

Sunrise Valley– bringing bussines and science together

International colloquium on Science Parks

Science parks – A Model to Create knowledge based growth

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Key Facts about Vilnius

	Vilnius	Lithuania
<i>Area</i>	401 sq. km	65300 sq. km
<i>Population</i>	553.300	3.469.100
<i>No of students (2007/2008)</i>	72.031	143.204
<i>No of HEI</i>	11	22
<i>No of science and technology parks</i>	4	10
<i>Employment in service sector</i>	73%	56%



Integrated Science, Study and Business Centres (Valleys) concept in Lithuania

- Valleys will be complex infrastructures that shall realize and re-enforce the strengths of regionally concentrated, sustainable research and innovation networks with clear and long-term commitments by universities, state institutes and companies.
- In 2007-2013 the Government of the Republic of Lithuania envisages to launch five valleys: 2 valleys in Vilnius (electronics, nano technologies, ITT and biomedicine), 2 valleys in Kaunas (ITT, mechatronics, chemistry and agriculture) and 1 maritime valley in Klaipeda (Lithuania's only seaport)
- Public investments mainly will be used for the development of engineering infrastructure of the area and establishment of the physical infrastructure of scientific research, technology parks and incubators as well as development of technology transfer, IPR exploitation mechanisms and access to finance (including VC funds).



Sunrise technology Valley - Main intentions

- To create a **unit competitive in international space**. The Sunrise Technology Valley is a formation, focusing not only to Lithuania, but also oriented outwards, large enough by its number of qualified people and amount of **concentrated scientific potential** to attract attention on international scale.
- To create more favourable conditions for the **creation of high-level fundamental knowledge** and **preparation of specialists** of high qualification.
- To create a favourable environment for **knowledge transfer to the business**.
- To create a general framework for state **investments into infrastructure**, its optimisation, efficient and effective investment, avoiding overlapping and other negative consequences of uncoordinated investment.



The main areas of technological development in Sunrise Valley

- 1. Lasers and light technologies
- 2. Materials science and nanotechnology
- 3. Semi-conductor physics, electronics and organic electronics
- 4. Environmental technologies, renewable energy

The highest academic and growth potential

- 6 out of 15 excellence centers and 5 out of 17 identified groups of high-level scientists identified by the Centre for Quality Assessment of Studies (SQAS) in Lithuania are functioning in Sunrise Technology Valley.
- International research in the fields of physical theories of medical diagnostics, information technology, nuclear energy physics and environmental research are carried out in the Valley.



Sunrise campus (main territory of Vilnius Technology Valley)

- The biggest science and studies concentration in Baltics; the area of 156 ha (62 ha reserved for valley development);
- 20 000 Vilnius university and Vilnius technical university students, scientists, teachers (including 750 scientist and researchers);
- 2,4 ha (two land plots of 1,8 ir 0,6 ha) reserved for business support infrastructure development;
- First STP (6300 sq. m) building housing 20 hi-tech companies;
- Building capacity – up to 50 000 sq. m of science and technology park premises, up to 500 000 sq. m of studies and R&D facilities, HORECA

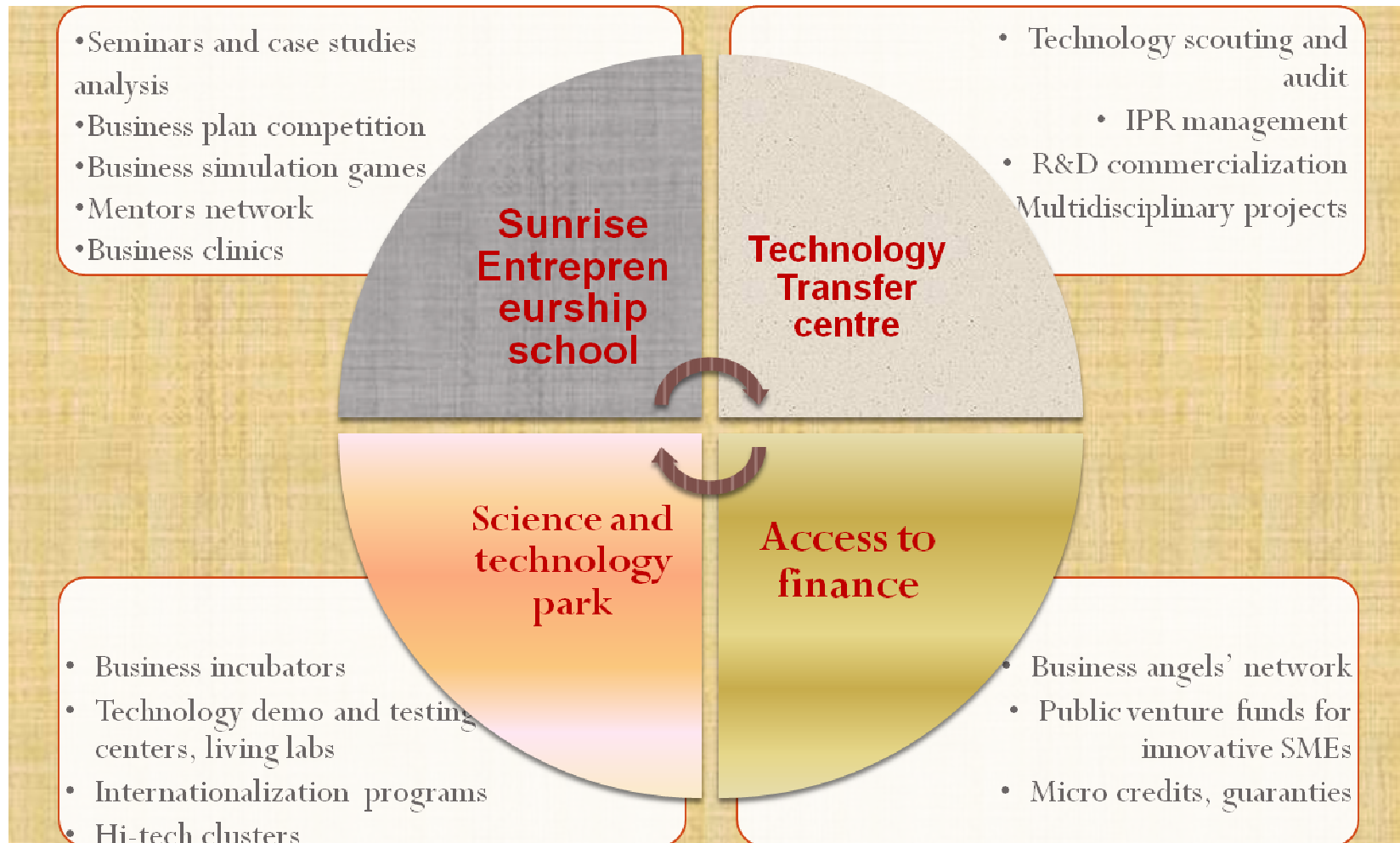


Science and technology park & business incubator – in a very beginning

- First STP building was open in October 2008;
- 6300 sq. m for hi-tech companies (including 900 for business incubator)
- 20 companies working in electronics, IT, telecommunications, biochemistry, environmental technologies, engineering



Innovations and entrepreneurship support



Challenges for knowledge driven business

- Universities and R&D institutes are still engaged more in fundamental than in applied research (mainly state/EU financing);
- “Brain drain” to Western universities and businesses;
- Low level of academic entrepreneurship (only informal mechanisms of commercialization of knowledge);
- Concepts of science and IP management under development (R&D contracts, licensing, international patents);
- Lack of institutions, education in technology management and interdisciplinary programs facilitating interactions between science and business;
- Underestimated importance of social capital - social networks of individuals (alumni, mentors, etc.);
- Low prestige of PhDs and researches in society;
- Low demand for scientists and researchers in business companies



Sunrise Valley and BaSic project

Internal challenges

- Networking and clusters
- Effective property management
- Planning activities and evaluating performance of STP
- Support for technology commercialization, new business incubation
- STP marketing and internationalization

External challenges

- Entrepreneurship and innovation support policies
- Private public partnership for infrastructure development
- Access to finance for technology driven companies
- Effective business support institutions (Innovations and technology agency, Exporting Lithuania, Invest Lithuania)



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