



Ss. Cyril and Methodius  
University in Skopje



Faculty of Electrical  
Engineering and Information  
Technologies

Improving academia-industry  
cooperation to cope with the industrial  
challenges:

*INNOFEIT - Center for Technology  
Transfer and Innovations*



**INNOFEIT**

**Prof. Vladimir Atanasovski**  
Vice Dean for Finances – FEEIT  
Managing Director – INNOFEIT

# What is INNOFEIT ?



- **Autonomous legal entity** under UKIM/FEEIT's ownership established and opened in 2018
- **Central point for TT** and research hub for FEEIT's R&D
- Provisioning of R&D for the industry *under a single roof*
- Builds upon **FEEIT's reputation\*** in international research (~**735K euros annually** for R&D, min 10 projects annually, 7 co-authored international patents, 500+ publications)



\* 5-year average (2013-2017)



- Improve, enhance and stimulate **knowledge transfer** from academia to existing and new innovative companies
- **Tackle brain drain** from the country and in particular the **loss of young and talented scientists and researchers**
- Provide excellent knowledge in **ICT and REEE**
- Ease the **commercialization** of developed technology
- Provide/**increase contract research services** for local and regional industry (1.2% of project funding from contract research prior to INNOFEIT establishment)
- Serve as a faculty's platform for incorporating **PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING (PBL)** in the curriculum  
=> Development towards **Challenge Driven University (CDU)**



## ICT SERVICES FOR EMERGING TELEINFRASTRUCTURES

<b>Pillar 1</b>	<b>EXPERT SYSTEMS EXPLOITING DATA SCIENCE</b>
<b>Pillar 2</b>	<b>DSP ADVANCES FOR RT AND NRT APPLICATIONS</b>
<b>Pillar 3</b>	<b>SOFTWARE-DEFINED NETWORKING AND VIRTUALIZATION</b>
<b>Pillar 4</b>	<b>RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY</b>



- **Contract research** for industrial partners
- **Definition of projects** of mutual interest with industrial partners
  - + signing of contracts, engaging researchers and students, providing co-working space and expertise
- **Organization** of workshops and events
  - To boost local and international visibility
- **Support** for innovative start-ups and spin-offs
  - Founding partner of the **Accelerator UKIM**
- **Engagement in international projects** that target practical education, problem based learning, collaborative case studies on various engineering topics etc.

# Ongoing contract research



- **Renewable energy + energy management**
  - Subcontractor for Torax\*
- **IoT solution for air quality monitoring**
  - Subcontractor for INform\*
- **IoT solution for waste management**
  - Subcontractor for PAKOMAK\*
- **System for automatic transcription of media**
  - Subcontractor for Analitika\*

\* Grants from FITD

- **Image analysis**
  - Contract research for Alfa-Zet Systems Belgium
- **Several contracts** with companies that have co-working space in INNOFEIT and defined research projects (e.g. Iskratel, GrabIT etc.)



- Host of Betapitch 2018 (October 2018)
- Host of several startup weekends
- INNO-SAE 2019, 2020
  - Competition opened to all UKIM's students
  - Development of student proof-of-concepts
- Local partner of University Startup World Cup (USWC) 2019

- Stimulate students to work on innovative ideas that may be prototyped
- Develop students' entrepreneurial skills
- Originality + interdisciplinarity + beyond state-of-the-art
- Follow-up of successful prototypes through other initiatives (e.g. EU4TECH project)

*Public presentation of INNO-SAE 2019 prototypes*



# The road ahead



- European Investment Bank (EIB) pinpoints INNOFEIT as a potential regional **Center of Excellence (CoE)**
  - <http://www.wbedif.eu/library/road-map-for-innofeit-centre-of-excellence/>



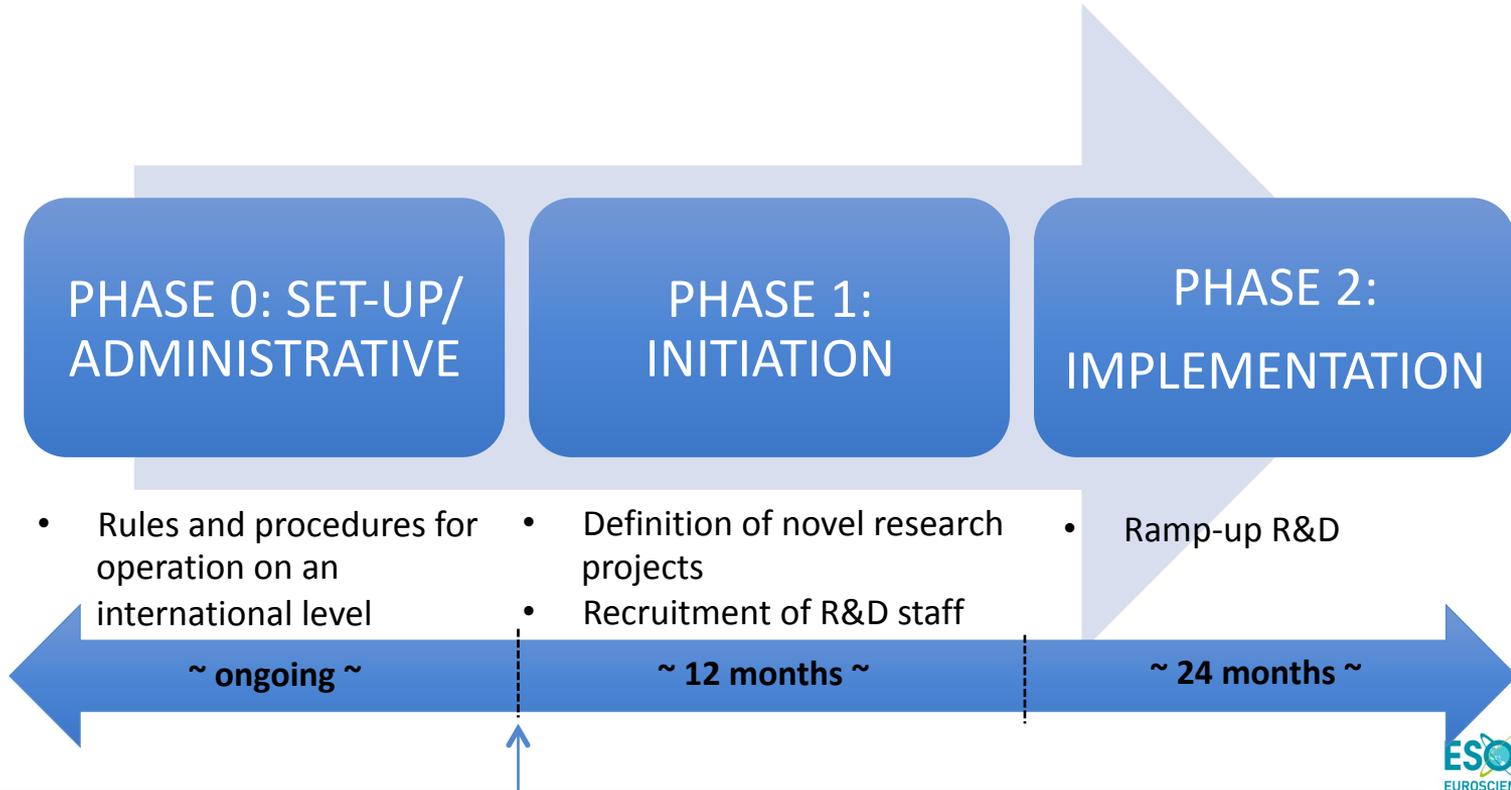
EIB CoE project INNOFEIT Roadmap

The Road Map for INNOFEIT Centre of Excellence is a follow-up of the mapping of leading Research Development & Innovation institutions in the Western Balkans, which created a short list of regional institutions. An individual Road Map for the institution achieving highest ranking in the benchmarking process was created, in order to provide financial and advisory support to the building of a recognised Centre of Excellence within the

# Phasing



INNOF@IT



**EXTERNAL FUNDING !**



- INNOFEIT seeks **2.1M euros investment** to kick-start Phase 1
  - + anticipated additional 2M euros for infrastructure (labs and equipment) after completion of Phase 2 (scaling-up)
- INNOFEIT intends to:
  - ⇒ Create and coach at least 6 start-ups
  - ⇒ Setup innovative projects with at least 10 companies
  - ⇒ Increase the number of international partnerships for 20 more
  - ⇒ Train at least 50 researchers, students and entrepreneurs
  - ⇒ Organize 3 annual events
  - ⇒ Grow up to 25 full time research employees

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION

- Web
  - <http://inno.feit.ukim.edu.mk>
- LinkedIn
  - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/center-for-technology-transfer-and-innovations-innofeit>
- Email
  - [innofeit@feit.ukim.edu.mk](mailto:innofeit@feit.ukim.edu.mk)
- Telephone
  - +389 2 3099 191
- Address
  - Rugjer Boskovic 18, 1000 Skopje



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