Project FP7-REGPOT-2007-1: SISTER: Strengthening the IST Research Capacity of Sofia University

Second Workshop of the Networking initiative for ICT related projects "Possibilities for widening further partnership for new cooperative activities", 10-11 September 2010

Assoc. Prof. Elissaveta Gourova

Main topics

- SISTER objectives
- Strategic framework in RTDI
- Project achievements
- Sustainability of results
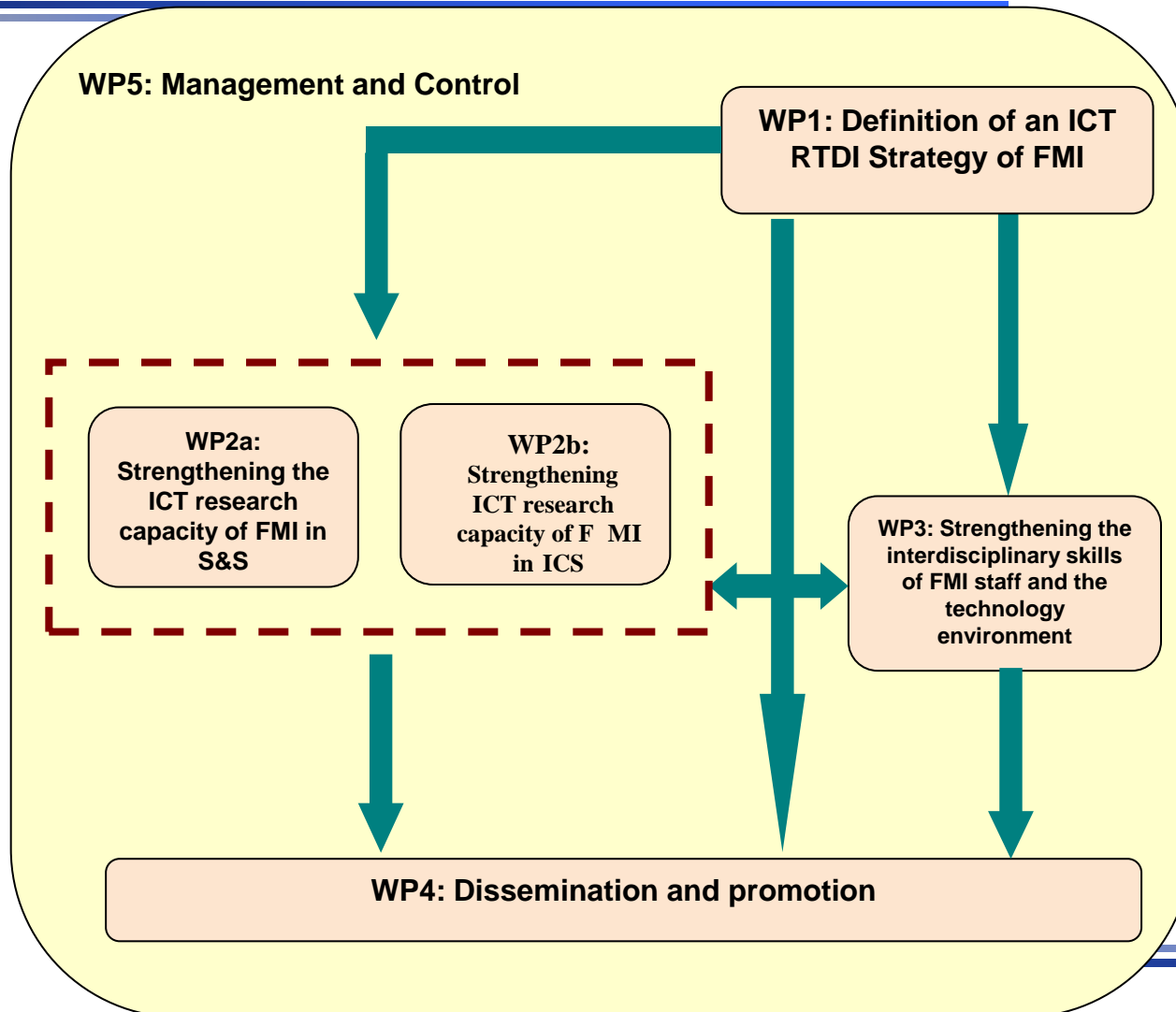
FP7 SISTER project

Main goal:

- to strengthen the FMI capacity
- to develop it as a Leading Centre in South-East Europe in research, innovation and training
- in the area of ICT (Software and Services, Intelligent Content)

FP7 SISTER project

Objectives:

- to elaborate a strategic framework for FMI

- to enhance the human resources capabilities of FMI

- to strengthen the capacity of FMI for business exploitation of academic results and cooperation with industry

- to improve the research environment of FMI

- to build a strong long-term collaboration with leading research and business organisations in EU and the SEE countries

- to make FMI a well-known research centre in SEE

Work Packages

WP5: Management and Control

WP1: Definition of an ICT RTDI Strategy of FMI

WP2a: Strengthening the ICT research capacity of FMI in S&S

WP2b: Strengthening ICT research capacity of F MI in ICS

WP3: Strengthening the interdisciplinary skills of FMI staff and the technology environment

WP4: Dissemination and promotion

Strategic framework for FMI in ICT

- Vision:
  - Faculty ICT community to become
  - locally and internationally recognized in research, teaching and service
  - recognized nationally for student excellence
- Mission:
  - provide a flexible, multi-disciplinary environment
  - for high quality ICT research and education
  - using innovation, latest technologies and world expertise

Strategic goals

- **Quality** of FMI education, training, information and research services to gain program competitiveness, high levels of achievement and a knowledgeable community

- **Relevance** of education and research services to the needs of Bulgarian society and economy

- **Access** for individuals of all ages to education, training and information services to develop their competences and to become globally competitive workers, responsible citizens, and lifelong learners

- **Efficient operation and management** of the education and research system and investments in student learning-centered ICT

Strategy measures

- Focus: financial issues, stakeholders, internal processes, and learning and growth of FMI

- Learning and growth measures

  - asses human and organisational capital

  - human resources growth, motivation of young people/PhD students for a research career

  - reward and remuneration initiatives, team building sessions, internal knowledge transfer, adoption of best academic culture practices, etc.
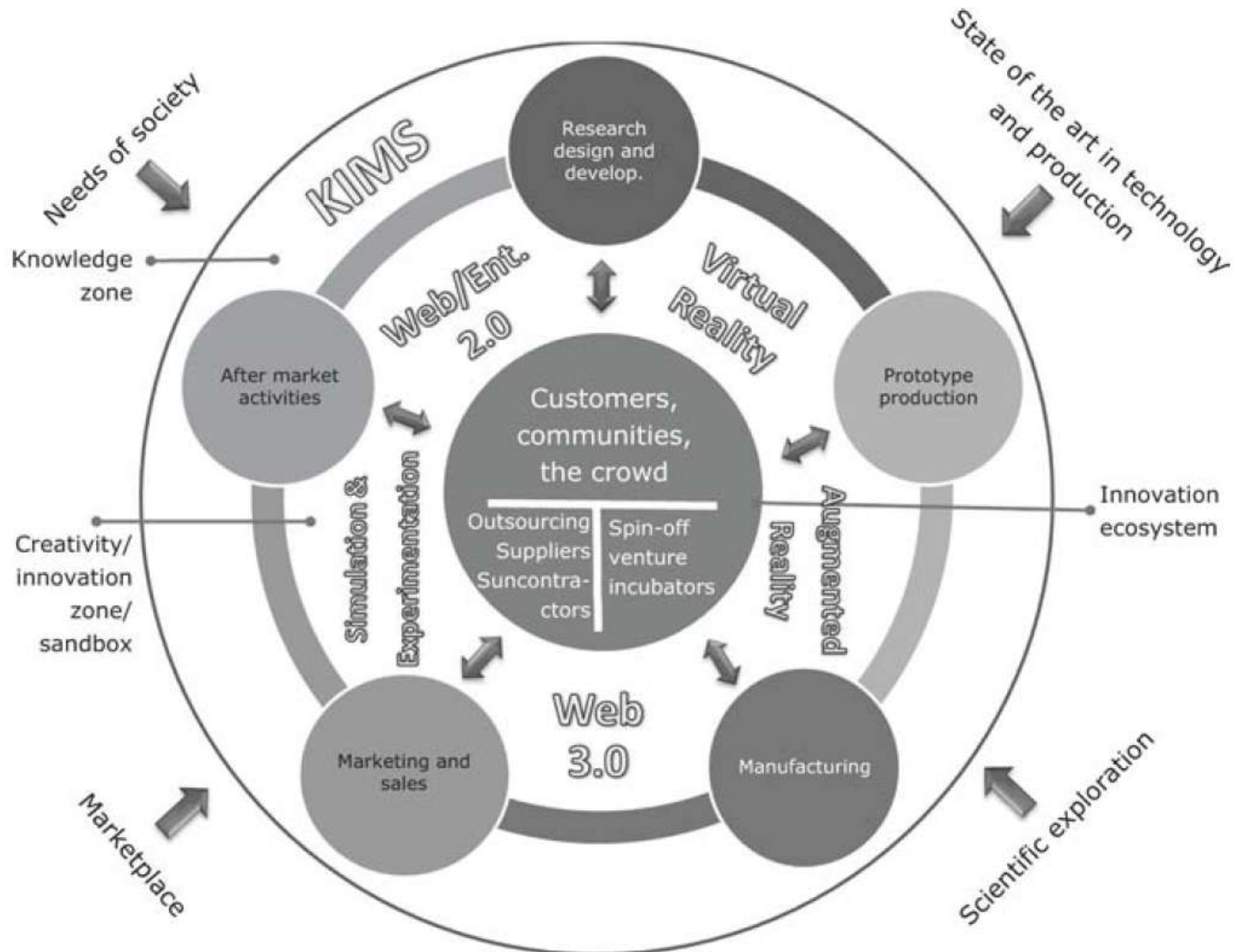
Main Achievements

- **Shared view** about current efforts in Bulgaria in the Software and Services (S&S) and Intelligent Content and Semantics (ICS) established
- Emphasis on **Bulgarian NESSI platform** and collaboration within European NESSI initiatives
- **Enhanced collaboration** with industry and other research organisations in Bulgaria and in Europe through launching of new projects and joint initiatives
- **Strengthened human resources capacity** through involvement of young researchers and regular research and training seminars in ICT and in interdisciplinary areas
- **Improved research environment** at FMI through establishment of 2 new research labs, PhD lab, first real digital repository in Bulgaria at FMI and provision of access to scientific libraries
- **Higher visibility** of FMI research in Bulgaria, SEE and Europe as a whole
- SISTER - **incubator of new projects**

Sustainability of results

- Human resources development
  - PhD training initiatives (FP7 People, Structural funds)
  - Integration in external training programmes (ESI)
- Networking and transfer of knowledge
  - Wide European networks in ICT and innovation (FP7 ICT, LLL, CIP) – e-Learning, NESSI, Knowledge for Innovation, Living Labs
  - SEE regional collaboration (FP7 Capacity, SEE)
  - Industry-academia focus (FP7 People and Capacity, Structural funds)
  - Exchange of researchers (ERASMUS, FP7 People)

Knowledge management and open innovation

Thank you for your attention!