### Three day International Workshop on

# "Technoparks: Opportunity to Seize a Lever of Competitiveness"

January 30, 2018 to February 1, 2018 Islamabad, Pakistan

#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

Name (As per passport)
Designation
Institution/Organization
Highest Qualification
Present Field of Activity
Postal Address
City Country
Passport No.
Passport Expiry
Tel Fax
Email
Only for Foreign Participants
Boarding & Lodging Required Yes No
Enclosed copy of first two pages of passport
Signature
Date ———

Last date for registration as a participant is January 15, 2018

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## **Organized By**













Three day International Workshop on Technoparks: Opportunity to Seize a Lever of Competitiveness



INSTP-IDB-COMSTECH Joint Program on:Capacity Development Program of the StaffOf the Science and Technology Parks of theMember Countries

#### Introduction

Science and Technology parks or Techno-parks include people, institutions, and companies that are at once; **buyers/clients** (they invest, they rent space in the incubator or the industrial area), **free users** (they benefit from the local and international social networking, they buy services from other local firms and from universities located in the park), **and partners** (they collaborate with other buyers/clients and with the science park itself to develop collaborative projects). Nevertheless Technoparks are not objects of consensus definition and are much less unique, varying in extent and in the proportion of their goals.

Silicon Valley (USA), originally known as Stanford University Science Park, in the early 1950s, followed by Sophia Antipolis (France) in Europe in the 1960s, and the Tsukuba Science City (Japan) in Asia in the early 1970s, represent earliest and most well-known trio of science parks in the world. According to UNESCO, there are over 400 science parks worldwide and their number is still growing. USA, having more than 150 science parks tops the list next to Japan with 111 science parks. China began developing science parks in the mid-1980s and now has around 100, while Pakistan's neighboring country, Iran has 16 Science and Technology Parks according to UNESCO.

Following the Oil crisis in 60s, most advanced countries increasingly recognized that innovation was a crucial element of competitiveness in the manufacturing and service sectors. Furthermore recent academic analysis has shown that no mechanical relationship exists between investment in R&D and innovation; rather, new products and processes appear to be the result of the involvement of many companies and institutions in a common endeavor. Innovation is therefore seldom an outcome of the effort of a single company or institution.

As a result, governments have begun to direct resources to stimulate the emergence and strengthening of clusters of firms, link with research institutions and universities, and knowledge dissemination as well as making efforts to gain competitive advantage in the knowledge economy. Technoparks are a particular feature of these new policies. While there is the potential for establishing new parks and technopoles in most countries, a number of relatively important cities do not yet have the necessary infrastructure, or the absorption capacity at the national level.

Support policies are required for enhancing capacity of parks to contribute to the development of entrepreneurship, and in this regard, to generate spillover effects, and more generally to enhance the local culture of innovation.

Promoting a science park project is necessary not only to attract companies but also to spread the technopole culture. The science park, in collaboration with public research and technological development centers, must ensure that facilities and services are adequate to meet the demand for applied research and technology transfer. This concept has become highly relevant to emerging economies aspiring to see there economic growth relying on indigenous technology development.

Cognizant of these challenges, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT), Islamabad in partnership with Inter-Islamic Network of Science Technology Parks (INSTP), Iran; OIC Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH), Islamabad; ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), Islamabad; Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and the Ministry of Science and Technology, Islamabad is jointly organizing a three day International workshop on "Techno-parks: Opportunity to seize a lever of competitiveness", at CIIT, Islamabad on 30<sup>th</sup> January to 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

## **Aims and Objectives**

This Workshop aims to introduce the concept of Techno-parks to most relevant stakeholders. The main objective of the Workshop is developing capability of the participants to understand and possibly develop a draft concept of a Techno-park, keeping in view the issues around the establishment as well as the impact of Technoparks to the overall technology entrepreneurship environment, also participants will be acquainted with the challenge of building competitiveness amid globalization and rapid technological change, learning from regional examples. The specific objectives of the sessions include:

- To raise understanding of the participants on Technoparks, including their policy concept, key elements and implementation roadmaps;
- To explore an enabling framework for Technoparks for enhancing the national technological capacities; and

 To provide a platform for researchers, policy planners, STP managers and administrators involved in the Technopark policy planning and implementation to share experiences and ideas.

#### **Focus Areas**

The following are few of the major focus areas of the Workshop:

- The Concept of Techno-parks;
  - What is a Techno-park?
  - Why and by whom is it developed?
  - What are its main functions?
  - What is the importance of a Techno-park?
  - What are its implementation strategies?
  - What is benefit to the national economy?
- Other Complementary Concepts;
- Competitive advantage that Technoparks foster;
- Impact of Technoparks on Entrepreneurship;
- How to foster start-ups and business transfer within a Technopark;
- Learning from best regional practices in Technoparks
- Initiating a draft concept of a Technopark

## **Who Should Attend**

The participants are expected to be middle to high-level planners, scientific administrators, academicians, researchers, and S&T professionals/experts involved in the entrepreneurial ecosystem of universities of the Region or officials from University Offices of Research Innovation and Commercialization or STP Managers etc.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

At least a Master Degree holder having work experience in the areas relevant to the workshop title.