



Stakeholder Consultation

Name of project partner: **The Institute of Physics (IOP), The Central Bohemia Innovation Centre (SIC)**

Name of contact person: **Eva Slovákova (slovakova@s-ic.cz)**, Jan Stachura (jan.stachura@eli-beams.eu)

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Agenda: **How could technology transfer contributes to the socio-economic development?**

Name participants (plus name of companies and contact details):

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company/ Organisation</i>	<i>e-mail/ telefon</i>
Jan Stachura	ELI Beamlines	Jan.stachura@eli-meams.eu / +420 266 051 272
Aleš Hála	ELI Beamlines	Ales.hala@eli-beams.eu / +420 702 004 931
Jan Malina	SVT PARK	Jan.malina@svtpark.cz / +420 775 660 090
Lenka Čechová	SP ČR, Praha	lcechova@spcr.cz / +420 733 643 521
Pavla Břusková	Národní klastrová asociace	bruskova@nca.cz / +420 731 505 929
Monika Neužilová	MAS Dolnobřežansko	info@mas-dolnobrezansko.cz / +420 724 685 248

Hana Barboříková	MAS Dolnobřežansko	info@mas-dolnobrezansko.cz / +420 603 402 742
Milena Vicenová	TA ČR Praha	vicenova@tacr.cz / +420 234 611 501
Miroslav Janeček	AVO, Novodvorská 994, Praha	janecek@avo.cz / +420 238 041 998
Andrej Chrzanowski	CARDAM s.r.o., Dolní Břežany	Andrej.chrzanowski@cardam-solution.cz / +420 770 106 380
Vít Šumpela	Hospodářská komora ČR, Praha	office@komora.cz / +420 602 568 728
Petr Solil	BIOCEV	solil@s-ic.cz / +420 774 727 981
Pavel Vaněk	SIC Dolní Břežany	vanek@s-ic.cz / +420 246 083 195
Petr Jirman	SIC Dolní Břežany	jirman@s-ic.cz / +420 246 083 195
Michal Písařík	HILASE Dolní Břežany, FZÚ	pisarikm@tzu.cz / +420 266 052 110
Vítězslav Vlasák	KLUG SOLUTIONS	Vitezslav.vlasak@klugsolutions.cz
Michal Jakl	ELKAN s.r.o.	Michal.jakl@elkan.cz / +420 603 843 358
Jana de Merlier	STAR KLASTR, Pražská 636, Dolní Břežany	demerlier@star-clustr.cz / +420 733 512 360
Kamila Vávrová	RILOG Průhonice	vavrova@vukoz.cz / +420 296 528 267
Eva Slovákova	SIC Dolní Břežany	slovakova@s-ic.cz / +420 606 180 254

Summary of stakeholder consultation

There were discussed the technology transfer process – its barriers, examples of good practises (Izrael, Netherlands). There exist some usual barriers between research and business sector – different motivation, way of work, rigid administration and low flexibility of research centres. These are the general factors, but there are also some more specific ones, for example state aid restrictions, spin off enterprises establishing and evaluation system of R&D results in the Czech Republic.

There exist legal barrier of establishing spin off companies in the Czech Republic – universities and also public research institutes has very strict rules about companies with



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some capital share. Generally the way from the invent idea to spin-off and to the market is very complicated and many work rests on inventor.

The other objective factor is low motivation of public research centres to transfer and commercialize its technologies, because of rigid system of evaluation and distribution state budget to R&D sector. The only way is to extra evaluate real commercialization or change the legal options of public research institutions to establish the companies. There is wasting of patent application in the Czech Republic, mainly because researchers are using them as project indicators and not to provide the protection to their innovative technologies in the market. The result is that we have then dozens of patents, applied research project implementations and very low number of really commercialized outputs of R&D. The business sector should have to better understand the research and development process which could not be so straight and fast as in business praxis. The public research organizations have some limits and legal rules how to deal with public money and with research outputs paid by public money.

The other key factor, maybe the most important, is that the R&D activities and its commercialization should have been the government priority as it is in previously cited countries.

Often there exists disproportion between the research focus and business demand. MSP enterprises do not have enough capacities to R&D and also not enough capacity to administrate grant projects.

The situation is not only negative, there are also some examples of good practices in the Czech Republic. We already have the business incubator beside some universities, successful spin-off companies – for example around Masaryk university in Brno or Technical university in Prague (Nenovision Ltd., website, Flowmon, www.flowmon.com etc.). Also many cluster and science park were built using EU funds in last years. The big future challenge is to sustainably operate these infrastructures without EU subsidies.

Finally, the conclusion is that technology transfer is opportunity for socioeconomic development but there are several challenges which should be managed to provide better conditions for it. All main stakeholders from state government and funding organizations, public research organizations (universities, public research institutes) to business sector and cluster organizations.