

Main challenges for Economic and Financial analysis (CBA) in the R&D Sector

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JASPERS & Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

 ***“Imagination is more important than knowledge.”***

These were the words of the famous physicist Albert Einstein, who went on to say that "Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."



 ***..there are dark secrets of the Universe***

In fact, astronomers and physicists have found that all we see in the Universe – planets, stars, galaxies – accounts for only a tiny 4% of it! In a way, it is not so much the visible things that define the Universe, but rather the void around them.



National CBA Guidelines on R&D

- **Developed jointly by MEYS and JASPERS**
- **Based on EIB expertise and dialogue with the DG-REGIO Commission**
- **Consistent with Operational Programme Research and Development for Innovations**
- **Valid for all projects co-financed by Structural Funds in R&D infrastructure**
- **In line with general CBA Guidance documents (WD 4; Guide to CBA 2008)**
 - Rationale and objectives
 - What is a CBA and why/when perform it (major projects)
 - General methodological Approach (discount rates, reference period, etc.)



Key challenge to adapt general CBA Guidelines to the R&D Infrastructures





Steps for Feasibility and CBA in R&D

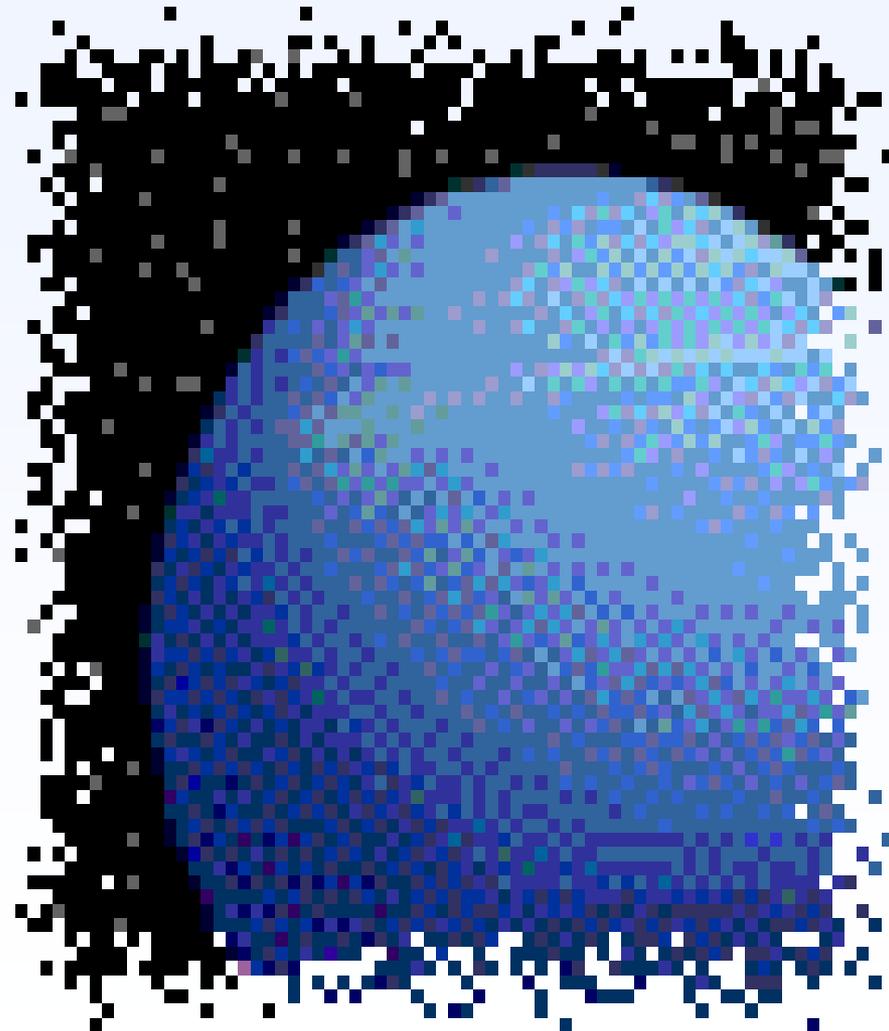
- ✓ **Analysis of the socio-economic context (A)**
- ✓ **The logic of intervention (A)**
- ✓ **Analysis of Demand (D)**
- ✓ **Institutional and Legal Analysis (J)**
- ✓ **Technical Analysis (D)**
- ✓ **Project Management (W)**
- ✓ **Financial Analysis (A and M)**
- ✓ **Socio-Economic Benefits (P and D)**
- ✓ **Sensitivity analysis and risk analysis (A and J)**
- 📖 **Key challenge no R&D manual can be perfect.....this is a working tool**





Main Issues for R&D projects

- ✓ **R&D infrastructure:**
 - ✓ Physical infrastructure
 - ✓ Research programmes
 - ✓ Way to conduct research
- ✓ **Both tangible and intangibles**
- ✓ **Require long term-planning, design, implementation**
- ✓ **High uncertainty of results**
- ✓ **High potential pay-offs**
- ✓ **Diffused innovation process**
- ✓ **Non appropriable economic benefits**
- 📖 **Key challenge....to quantify financial and economic returns of uncertain results**





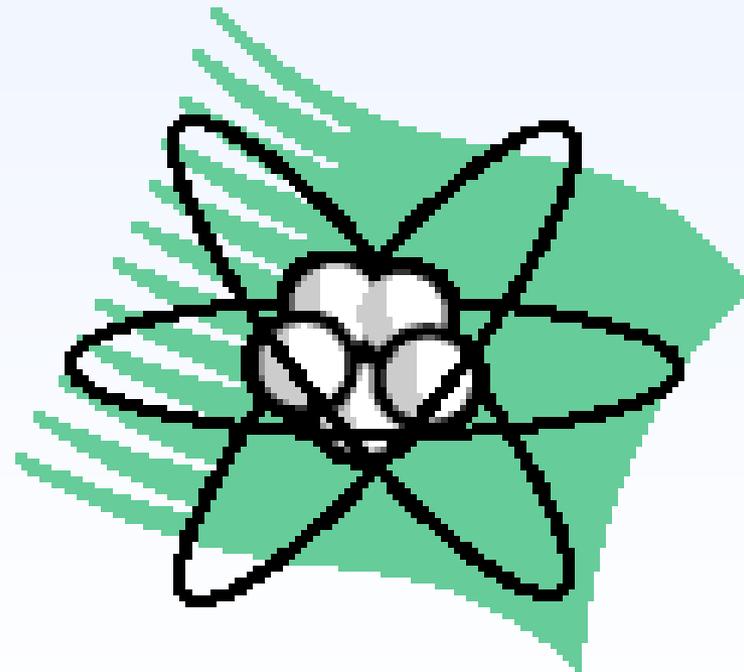
Key drivers in R&D are intangible assets

- ✓ Quality of management
- ✓ Decision making criteria for project selection
- ✓ Overall know-how and track record of the research staff
- ✓ Ability to benchmark for excellence
- ✓ HR policies to retain talent
- ✓ Mechanisms for partnerships
- ✓ Reputation

📖 Key challenge... a structured CBA approach and quantitative criteria cannot capture the “firmament of innovation activity”

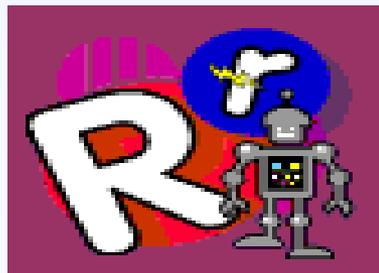


- ✓ **Location of the project**
 - **International access, utilities, links to Universities and Research centres**
 - **Innovation parks**
- ✓ **Socio-economic background**
 - ✓ **Housing, schooling**
 - ✓ **Academic demography**
- ✓ **Status of the research base**
 - ✓ **Why is the RI needed?**
- ✓ **Sector Policies and strategic documents: OP RDI**
 - ✓ **Centres of Excellence (ERA and ESFRI links)**
 - ✓ **Regional R&D Centres**
- ✓ **Links with EU and other international policies**
 - ✓ **Lisbon Agenda**
 - ✓ **ERA**
 - ✓ **Sector Documents**





- **Planned research objectives**
 - Description of the programmes and project
 - Economic Application
 - Social Application
- **Expected project outcomes**
 - Added Value
- **Existing research programmes and activities**
 - Scientific track records
- **Links to industry**
 - Are there contracts already with industry?



Identification of the Project (2)

■ Examples of selected Projects Planned

<i>Sub-Project Title N.1</i>	
<i>The implementing institution</i>	
<i>Description</i>	
<i>Economic application</i>	
<i>Social application</i>	
<i>Sub-Project Title N.1</i>	
<i>The implementing institution</i>	
<i>Description</i>	
<i>Economic application</i>	
<i>Social application</i>	<i>Source: Internal source</i>
<i>Add as many projects as relevant</i>	

Identification of the Project (3)

■ Added-Value: example

<i>No</i>	<i>Name of the indicator</i>	<i>Unit of measure</i>	<i>Present state (2008)</i>	<i>Added value of the project (2018 or)</i>	<i>Justification of the project's impact on the realization of the assumptions</i>
	<i>Number of scientific workers</i>	<i>Person</i>			<i>E.g. New and extended laboratories, more research projects</i>
	<i>Number of graduate and PhD students</i>	<i>Person</i>			<i>New and extended laboratories, more research projects</i>
	<i>Number of agreements with foreign research entities in the last year</i>	<i>Piece</i>			<i>Cutting-edge equipment, more research projects</i>
	<i>Number of co-operating businesses in the last year</i>	<i>Piece</i>			<i>Widening the offer for entrepreneurs thanks to the new infrastructure</i>
	<i>Number of patent applications (last 3 years)</i>	<i>Piece</i>			<i>More development projects</i>
	<i>Number of research projects conducted or finished in the last 3 years (including international projects)</i>	<i>Piece</i>			
	<i>Annual number of citations</i>	<i>Piece</i>			

