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# Oulu Innovation Alliance – A smart innovation ecosystem in the Northern Sparsely Populated Area



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# Smart innovation ecosystem includes...

- Smart Public authorities
- Smart Private sector
- Smart People
- ... In Smart Partnership



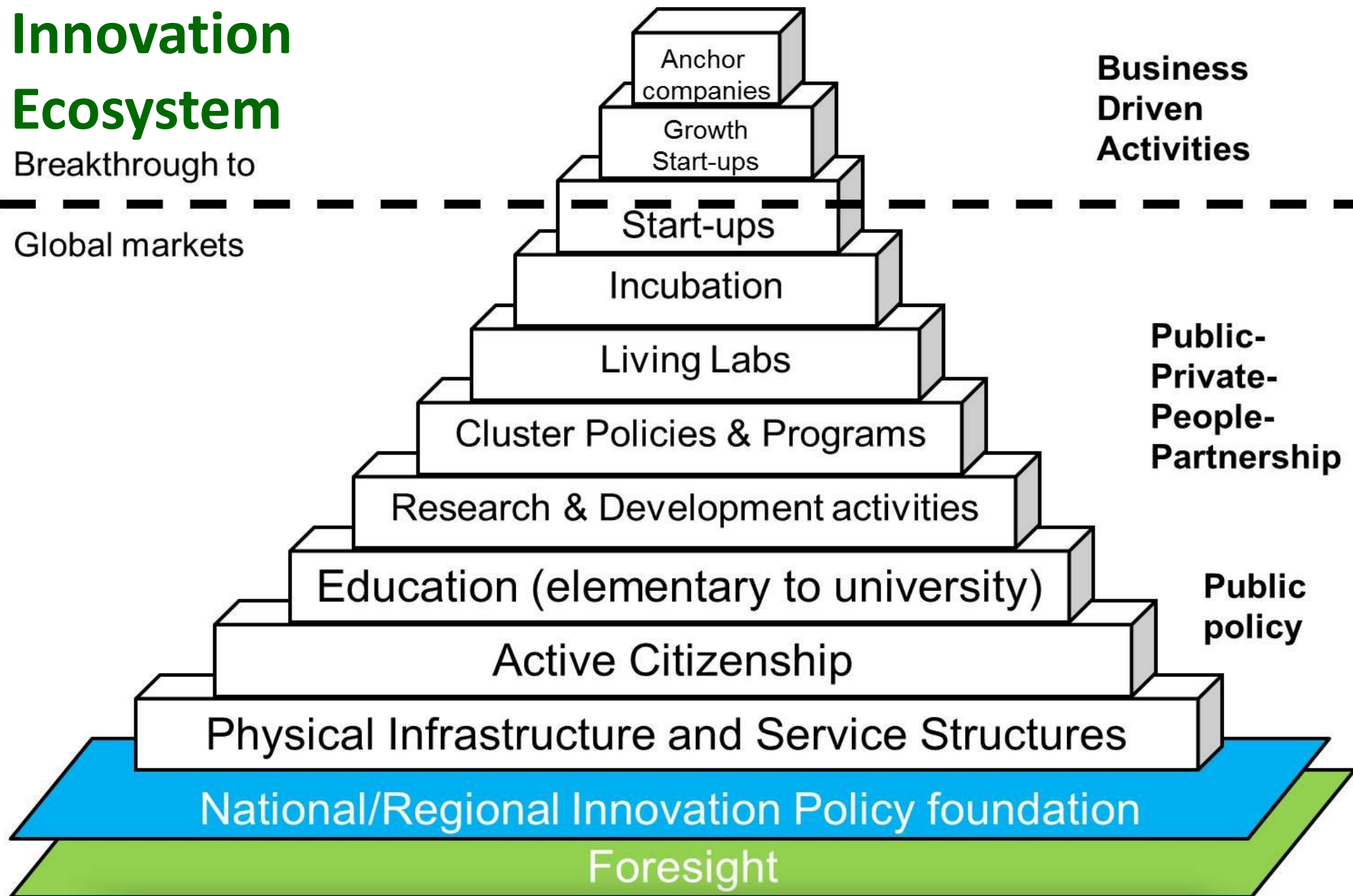
# Innovation Ecosystem

Breakthrough to  
Global markets

**Business  
Driven  
Activities**

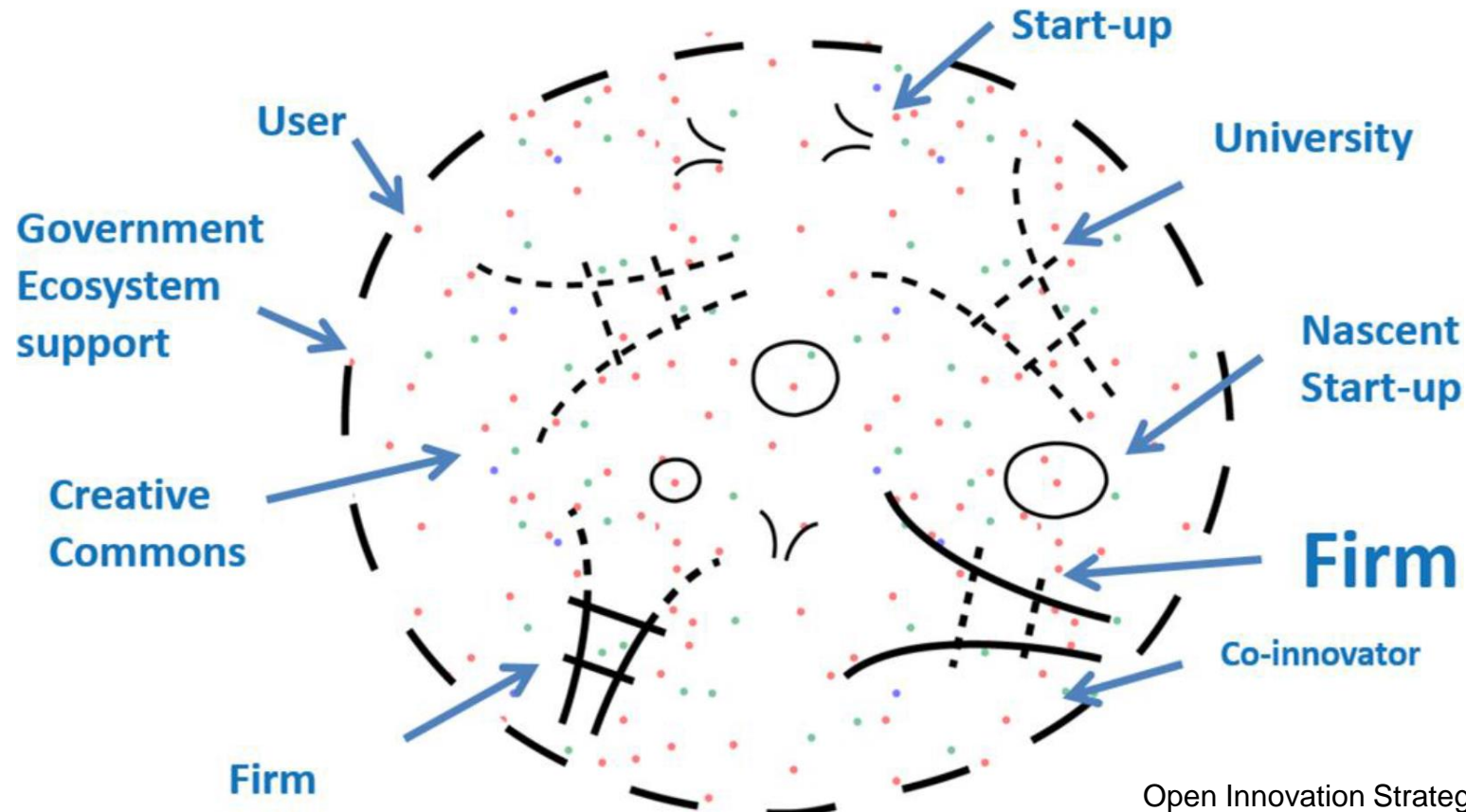
**Public-  
Private-  
People-  
Partnership**

**Public  
policy**



# Open Innovation 2.0

Public Private People Partnership creating business



Open Innovation Strategy and Policy Group



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# 15 SURPRISING GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY CITIES

## Oulu, Finland

While Finland is best known as the birthplace of Nokia, the real growth these days in the country is coming from the city of Oulu. The area surrounding the city boasts two science parks, a number of research institutes and the city is considered a "living lab" — since residents often experiment with new technology on a broad scale.



# Oulu is strong in...

- ICT,
- Health and wellbeing,
- Internet,
- Printed intelligence,
- Cleantech,
- Energy and environment
- Global business knowhow



# We can test everything in practice

- With real users from different segments,
  - In real situations
  - Being more than a Living Lab
- 
- 700 people are ready to test anything
  - Product testing in real healthcare environment
  - Northern Finland Birth Cohort 1966



# Oulu Innovation Alliance - Background

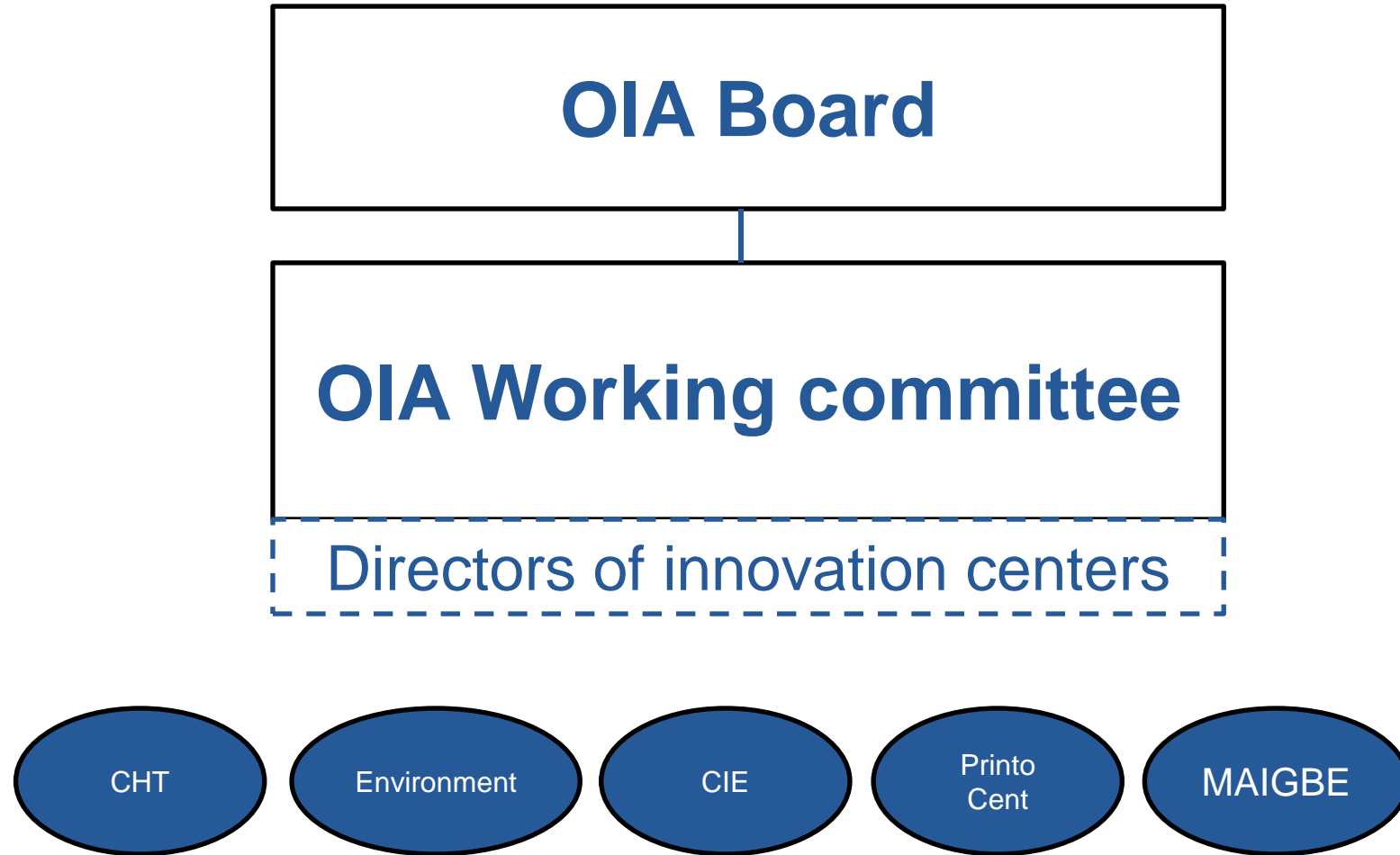
- Long tradition in hi-tech as well as co-operation between education and research institutes, companies and public sector.
- As a continuation of the cooperation a strategic innovation alliance agreement was signed in 2009.
- The Oulu Innovation Alliance was formed between the City of Oulu, University of Oulu, Oulu University of Applied Sciences, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland and Technopolis.



# Oulu Innovation Alliance

- Oulu Innovation Alliance aims to keep Oulu as an internationally acknowledged center for innovation.
- The OIA founding partners have committed
  1. To focus their operations, education, research and development activities on agreed innovation areas.
  2. To invest in the development of agreed infrastructures.
  3. To create and develop mechanisms for mutual use.
- The focus areas were agreed as Internet research, printed electronics, international business, environment and healthcare sectors.

# Oulu Innovation Alliance - structure



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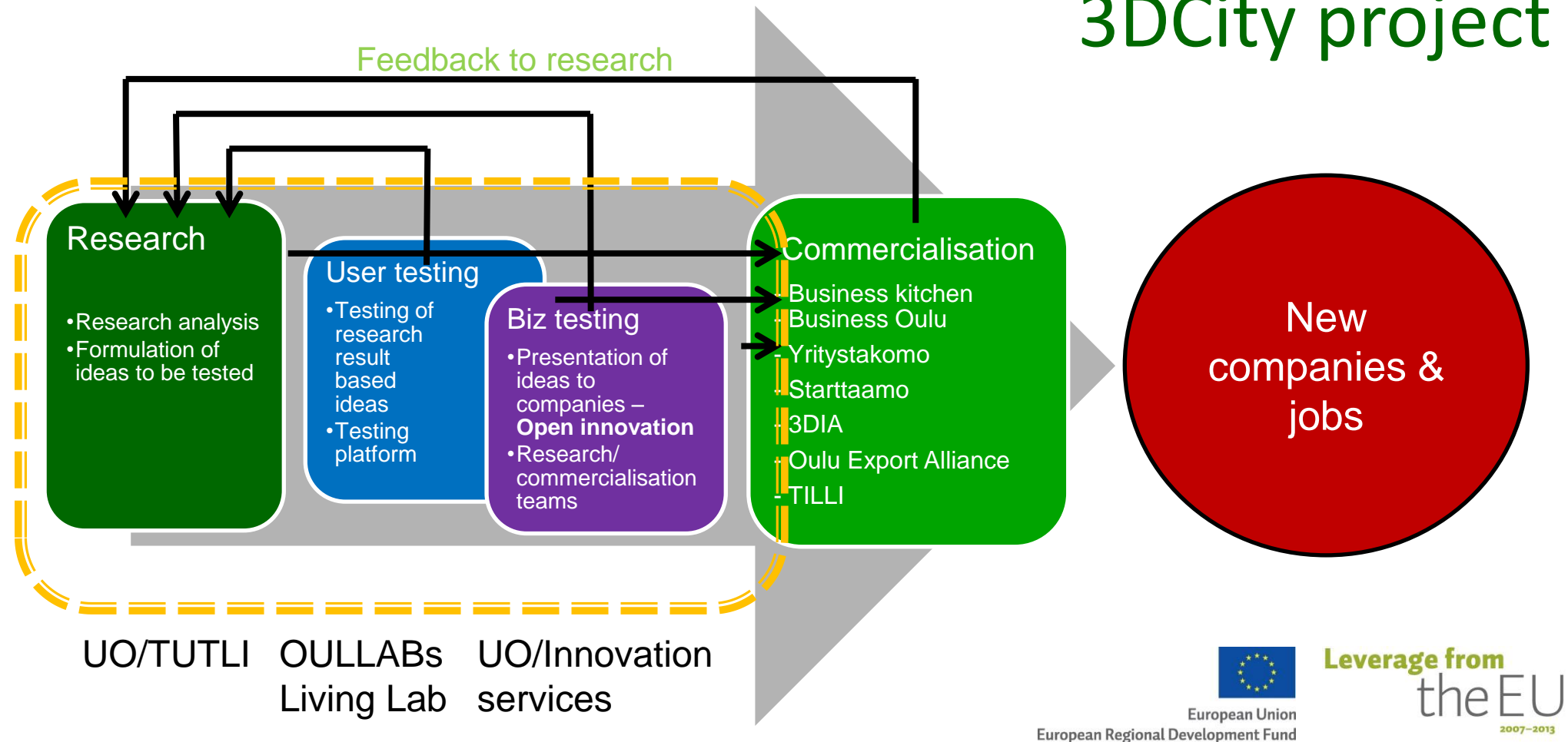
- **Research and innovation** unit focuses to future internet, novel Internet user experience and sustainable development for smart societies
- Combines **leading-edge Internet research** and **new infrastructures**, with special focus on emerging 3D technologies.
- Provides **unique environment** to combine research and **network partners** from different fields in a practical setup.
- Established 2009, staff ~25, annual budget 2,5M€



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# CIE commercialising research results process

## 3DCity project



European Union  
European Regional Development Fund

Leverage from  
the EU  
2007–2013



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# Oulu Smart Innovation Infrastructures



- Innovative public service infrastructures – for example Innovative schools deploying ICT and free wifi/panoulu
- People actively participating in development of new innovations - PATIO test user community
- Technopolis Plc. – Premises and support services for 20 000 people and 1 400 companies and organizations
- The latest addition to the Oulu innovation infrastructure will be virtual 3D Oulu

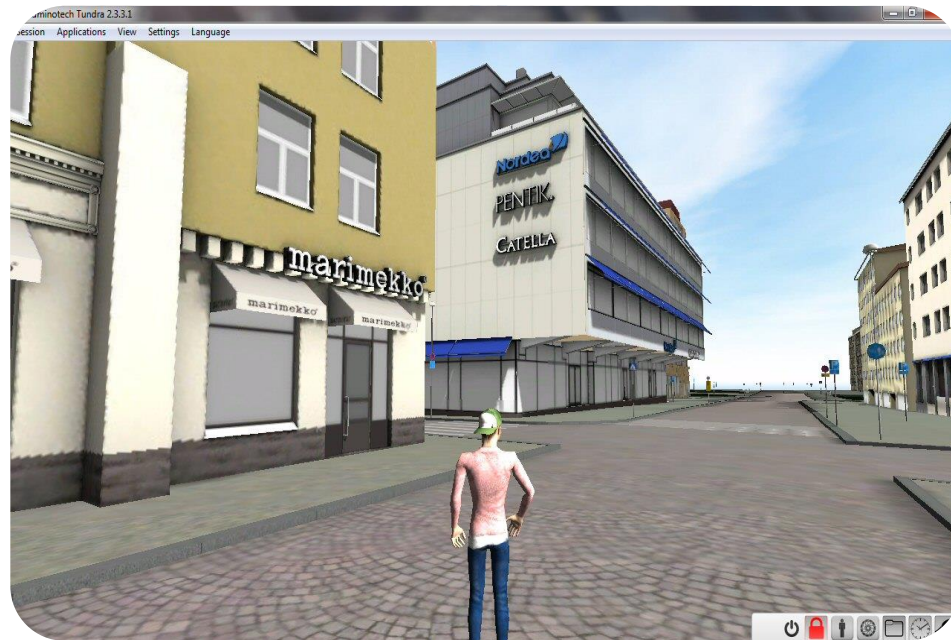


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**"3D City Oulu"**





# Annual Air Guitar World Championships in Oulu



# City of Oulu as an innovation environment

- Cooperation is a central strength –
  - PublicPrivatePeoplePartnership - Multidisciplinary
- Internationally acknowledged excellence
  - Smart Specialisation
- Innovative policy and concrete activities supporting business

**Oulu will be a competitive and successful innovation ecosystem also in future**



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# Thank you!

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<http://www.businessoulu.com/en/innovation-environments/oulu-innovation-alliance.html>

[www.cie.fi](http://www.cie.fi)

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