

**Korea's only innovative growth engine  
for the environmental industry!**

**ICT Convergence Environmental Technology Commercialization Mecca**

# **Incheon Innovation Cluster and Collaboration**

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Professor, Department of Environmental Engineering, Incheon  
National University**



# Synopsis

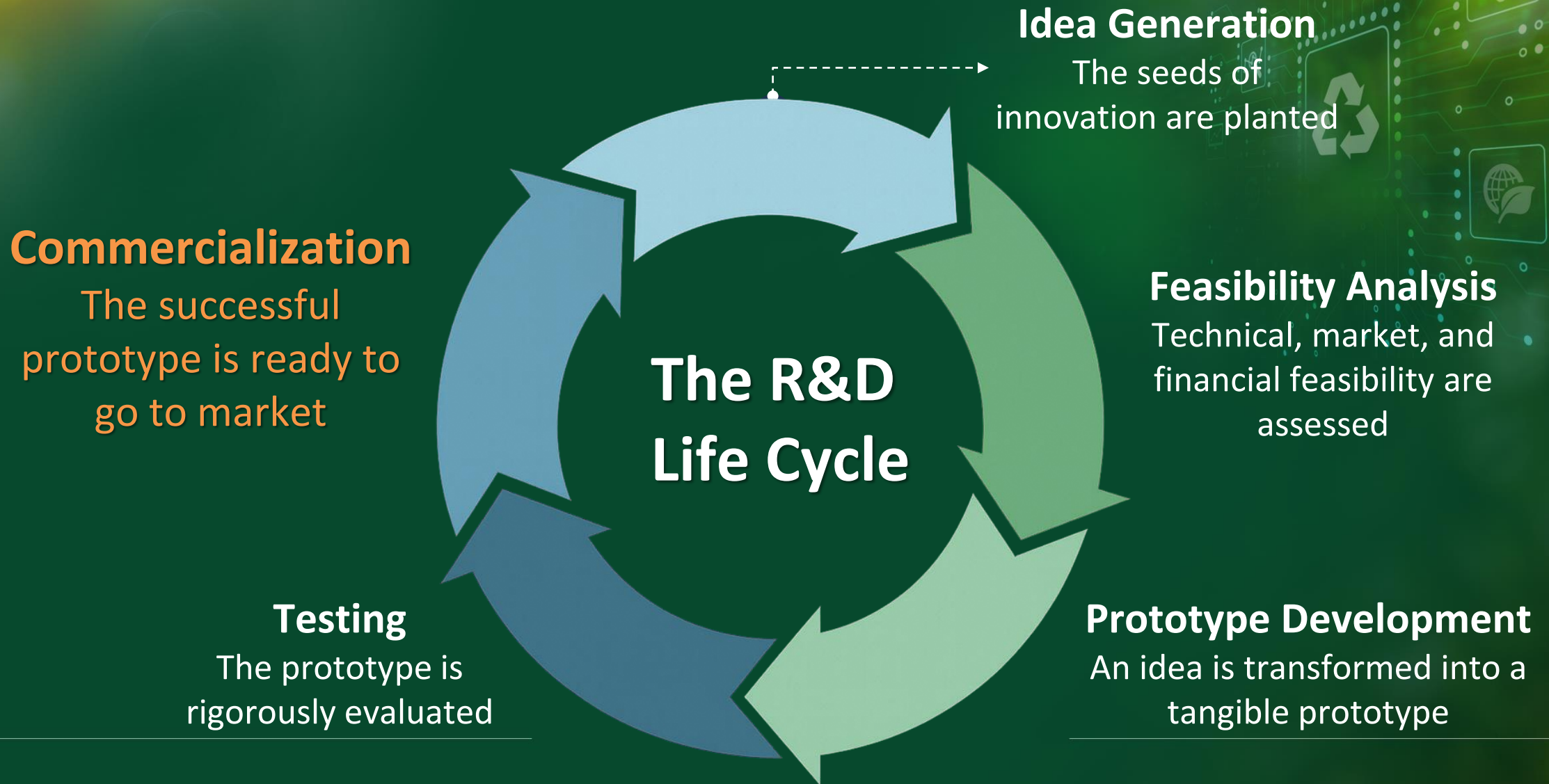
- ❖ *Research & business development*
- ❖ *Review of triple helix model*
- ❖ *Incheon innovation cluster*
- ❖ *Korea – Central Asia Science & Technology Center*
- ❖ *INU – KOICA Climate / Environment Training Program*
- ❖ *Lesson for environmental R&BD*

INNOPOLIS

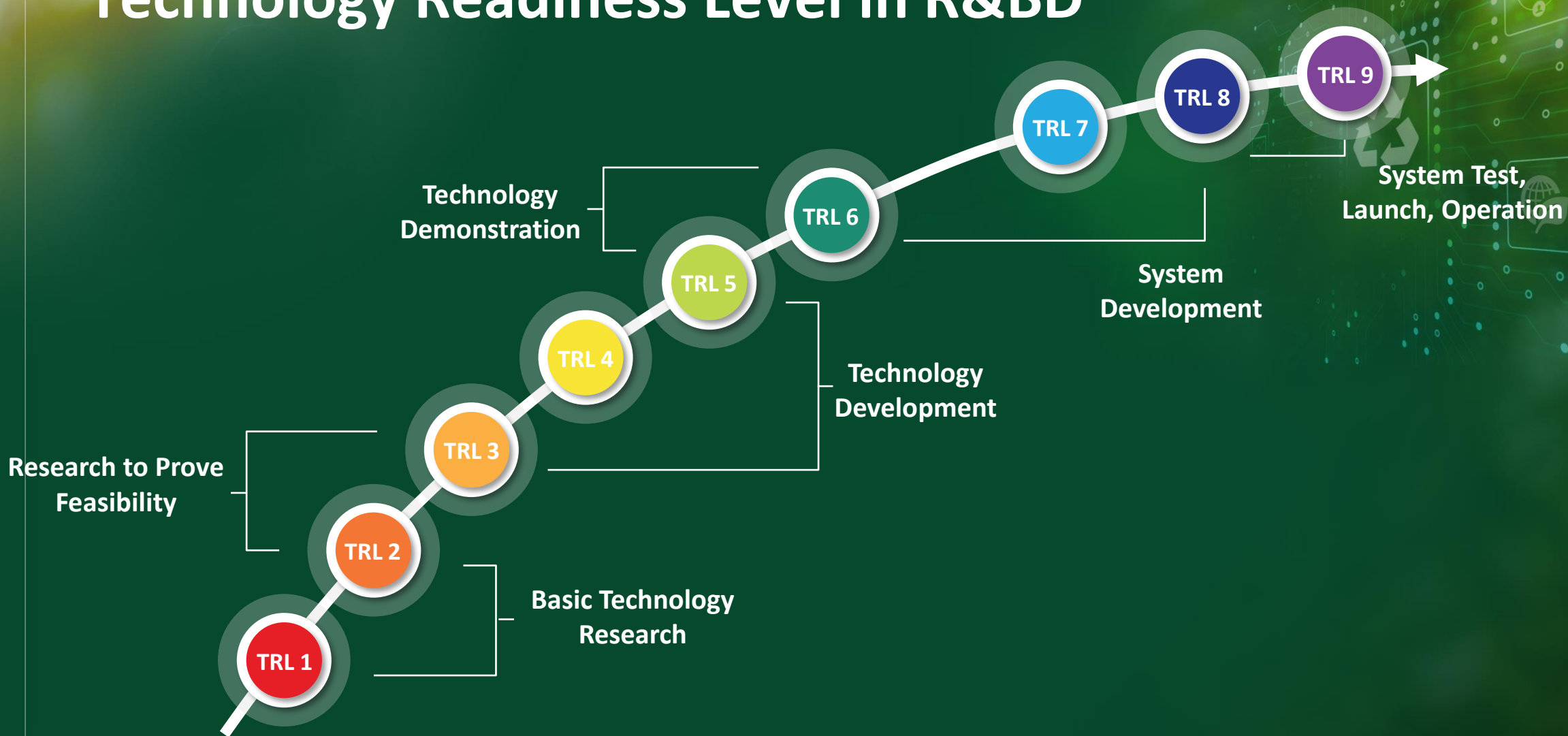
인천강소특구



# General concept of R&BD

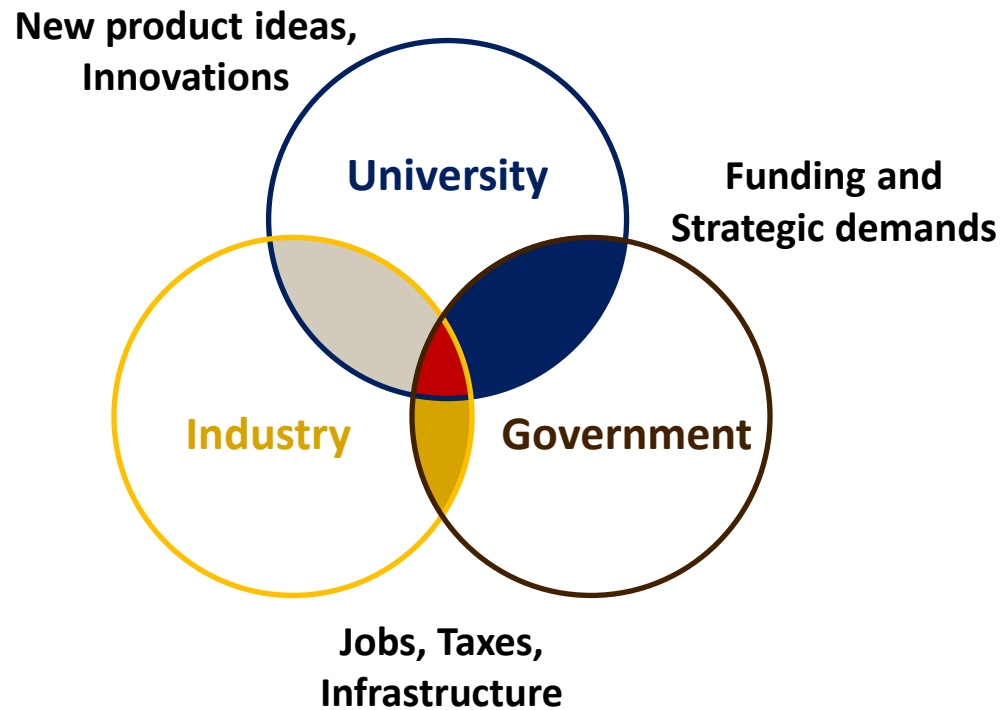


# Technology Readiness Level in R&BD





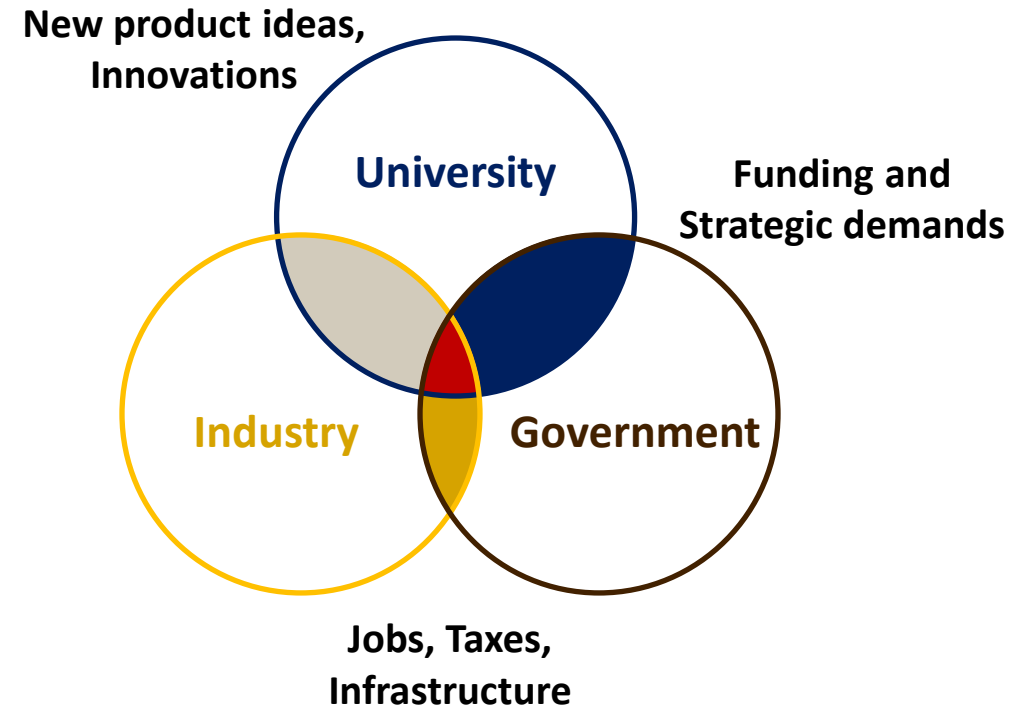
# Concept of triple helix model



- Framework developed by Henry Etzkowitz and Loet Leydesdorff (1990s)
- Explains innovation through dynamic interaction of universities, industry, and government
- Emphasizes overlapping relationships and institutional role transformation
- Key driver of innovation in knowledge-based economies
- For example, regional innovation systems (Silicon Valley, science parks)

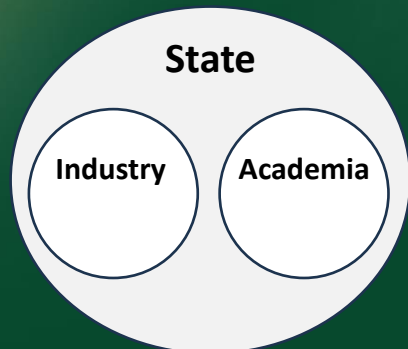
# Principal of triple helix model

- **Overlapping spheres:**
  - Create hybrid organizations (research centers, technology parks, public-private partnerships)
- **Role transformation:**
  - Universities become entrepreneurial,
  - Industry invests in knowledge,
  - Government fosters innovation networks

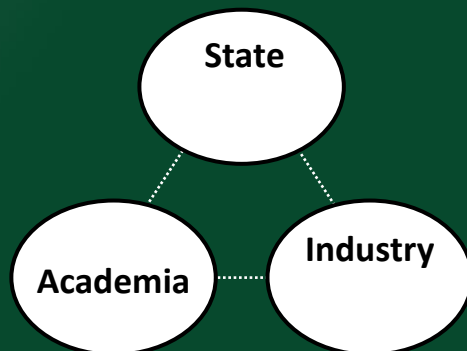


# Three triple helix models

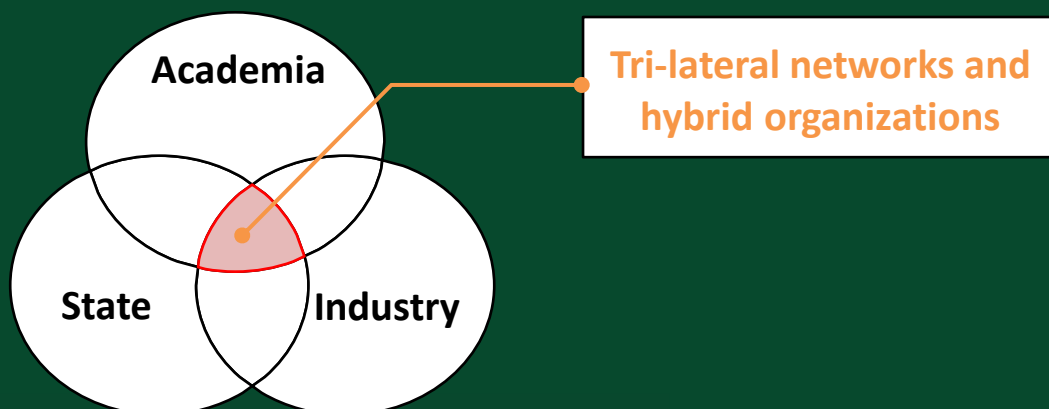
(1) A 'statist' model



(2) A 'laissez-faire' model



(3) The Triple Helix Model



- Three configurations

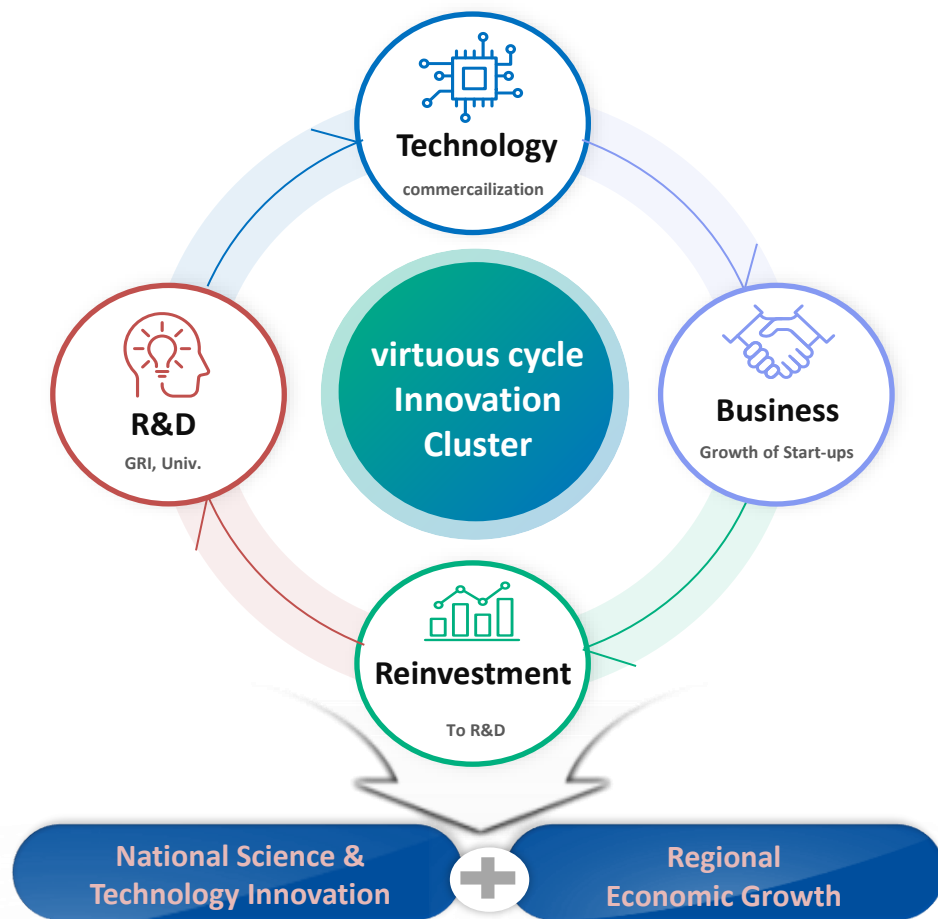
- **Triple Helix I:** Government-dominated (statist model) - Historical in centralized economies
- **Triple Helix II:** Separate spheres with limited interaction (laissez-faire) - Traditional Western industrial model
- **Triple Helix III: Balanced collaboration with strong linkages (ideal model) - Modern knowledge economy goal / Tri-lateral networks and hybrid organization**

- Temporal pattern

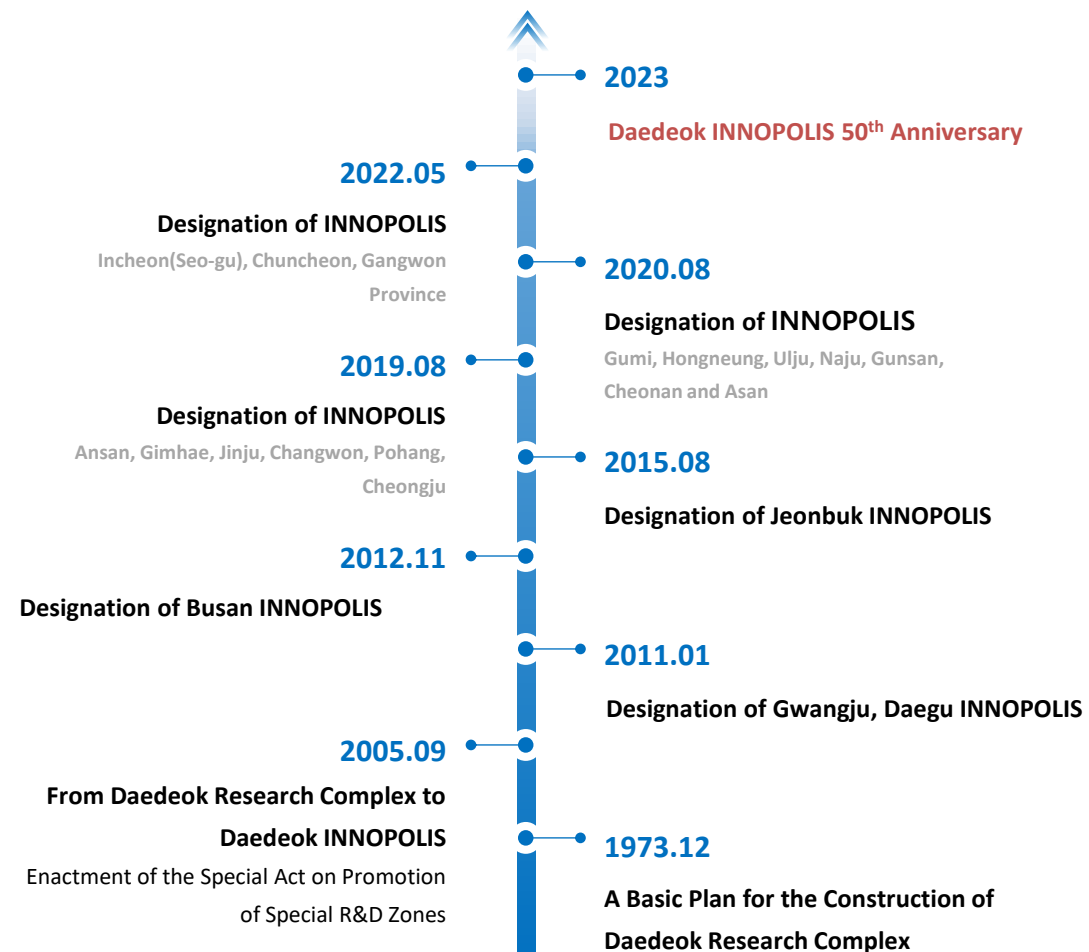
- Many regions evolve from I or II toward III

# INNOPOLIS in Korea

**Missions** Make the innovation eco-system in INNOPOLIS  
Facilitate technology commercialization to drive innovation and growth



## History



# Designation of 14's INNOPOLIS



- ◆ Designated in 2019
- ◆ Designated in 2020
- ◆ Designated in 2022

## Designated in 2019

Category	Space	Specialized areas
Ansan	1.73km <sup>2</sup>	ICT components & materials
Gimhae	1.13km <sup>2</sup>	Biomedical · medical devices
Jinju	2.17km <sup>2</sup>	Aerospace components · materials
Changwon	0.65km <sup>2</sup>	Intelligent electronics-based machinery convergence
Pohang	2.72km <sup>2</sup>	New high-tech materials
Cheongju	2.20km <sup>2</sup>	Smart IT components · systems

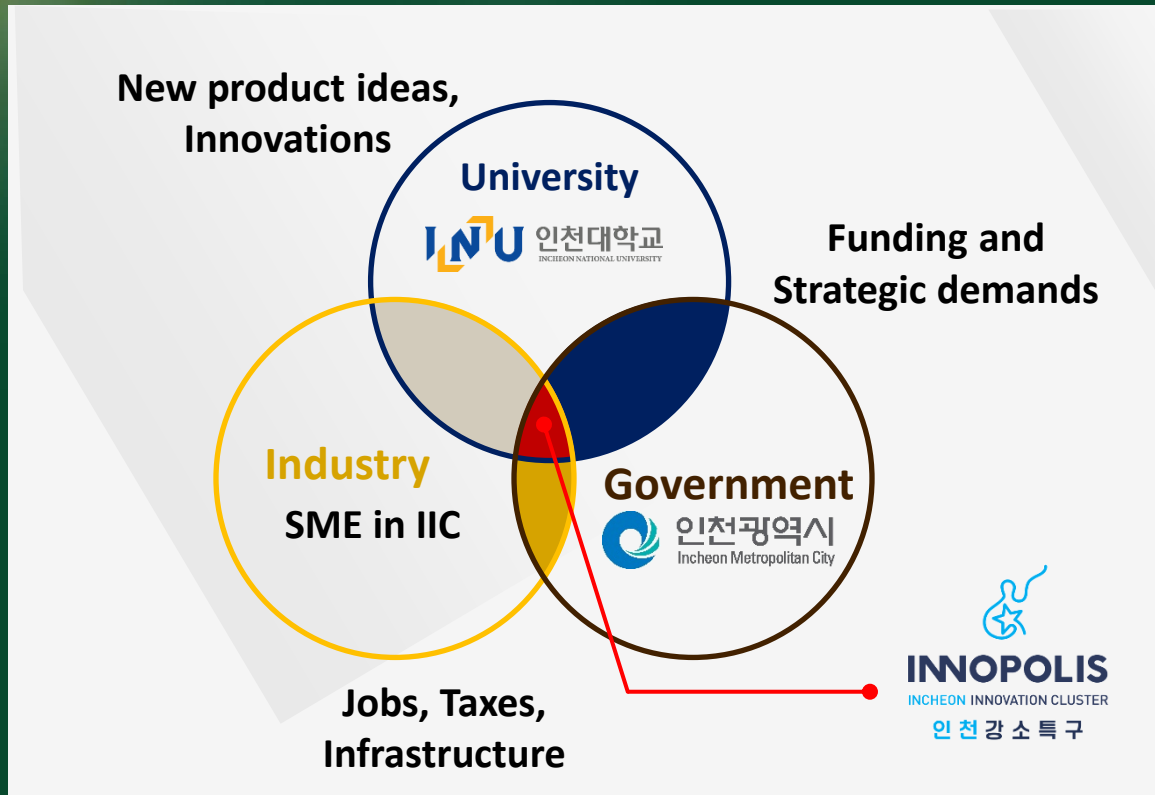
## Designated in 2020

Category	Space	Specialized areas
Gumi	2.57km <sup>2</sup>	Smart manufacturing systems
Hongneung	1.36km <sup>2</sup>	Digital healthcare
Uiju	3.01km <sup>2</sup>	Futuristic cells
Naju	1.69km <sup>2</sup>	Intelligent solar light · energy storage
Gunsan	2.70km <sup>2</sup>	Eco-friendly EV components and materials
Cheonan · Asan	1.32km <sup>2</sup>	Next-generation automobile components

## Designated in 2022

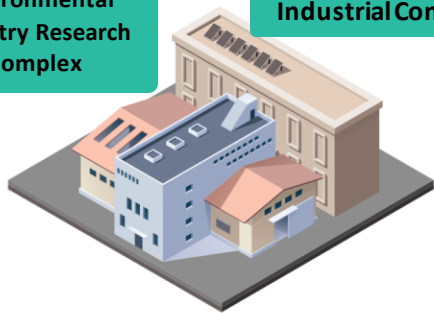
Category	Space	Specialized areas
Incheon	1.49km <sup>2</sup>	ICT Convergence Environmental Pollution Treatment and Management
Chun Cheon	0.93km <sup>2</sup>	New biopharmaceutical material

# Incheon Innovation Cluster

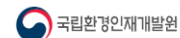
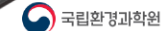


- **University**
  - Incheon National University / Institute of Environmental Convergence Technology
- **Government**
  - Incheon Metropolitan City (including sub districts)
- **Industry**
  - Approximately 180-220's SME
  - Additional 120-150's SME for new industrial zone
- **Main sector:**
  - **Environment / Climate Technology**

Environmental  
Industry Research  
Complex



Geomdan 2 General  
Industrial Complex



### 「ICT Convergence Environmental Pollution Treatment and Management」



Establishment of an Environmental Industry Infrastructure



Support for fostering and commercialization of global research institutes

# Incheon National University



# INU "All-in-One" R&BD Platform

Specialize Graduate School

Incheon Innovation Cluster

**Domain Knowledge**

- Incheon National University Startup & Venture Green Convergence Cluster, Professional Talent Training Institute (for corporate practitioners)
- Environment-Focused Specialized Graduate School - Entrepreneurship & Venture Track (for full-time graduate students)

**Technology Development / Lab Validation**

- Research capability, lab-level development, academic outcomes

**Productization Stage**

- PoC & prototype fabrication, securing R&D funds, securing patents/IP

• Startup & Venture Green Convergence Cluster (Ministry of Environment in-house program)

**Commercialization Preparation**

- Prototype enhancement, performance testing, design & user feedback

• INU Startup Center

**Startup / Market Entry**

- Business planning, business-model design, team building, fundraising

• INU Partners – Investment Corporation

**Growth & Expansion**

- Company incorporation, product launch, marketing, sales & customer acquisition

• Incheon Innovation Cluster Business Association

**Scale-up / Global Expansion**

- Additional investment, revenue growth, expansion of staff & partnerships

• Department of International Climate Cooperation /  
• KOICA Climate Degree Training Project

과학기술정보통신부 고시 제2023-24호

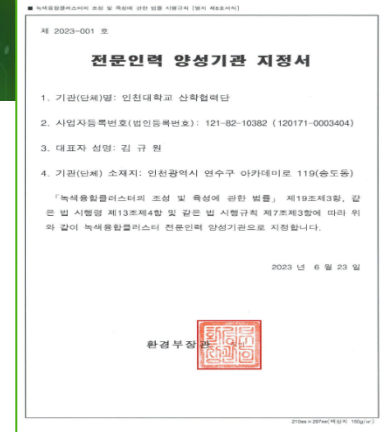
**인천 서구 강소연구개발특구 지정 고시 일부개정**

「연구개발특구의 특성에 관한 특별법」 제4조의2 제2항에 근거하여 인천 서구 강소연구개발특구를 변경하기로 결정함에 따라, 인천 서구 강소연구개발특구 지정 고시 일부를 개정하고, 「연구개발특구의 특성에 관한 특별법」 제4조 제7항 및 같은법 시행령 제6조와 「토지이용규제 기본법」 제8조 및 같은법 시행령 제7조의 규정에 의하여 다음과 같이 고시합니다.

2023년 6월 28일  
과학기술정보통신부장관

인천 서구 강소연구개발특구 지정

- 특구의 명칭·위치 및 면적
  - 명 칭 : 인천 서구 강소연구개발특구
  - 위 치 : 인천 서구 오류동 및 경서동, 마추동구 도화동, 연수구 송5동 일원
  - 세부적인 범위는 별첨의 시행도 및 지번·지적 현황에 의함
  - 면 적 : 2.22km<sup>2</sup>
  - 기술핵심기관 : 0.73km<sup>2</sup>, 배후공간 : 1.49km<sup>2</sup>
  - R&D거점지구(인천대학교) : 0.73km<sup>2</sup>
  - 기술·인력·자급·환경·융합·혁신지구(송도) : 0.717km<sup>2</sup>
  - 생산거점지구(대안2 일원상업단지) : 0.777km<sup>2</sup>
- 특구 지정 목적
  - 인천 서구의 인천대를 중심으로 ICT 융복합 환경조성 처리 및 관리 등의 R&D역량 강화 및 산·학·연 협력을 통한 기술이전 사업화 활성화



# Specialized Fields

ICT-based technical base for treating and managing environmental pollution and contributing

Measurement and Treatment of Environmental Pollution Monitoring

- ▶ Post-treatment and pre-prevention technology for possible environmental pollution by environmental agents



### Major Tech.

- ✓ Advanced water purification treatment
- ✓ Ship air pollution
- ✓ Fine dust control technology

Waste Recycling and Alternative Material Development

- ▶ Waste recycling and energy conversion for carbon neutrality and energy reduction & Development of eco-friendly substitute materials using biomass



### Major Tech.

- ✓ Recycling of waste plastic
- ✓ Anaerobic digestion of bioplastic and food waste

AI-based Environmental Management

- ▶ Environmental management through prediction and decision-making applying environmental technology, 4th industrial revolution, digital new dill based AI and IoT



### Major Tech.

- ✓ Measurement and analysis of marine environment
- ✓ Environmental information monitoring technology
- ✓ Recyclable resource recovery robots

# IICE Cluster Promotion strategy i-ESP\* Cluster

\* Incheon/Integrated - Environment, Science, InnoPolis

## Commercializing technology of ICT convergence environmental pollution treatment and management

Exploring demand of technology and business

Platforming Technology Commercialization

Following Development Support

IICE Cluster Community (Lead by INU)



- Exploring demand of technology (Environ tech Information system)
- Exploring business on tech
- Verifying business value

ICT Convergence E tech

Technology Institution

INU Incheon National University (INU)  
(INU Indust univ Cooperation/INU IICE Cluster Team)

Manufacturing (Industrial Complex)

Gumdan1 IC  
• Malodor prevent tech

North east National IC  
• Wastewater disposal tech

Gyeongseo Casting Complex  
• Dust collection tech

Commercializing Technology & Business

Technology Development

INU (ECTI)  
한국환경공단  
국립환경과학원  
국립생물자원관

Research

IH (Manufacturing cluster management)  
Cluster resident business tech demand

Original & Applied technology

Exploring and developing start-up

- Incheon Seo gu Keco Infra
- INU Incheon City start up fund
- INU Incheon City start up program

Domestic and global marketing

Support to Enter Domestic & Global Market

Strategy to marketing → Marketing to Local Government

Global marketing → Global Networking with INU

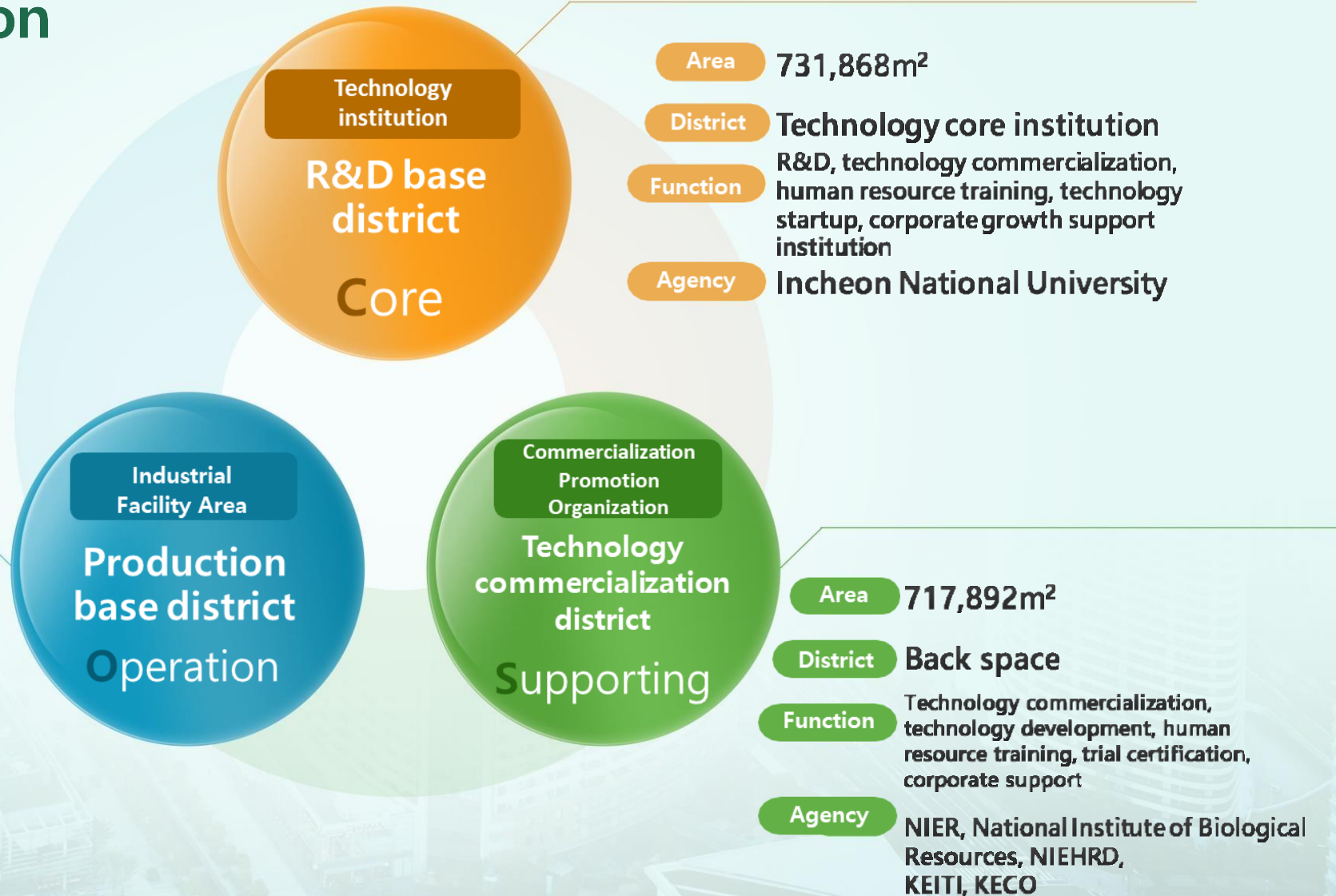
Technology Transfer (INU Industry & Business Foundation)

Startup Business (INU Startup Business Support Platform)

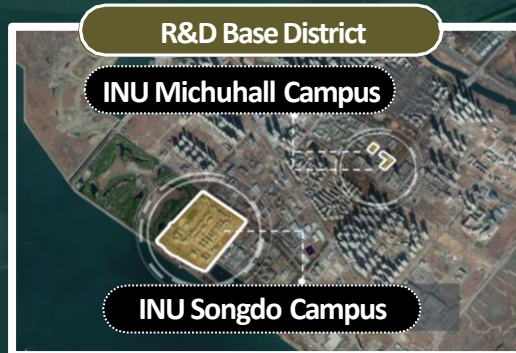
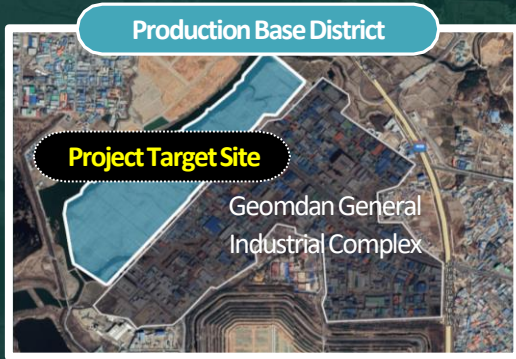
# Development direction

## COS Strategy

- : Core area
- : Operation area
- : Supporting area



# + Establishing an ICT-Convergence Hub for Environmental Pollution Treatment & Management + Technology Commercialization



Geomdan 2nd General Industrial Complex

Integrated Environmental Research Complex




Environmental Industry Research Complex

Environmental Convergence Industry-Academia Research Center


INU Jemulpo Campus



 Specialized in the Environmental Industry

 The only participation of central government departments

 Participation in Incheon National University, a leading start-up in Korea

 Korea's Largest Environmental Industry Infrastructure Area

# Innopolis Innovation Cluster's vision



Link

# IIC Confex & I.NERGY Symposium



# Korea - Central Asia Science & Technology Center

"Promote Mid-to Long-Term international Cooperation on S&T Development

**Establish a sustainable cooperation system linking technology, human resources, and industry via the K-CAST Center**

◆ Establish a Sustainable Korea-Central Asia Future Platform through an S&T-Based Dev. Cooperation Model ◆

Networking

Talent Exchange

Tech Coop.

01

**Foundation & Outreach**

02

**Cooperation & Execution**

03

**Expansion & Sustainability**

Initial Structure Formation :  
talent discovery, conferences, platform building

**1. Establish and Build an Operational Base for the Center (Including Platform)**

- Establish branch/cooperation centers in 6 partner countries
- Hold regular ops committee meetings (6)

**- Build tech business platform**

**2. Host annual international conference**

- Operate Central Asia special sessions (3)
- Invite 10 outstanding Central Asian researchers

**3. Support talent exchange and recruitment activities**

- Hold promotion sessions in major cities of partner countries (3)
- Select 10 trainees for KOICA degree programs

Implementation of cooperation projects :  
joint research, ODA linkage, tech trend analysis

**4. Tech Trends & Domestic Expansion**

- Conduct tech trend surveys & publish result-sharing reports (3)
- R&BD surveys at INU & IIC



**5. Strengthen Networks for Joint Research & Tech Cooperation**

- On/offline joint workshops & forums (4)
- MOUs with research institutes & universities in each country (15)

**6. Joint ODA Project Identification & Linkage**

- Plan joint research projects (6)
- Identify & propose ODA-linked projects (3)

Settlement Stage :  
Demo Cooperation, Platform Use, Sustainability

**7. Develop Sustainable Operation Strategies & Foundation**

- Implement demonstration projects through tech cooperation (3)

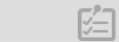
**8. Match Korean Tech Companies with Central Asia Tech Needs & Demonstration Cooperation**

- Match excellent technologies based on local demand (3)

**9. Utilize Tech Business Platform & Support Local Expansion**

- Secure partners and participants; sign 20 MOUs

Final Goal



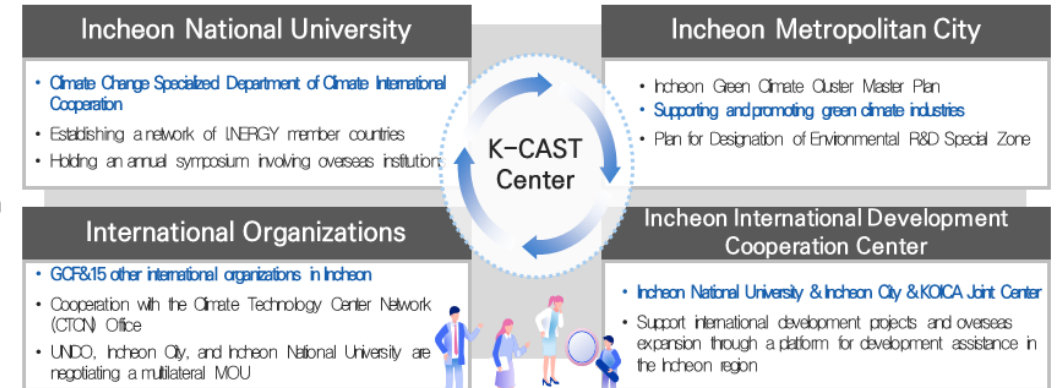
Three Strategic Objectives



Detailed Implementation Objectives

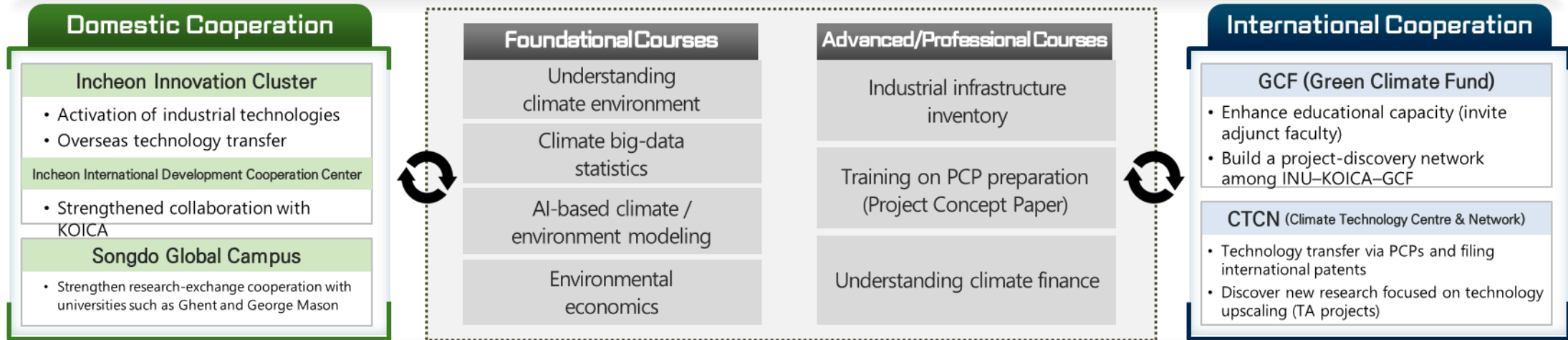
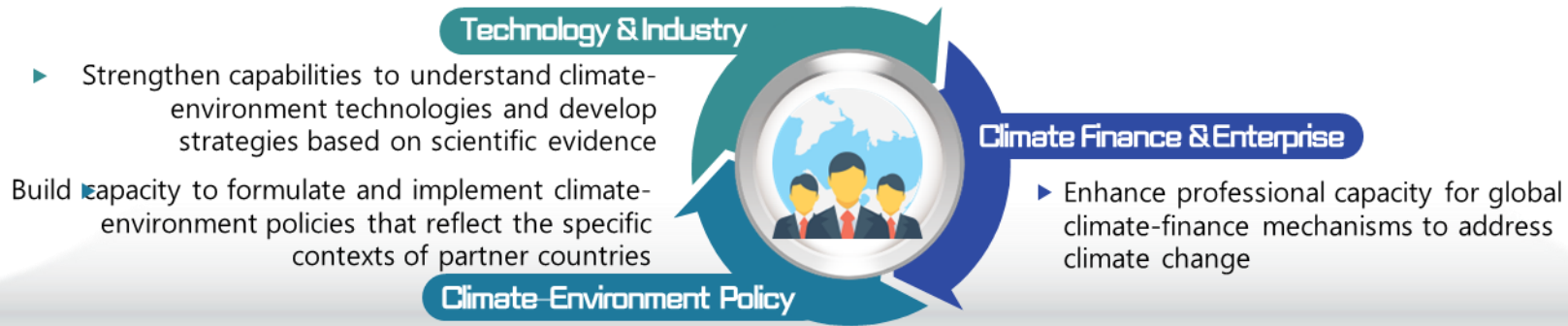
# Korea - Central Asia Science & Technology Center

- ▣ The project's principal investigator, Prof. Heekwan Lee, established I.ENERGY in 2011, building a coop. network spanning 30 countries worldwide
- ▣ Sustain active academic & tech exchanges on environment, energy, climate with I.ENERGY and International organizations (KOICA, GCF, CTCN, UNDP, UNIDO).



# INU-KOICA Degree Program

## Training Convergence Climate Environment Infrastructure Experts Focused on Partner Countries

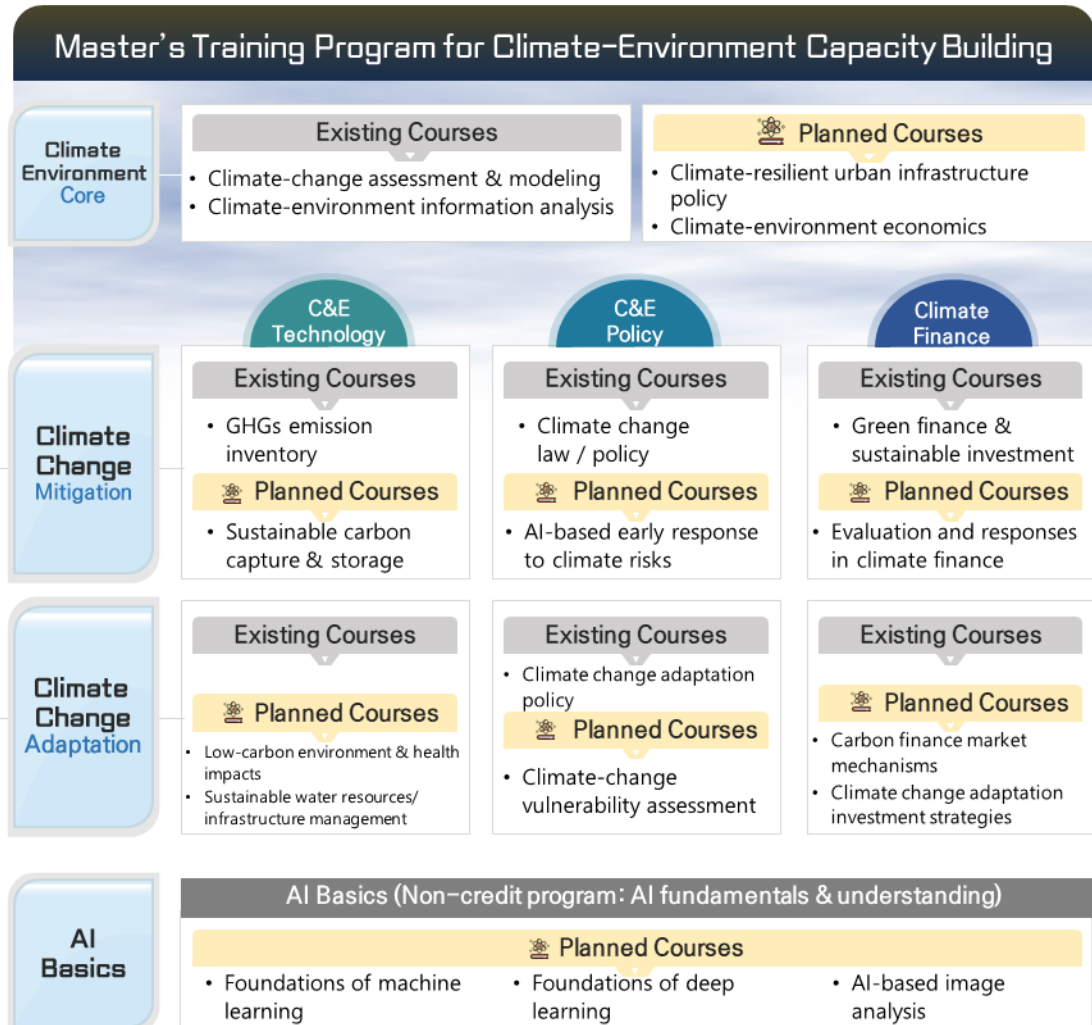


Dissemination of K-Climate & Environment Industrial Technologies

Improvement of Climate-Environment Governance Systems

Linkage with Climate Finance

## Operation of Capacity Building Professional Track



### Modular Curriculum

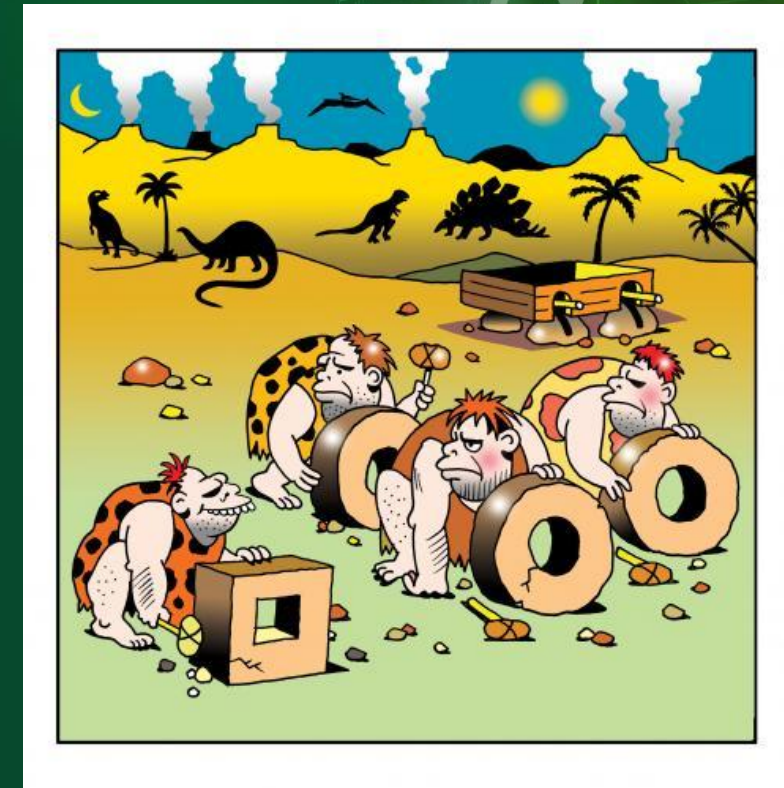
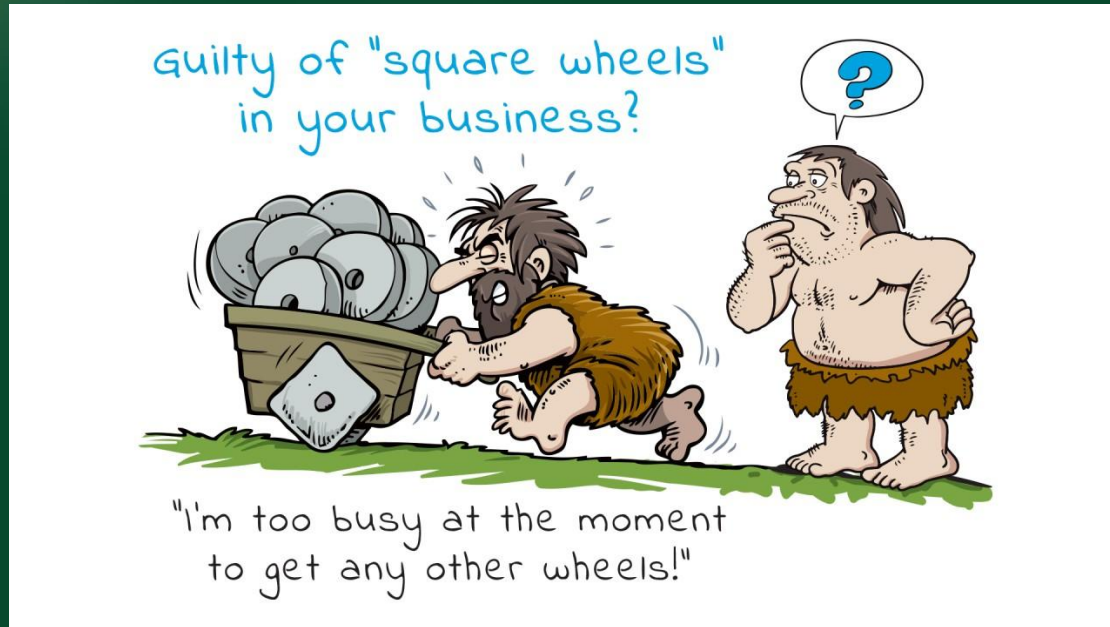
- Learner-centered, capacity-building modular program, combining the pillars  
(Climate-Environment Technology + Climate-Environment Policy + Climate Finance) with focus areas Climate-change Mitigation and Climate-change Adaptation

### Thesis Supervision & Degree Conferment

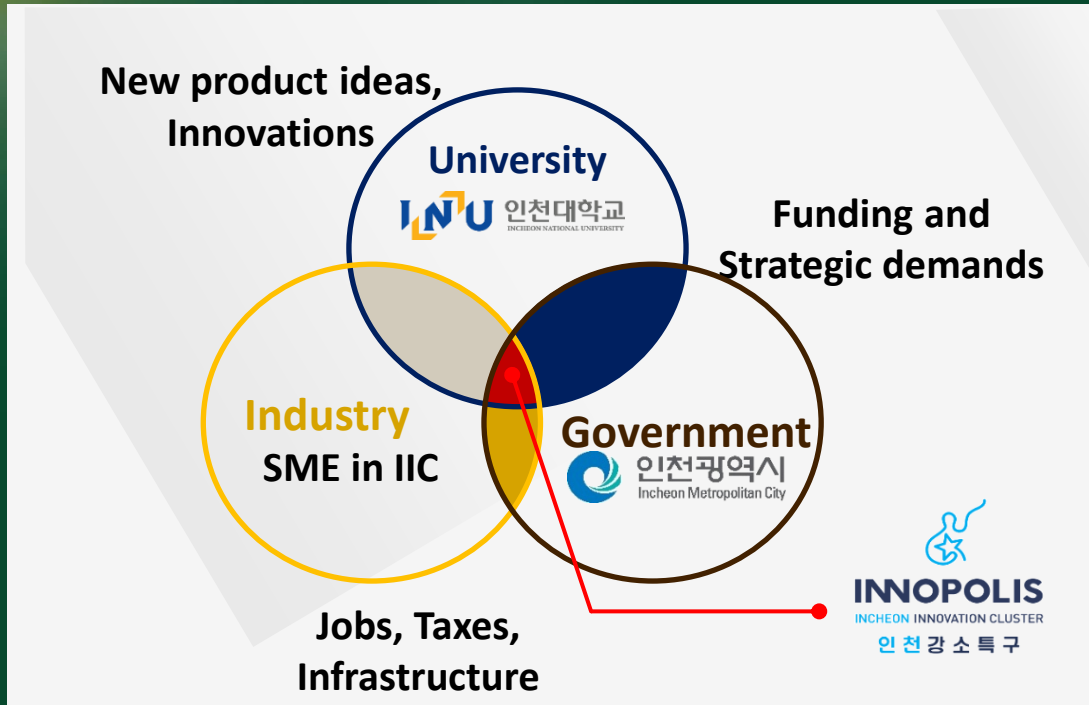
- One-to-one thesis advising with ad-hoc meetings with the advisor
- Thesis topics selected to align with each participant's country needs in climate change and the environment
- Build research networks that connect advisors and their home institutions
- Degree awarded according to thesis-committee composition and academic regulations.



# Innovation & team work ??



# Incheon Innovation Cluster for Environment / Climate Technology





# Korea **ICT convergence environmental technology** based Incheon Environment Innovation Cluster will lead ...



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**INNOPOLIS<sup>+</sup>**  
INCHEON SEOGU INNOVATION CLUSTER

**INNOPOLIS<sup>+</sup>**  
INCHEON INNOVATION CLUSTER