

**PRIORITIES FOR RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT SECTOR OF ARMENIA –  
RELEVANCE TO HORIZON 2020**

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# Outline

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# Introduction

- It is internationally accepted that sustainable economic growth can only be founded on technological development and continuous increase in the knowledge base
- Research has to be linked with effective technological development and innovation measures

# Key STI Players - Policy

- STI issues given more importance on policy level
- State Committee of Science (2007)
  - To address the fragmented character of policy-making
  - To improve policy-making and coordination
  - Responsible for implementation of RTD programmes
- Government resolution (2006)
  - Ministry of Economy was recognized as authorized body responsible for development and implementation of innovation policy, in co-operation and coordination with other concerned ministries and organizations.

# Key STI Players – RTD

- Founded in 1943 the National Academy of Sciences (NAS RA) remains to be main R&D performer in the country (35 institutes/82 total; 3700 staff/around 6000 total)
- Law on the NAS RA adopted on 14/04/2011
- NAS is the highest self-governing research organization carrying out & coordinating basic and applied research directed to creation of knowledge-based economy, contributing to social and cultural development of the country (Law)
- Official scientific consultant to the highest governing bodies
- Law provide wider opportunities for business activities and creation of spin-offs to NAS RA institute

# STI Policy Making and Legal Basis

- Strategy on Development of Science for 2011-2020 (2010)
- Science and Technology Development Priorities for 2010-2014 (2010)
- Action Plan of Development of Science for 2011-2015 (2011)
- Program to Promote the Development of Social Sciences for 2011-2015 (2011)
- Strategy on Development of Innovation Economy (2011)

# International Dimension

- National policy documents prioritise international cooperation and integration into ERA
- Armenia officially applied for association to H2020
- National project based funding scheme allows international partnership (funding of foreign experts travel to Armenia)
- Enlarged H2020 NCP system is to be nominated soon

# International S&T Co-operation

- SCS bilateral cooperation agreements with CNRS (France), BMBF (Germany), RFBR (Russia), FFR (Belarus), RFH (Russia), SASII (Ukraine), MST (China), ICTP (Italy), etc.
- NAS cooperation agreements with AS of Hungary, Romania, Russia, Moldova, Georgia, Belarus, Ukraine, China, etc.
- Cooperation with major European research centers & universities on institution level

# STI Priorities & Relevance to H2020

## Policy Level

- S&T Development Priorities for 2010-14 are (2010):
  - Armenian Studies, Humanities and Social Sciences;
  - Life Sciences;
  - Renewable Energy, New Energy Sources;
  - Advanced Technologies, Information Technologies;
  - Space, Earth Sciences, Sustainable Use of Natural Resources;
  - Basic Sciences for Key Applied Researches.

# STI Priorities & Relevance to H2020

## Policy Level (2)

- ENPI Draft Action Plan 2014-2015 include:
  - Active participation in H2020 Programme
  - Setting up H2020 NCP network and support to its activities
  - Promotion of cooperation with European Space Agency
  - Cooperation with European research & education computing networks, GEANT3

# STI Priorities & Relevance to H2020 - FP7 experience

- 45 funded projects in Armenia (October 2013)
- 3,2 million Euro total funding received
  - INCO - 14
  - IRSES/IIF-10
  - INFRA - 6
  - ICT – 5
  - NMP - 3
  - HEALTH – 2,
  - SSH-2,
  - EVN (Climate Change) – 1,
  - KBBE-1,

# STI Priorities & Relevance to H2020 - FP7 experience (2)

- Active participation in INCO projects to promote international/bi-regional STI cooperation
  - BS-ERA.Net - NAS RA & SCS + PJC
  - IncoNet EECA, IncoNet CASC,
  - IncoNet EaP – special focus to CC, Health, Energy + Innovation
  - R2I Projects – ENER2I (Energy), INNOVER-EAST (Energy), SECURE R2I (Quantum Communication ), SUAFRI (Aquaculture & Apiculture)
  - 4 ERA WIDE Projects in Genetics, ICT, Environment, Quantum Information, Atomic Physics, Scintillating Materials
  - All these activities surely to stimulate more active participation in the mentioned thematic priorities

# Thematic Priorities for EaP Panel on S&T

- Advanced Cloud infrastructures and Services. E-infrastructures for virtual environments. Big Data and Open Data Innovation. High Performance and Quantum computing
- Astronomy and high energy astrophysics, development of space weather network for monitoring and investigation of high energy atmospheric phenomena
- Nanomaterials, micro- and nano-electronic technologies, high-efficiency laser sources, quantum optics and technologies
- Creation of 3 GeV energy, third generation synchrotron light source
- Health Sciences
- Biotechnology

# Conclusions

- Inco Net like activities and region-targeting specific calls contributed greatly to increased participation in European Programmes.
- International and European policy instruments (ENPI, EaP, etc.) and HORIZON2020 are important mechanisms to increase European integration and cooperation in STI.
- Stated measures create adequate basis for more active participation of Armenian institutions in H2020

Thank you for attention!