

European Challenges for Innovation Empowering People for Innovation - the EIT and KICs Contribution -

Apr 28th 2010, Bilbao

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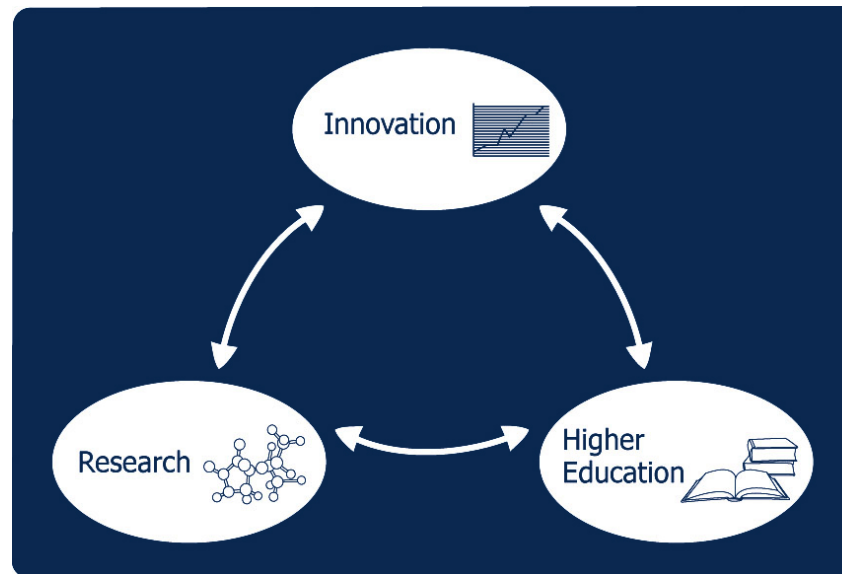


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Innovation requires an integrated knowledge triangle

- Innovation can start at any place in the knowledge triangle: *Education, Research+Technology, Business+Entrepreneurship*
- Actors in the knowledge triangle are at the core of the innovation web.



enhanced capacities + high degree of integration + leadership
are prerequisites for scaling up Europe's innovation performance

KICs – putting the knowledge triangle to the test

- KICs = collaborative partnerships, legally and financially structured entity of internationally distributed but thematically convergent partners
- KIC partners = key actors from the knowledge triangle: research, education, and innovation-entrepreneurship-business
- **KIC co-location = people from diverse backgrounds** (industry, SMEs, academia, nationality, gender, discipline...) working together across the innovation web

→ KICs build innovative webs of excellence across the knowledge triangle

Empowering People for Innovation: *KIC impact*



EU2020: creating value by basing growth on knowledge and empowering (skills development, labour mobility) people in inclusive societies

- Contribute to ongoing developments in higher education and acting as a catalyst for *improvements in curricula and learning and teaching methods*
- Entrepreneurship education *delivering top entrepreneurial people*
- Working in **co-location centres** encompassing the larger part of the innovation web with face-to-face contact, thus leading to *great mobility of knowledge*

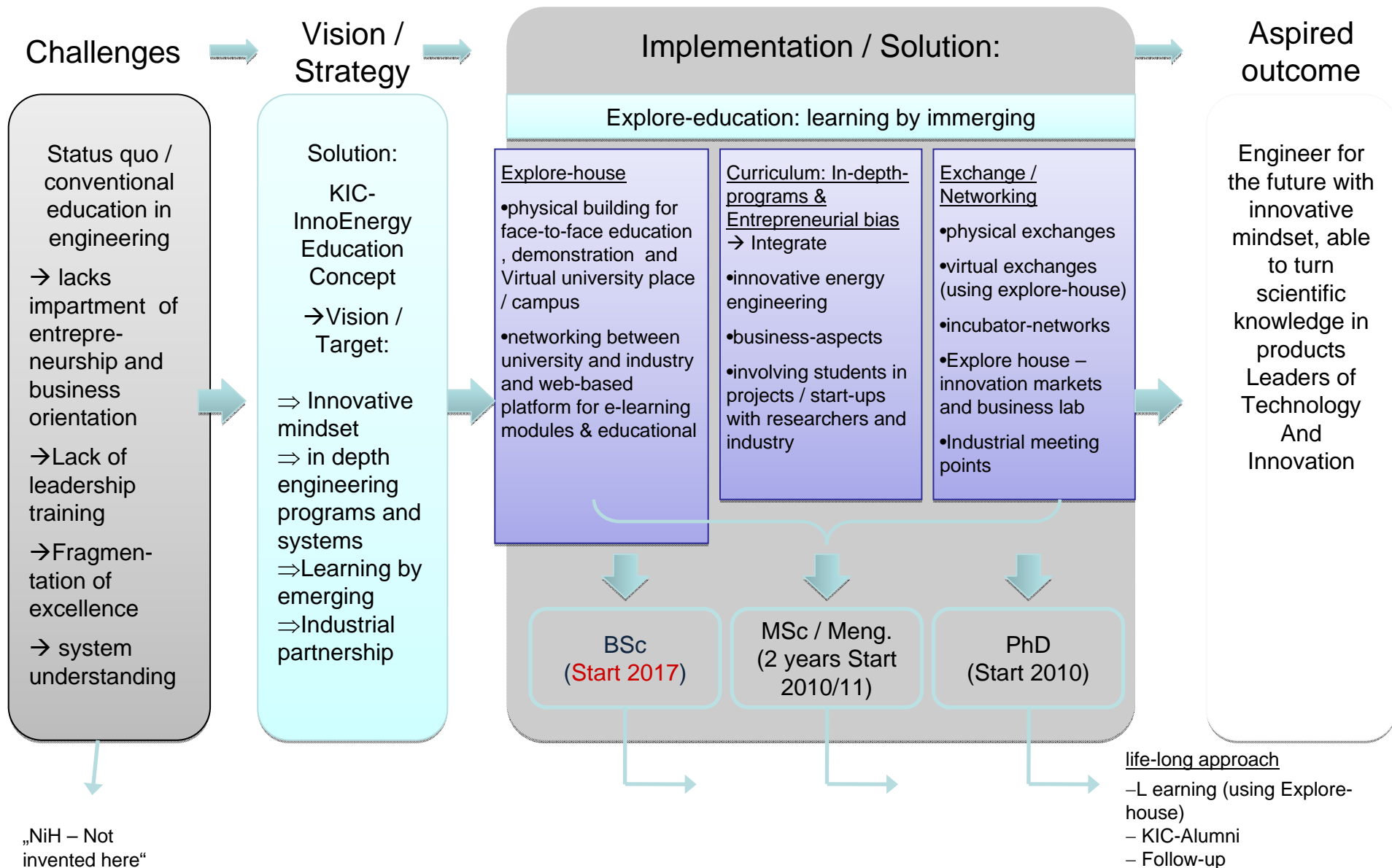
EIT labelled degrees (Master, PhD)

- **Build on the experience gained in the context of other EU actions** and in line with the main achievements of the European Higher Education Area (Bologna Process)
- **Go beyond these achievements** and enable EIT graduates to turn knowledge into marketable products and services, “from knowledge to business – from learning what to learning by doing”.
- **4 broad characteristics for EIT label quality criteria:** entrepreneurship education, integrated/innovative curricula, mobility-European dimension, openness to the world and outreach strategy.

KIC educational programmes

- Strong focus on transversal skills, especially entrepreneurial skills (personal and business skills)
- Hands-on, learning-by-doing approach
- Intersectoral and international mobility

Example 1: Educational program set-up



Example 2: Climate-KIC Summer School 2010

To become successful innovators in the field of climate change, students and young researchers will

- be in touch with **Europe's leading scientific and innovation community** on climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- get **hands-on experience** of how the latest science is translated into new services and products that have an impact on climate and economy.
- **study all aspects** influencing the market for climate change innovation, such as policy, legal and financial incentives and constraints.
- develop solutions in **multidisciplinary teams**
- investigate the possibilities of **creating successful new ventures**
- take part in a **business plan competition**

At the end of the summer school students will have developed their entrepreneurial skills as well as the understanding of the many scientific and technological aspects of climate change.