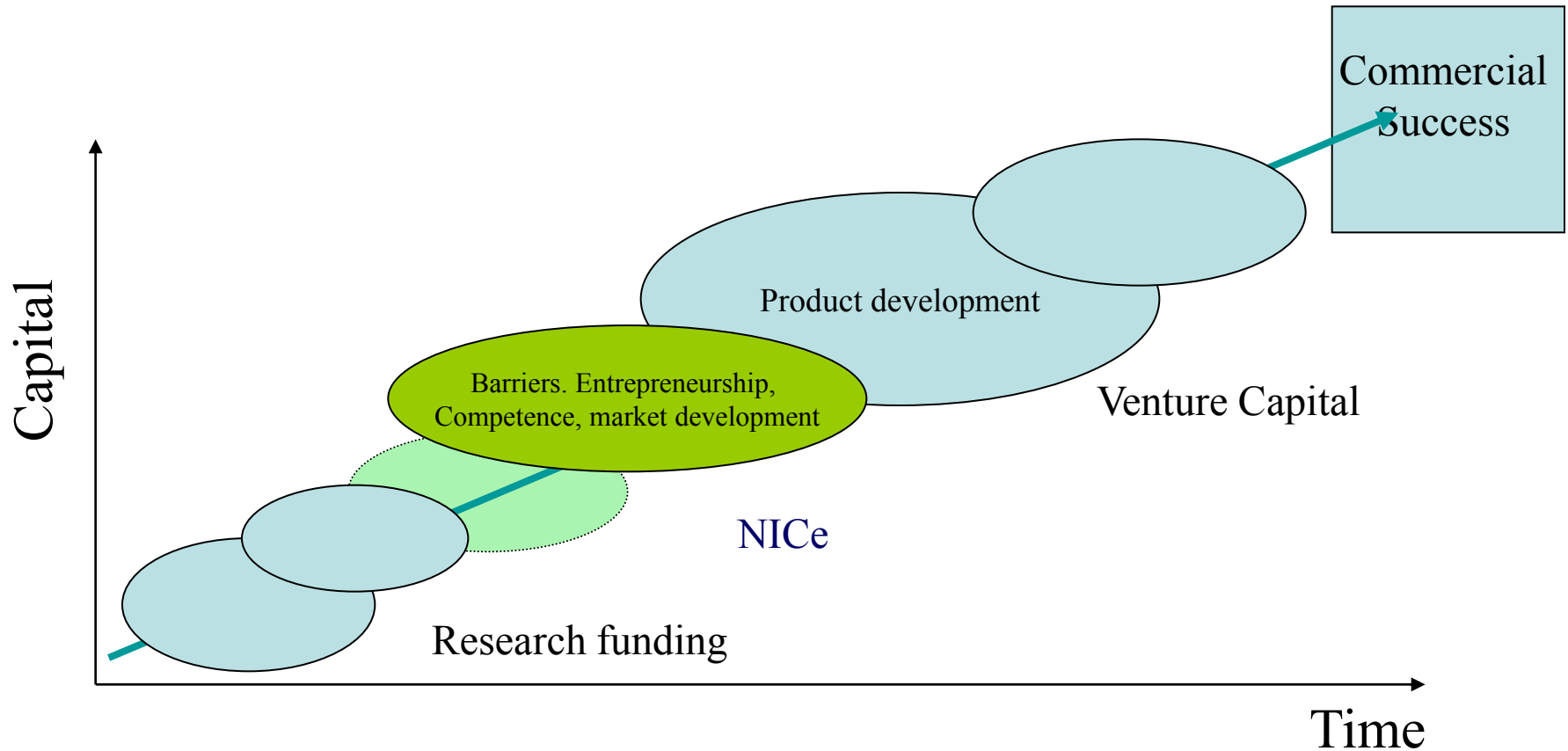
Market driven innovation

Innovations



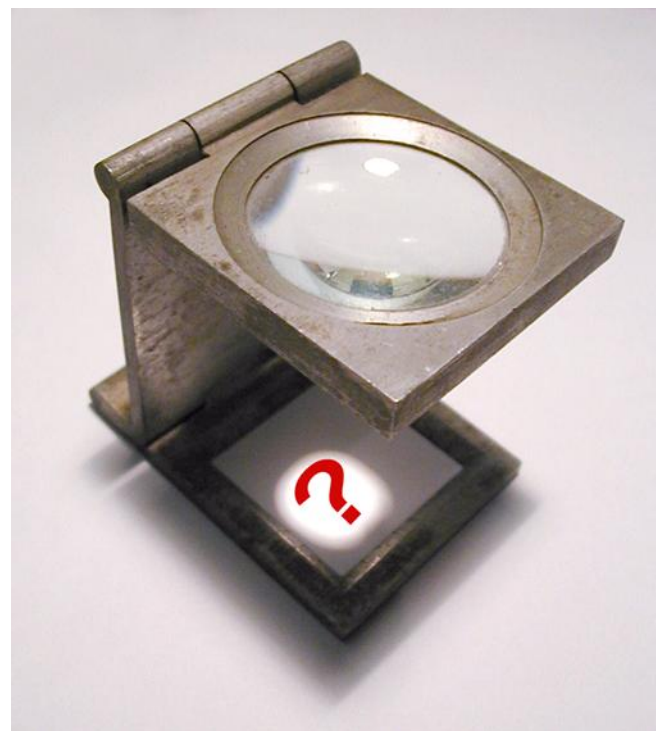
The innovation process

From idea to market



Focus areas

A focus area is a thematically limited area, creating a frame around a bundle of related projects carried out in parallel with financial support from NICE.



Focus areas

- Biotechnology / ScanBalt
- Food Safety/
SafeFoodEra
- Functional Food
- Creative Industries
- Innovative Building
- Innovation Policies
- Micro & Nano technology
- Borderless region



Initiating and investing

NICe invests in projects and networks:

- Removing barriers
 - Venture capital, Methods, Markets, Human Resources, etc.
- Enhancing innovation capabilities
 - Sharing knowledge and experience
 - Synergy
 - Critical mass
 - New sectors with great potential

Basic requirements

- The project must include partners from at least three (ideally, all five) Nordic countries.
- The project should be at least 50% self-financed, either in the form of working hours or direct funding
- The project period must not exceed 36 months

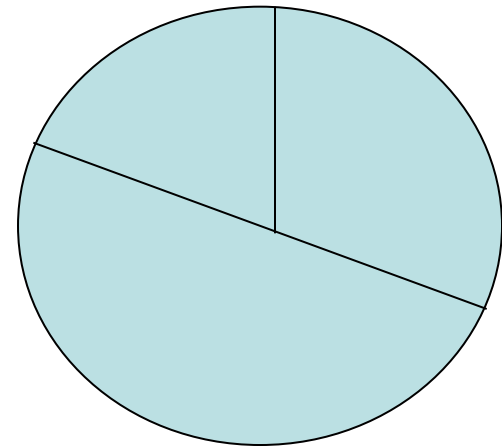
Project criteria

The project shall:

- Have significant value for companies within the defined business sector in order to strengthen the competitiveness
- Enhance sustainable development
- Relate to Nordic and international best practice
- Create and develop markets

Project portefolio

- Focus areas
 - Innovation Policy
 - Creative Industries
 - Innovative building
 - Food Safety
 - ???
- ”Ad hoc” projects
 - \geq TOT NOK 300.000 - Board decission
 - \leq TOT NOK 300.000 - Director decission



Target groups

- Industry
- Knowledge Centres

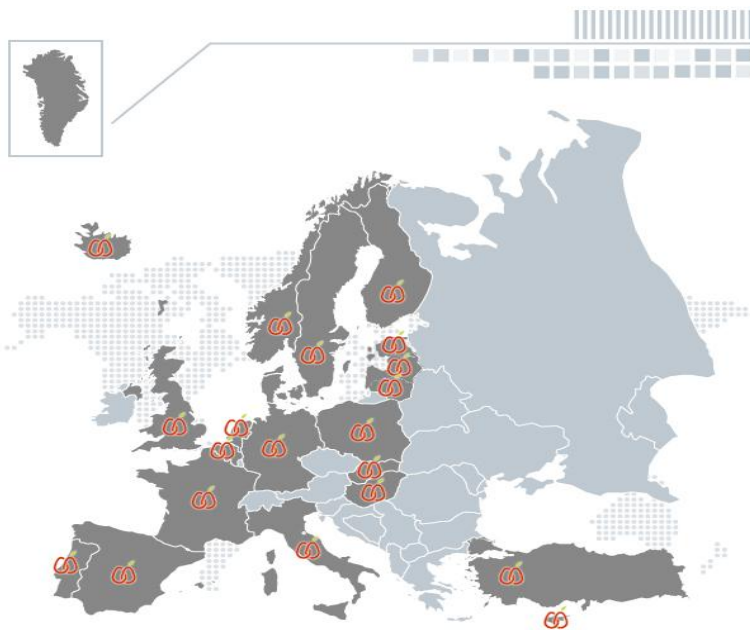
- Policy makers
- Innovation system
- Society

NICe's investments in ScanBalt

”ScanBalt - network of networks in biotech”

- ScanBalt Organisation
- Biotech – One Click Away
- Educational Mobility
- Economic Barriers for Borderless Cooperation

ERA-Net project - **SafeFoodEra**



- Create a European platform for producing food products that do not harm the consumers.
- Building European excellence in food safety through coordinated research and improved business innovations
- EU funding: 32 MNOK (4 MEUR) within the 6th Framework Programme
- 20 participating countries
- Based on Nordic success criteria: Trust and mutual understanding

Why Food Safety as a **NICe Focus Area?**



- Large food related programmes from 1992
- Involving both research and innovation cooperation
- **2003: NICe establishes Food Safety as a Focus Area and finances 4 Nordic projects**

The Next Step: **Look to Norden**

1992

Nordic programmes on food - NordFood

2003

Food Safety – a Focus Area; 4 Nordic projects

2004

SafeFoodEra – a part of the 6th Framework Programme

2006

SAFEFOODERA launches the common call

&

EU launches the 7th Framework Programme

BASREC project



Bio Energy Standards

- Establishing and operate a network
- Review of the present status
- Cooperation with CEN
- Removing trade barriers in the Baltic Sea Region
- TC 335 & TC343

Conclusion

- Catalyzer for innovation
 - Nordic countries
 - Baltic states
 - European
 - Global
- Nordic relevance
 - Removing barriers
 - Entrepreneurship and innovation
 - Service to Nordic businesses



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