Report from the workshop

"Commercialization of knowledge and technology transfer – problematic aspects"

The third day of convention of the International Research project is Central Europe Innovation Models, hosted by the Polish partner - Foundation Forum Gryf, held workshops to exchange experiences and so called good practices between the project participants and local institutions involved in technology transfer. Introduction to the discussion led by Nils Gabrielsson from Ino SCANDINAVIA AB, presenting thereby basic assumptions of CERIM project.

Significant role in terms of economic competitiveness at the regional level play universities and research and development institutions, which, thanks to scientific and research works can affect the level of innovation in the industry. Despite this, the sphere of research and development in Central Europe is facing many difficulties. Key issues occur in the process of technology transfer between research institutions and enterprises, particularly in the commercialization of research results. We can mention such difficulties as lack of clear legal extent for the transfer of knowledge and technology, the frequent lack of motivation from the part of the scientific community to explore the possibility of applying the results of ongoing research, lack of experienced and qualified personnel capable of managing the process of knowledge and technology transfer, lack of partnership and cooperation among science and business communities at local, regional, national and international level.

In response to these problems, a project CERIM was created, which primary aim is to develop and introduce a model of commercialization of research results with particular emphasis on knowledge and technology transfer to enterprises and the implementation of market innovation. This model should be adapted for economic conditions, political and legal characteristic for Central Europe.
The representative of the Regional Center of Innovation and Technology Transfer which operates at the West Pomeranian University of Technology presented the areas of their activities. These are mainly:
• supporting technology transfer;
• supporting entrepreneurs and knowledge-based organizations in the field of technology transfer from foreign partners;
• stimulating activity of local clusters;
• training on EU funds for research and development;
• comprehensive services in the field of entrepreneurship (starting own businesses, the introduction of innovation);
• supporting commercialization of knowledge and new technologies based on intellectual property.

From Katarzyna Witkowska (Szczecin Science and Technology Park), we learned that the aim of Szczecin Science and Technology Park is to support the transfer of technology in companies, working in the ICT Cluster of Western Pomerania, and also conducting advanced trainings (e.g. Prince 2, ITIL, SCRUM) and cooperating with universities and institutions of higher education.
Dr. Marek Czyzewski - director of the Center Marine Technology Transfer presented the projects in the maritime economy based on technology transfer from other countries such as Sweden (port handling system, navigational decision support system).

Dr. Krzystof Dmytrow presented a project which was implemented by the Knowledge Centre and Technology Transfer, University of Szczecin, which aims to radically change the conditions of cooperation between business and academic institutions. The program aims to increase innovation, while building on the Polish intellectual potential. The idea is to introduce legal solutions that will enable research centers to commercialize their inventions / patents.

The last of lectures concerned the question: how to provide quantitative data on investment in R & D sphere in the regional statistics, without distorting the picture of the economy of the region. This theme of the workshop was presented by the director of the Central Statistical Office in Szczecin - Dominik Rozkrut.