2013 i6 Challenge: Seeding Regional Innovation Ecosystems

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Connecting Resources to Support a Strong Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

Regional Ecosystems

- Leverage Points for Sustainable and Inclusive Prosperity

Public-Private Partnerships

- Spatial Efficiency

Human Capital

- Innovation-Infrastructure

Human Capital

Innovation Infrastructure

Public-Private Partnerships

Spatial Efficiency

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The i6 Challenge

History
- Launched in 2009 by Economic Development Administration, with support from the National Science Foundation, USPTO & NIST
- Over 300 unique applications received over the last three years
- Strong applications from the Northeast, West Coast and Midwest regions. Pockets of strength in Southeast, Southwest and Mountain regions
- 50% of lead organizations are regional technology-based economic development organizations
- 50% of lead organizations are major research universities
- 19 winners selected so far
- Broad diversity of topics – clean tech, life sciences, telecommunications, agriculture, education, medical devices
- $1 million from Economic Development Administration + $1 million match from private sources + SBIR funding from NSF ($3 million total)
- Support from Energy, Agriculture, EPA, SBA and others
2013 Project Framework

- **Innovation**: Projects that nurture innovation broadly, and market-based applications for that innovation specifically.

- **Entrepreneurship**: Projects that develop a large number of high-growth entrepreneurs across disciplines and create an ecosystem for those entrepreneurs to experiment and commercialize their innovation.

- **Regional Economic Development**: Projects that drive economic development through the lens of innovation and entrepreneurship.

- **Commercialization of Research**: Projects that convert ideas, research or prototypes into viable products and services that can be monetized and brought to market in a financially manageable and rapid manner.
i6 Applications are evaluated in the five key areas:

**Five Key Areas**

1. More Entrepreneurship
2. Better Quality – with respect to a product or service
3. Companies Stay in the Region
4. Long-term Culture Change
5. Sustainability of i6 Center
I6 Challenge Winner Profiles

University of Akron / Austen Bioinnovation Institute

- Life sciences and device technology commercialization
- Partnerships with NSF and major state funders
- Partnerships with Timken and other companies

Innovation Works and Carnegie Mellon University – Philadelphia Region

- Agile Innovation System that accelerates technology commercialization

The University of California, Davis and the Sacramento Area Regional Technology Alliance (SARTA) – Seattle Region

- Clean AgTech Innovation Center that catalyze commercialization of sustainable agriculture technologies.
REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGIES:
SMART INVESTMENTS TO ACCELERATE JOB AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
2010-2012 Regional Innovation Strategies Awards

2010 i6 Challenge
1. Atlanta, GA- The Global Center for Medical Innovation
2. New Mexico- New Mexico Technology Ventures Corporation
3. Akron, OH- Innovative Solutions for Invention Xceleration
4. St. Louis, MO- BioGenerator
5. Southwestern PA- Agile Innovation System
6. Oregon- Oregon Innovation Cluster

2011 i6 Green Challenge
1. Ames, Iowa- Iowa Innovation Network i6 Green Project
2. Holland, Michigan- Proof of Concept Center for Green Chemistry Scale-up
4. Orlando, Florida- Igniting Innovation (I2) Cleantech Acceleration Network
5. Ruston, Louisiana- Louisiana Tech Proof of Concept Center

2010 Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
1. AZ- Growing the Southern Arizona Aerospace and Defense Region
2. CA- Advanced Manufacturing Medical/Biosciences Pipeline for Economic Development (AM2PED)
4. NY- A Proposal to Accelerate Innovations in Advanced Manufacturing of Thermal and Environmental Control Systems (Syracuse University)
5. NY- Rochester Regional Optics, Photonics & Imaging Accelerator
6. OK- Manufacturing Improvement Program for the Oil and Gas Industry Supply Chain and Marketing Cluster
7. PA- Agile Electro-Mechanical Product Accelerator
8. PA/DE/NJ- Greater Philadelphia Advanced Manufacturing Innovation and Skills Accelerator
9. TN- AMP!- Advanced Manufacturing and Prototyping Center of East Tennessee
10. WA/OR- Innovations in Advanced Materials and Metals (IAM2)

2011 Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
1. Northern, Maine- GreenME
2. Finger Lakes, NY- Finger Lakes Food Processing Cluster Initiative
4. Pittsburgh, PA- Southwestern Pennsylvania Revitalization
5. Northeast, OH- Northeast Ohio Speed-to-Market Accelerator
8. GA- Atlanta Health Information Technology Cluster
9. FL- Space Coast Clean Energy Jobs Accelerator
10. Milwaukee, WI-Milwaukee Regional Water Accelerator Project
11. Rockford, IL- Rockford Area Aerospace Cluster
12. St. Louis, MO- St. Louis Bioscience Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Project
13. Northeast, MN- Minnesota’s Mining Cluster
14. South Central, KS- Center for Innovation and Enterprise Engagement
15. AR, MO, OK- The ARK: Acceleration, Resources, Knowledge
16. MO and KS- KC Regional Jobs Accelerator
17. MT, ND, SD- Upper Missouri Tribal Environmental Risk Mitigation
18. Puget Sound, WA- Washington Interactive Media Accelerator
19. OR and WA- Portland Regional Clean Tech Advance Initiative
20. San Diego, CA- San Diego-Imperial Valley Renewable Energy Generation Training and Demonstration Center
Broad-Based Agency Overlap: Ability to Innovate Across Sectors

Sector focus area – i6 Centers:
• Iowa Innovation Center – Biofuels Commercialization
• Georgia Tech / GCMI – Medical Devices
• UC Davis / SARTA – agricultural technologies
• U. Wisconsin – dairy innovation
• New England Clean Energy Partnership – clean tech
• University of Missouri – information technologies & big data
• University of Virginia / Va Tech / SRI – rural technologies

POCC’s in new sectors
• University of Pennsylvania – education technologies
• Tulane University – social innovation
• University of Alaska – defense technologies
• Rutgers University – food-based innovation
• Bay Area Houston – space technologies
I6/ Proof of Concept Network

White House Conference Center – Tuesday, October 2, 2012

• Launch of network of winners and privately funded proof of concept centers

• Sharing best-practices, fundraising and company support

• Connecting commercialization opportunities across federal agencies

“Connecting Resources to Support a Strong Entrepreneurial Ecosystem”
A Brief Overview of the i6 Challenge Award Proposal

- A Joint Application with Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron Innovative Solutions for Invention Xceleration (ISIX)
- Awarded in September 2010
- Sponsored National i6 Conference in April, 2011

Figure 1. Innovation is a multi-step and multi-faceted process with many players and moving parts. While we believe that innovation cannot be forced, it can be encouraged and supported at critical steps to increase the probability of successful technology commercialization leading to business development and job creation.
i6 Outcomes

- 2001-2009: 11
- 2010: 25
- 2011: 122
- 2010-2012: 211

- 24 Funded Projects to date
  - PacerMan
  - VibraEase
  - Uterine Manipulator

- 3 Licenses
  - PacerMan
  - Pipette Syringe
  - Mouth Guard

- 6 Companies Spun out
  - AptoOrtho
  - PolyMed Tech
  - Design Flux Technologies, LLC
  - GorMonjee Inc
  - Gadzco International, LLC
  - Guaranteed Horse Products

- 17 Projects in Prototype stage

Flowchart:
- Invention Disclosure
- IP & Market Assessments
- Technology Funded Projects
- Active Projects/Prototypes
- Licenses
- Spin Out Companies
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