

Perspectives of the marine and maritime open access research infrastructure development in Lithuania

Saulius Gulbinskas, Asta Raugalienė

Association “Baltic Valley”, Klaipeda

Are EU innovation and research policies making a difference in regions of the Baltic Sea area?

16-17 September 2010, Lahti

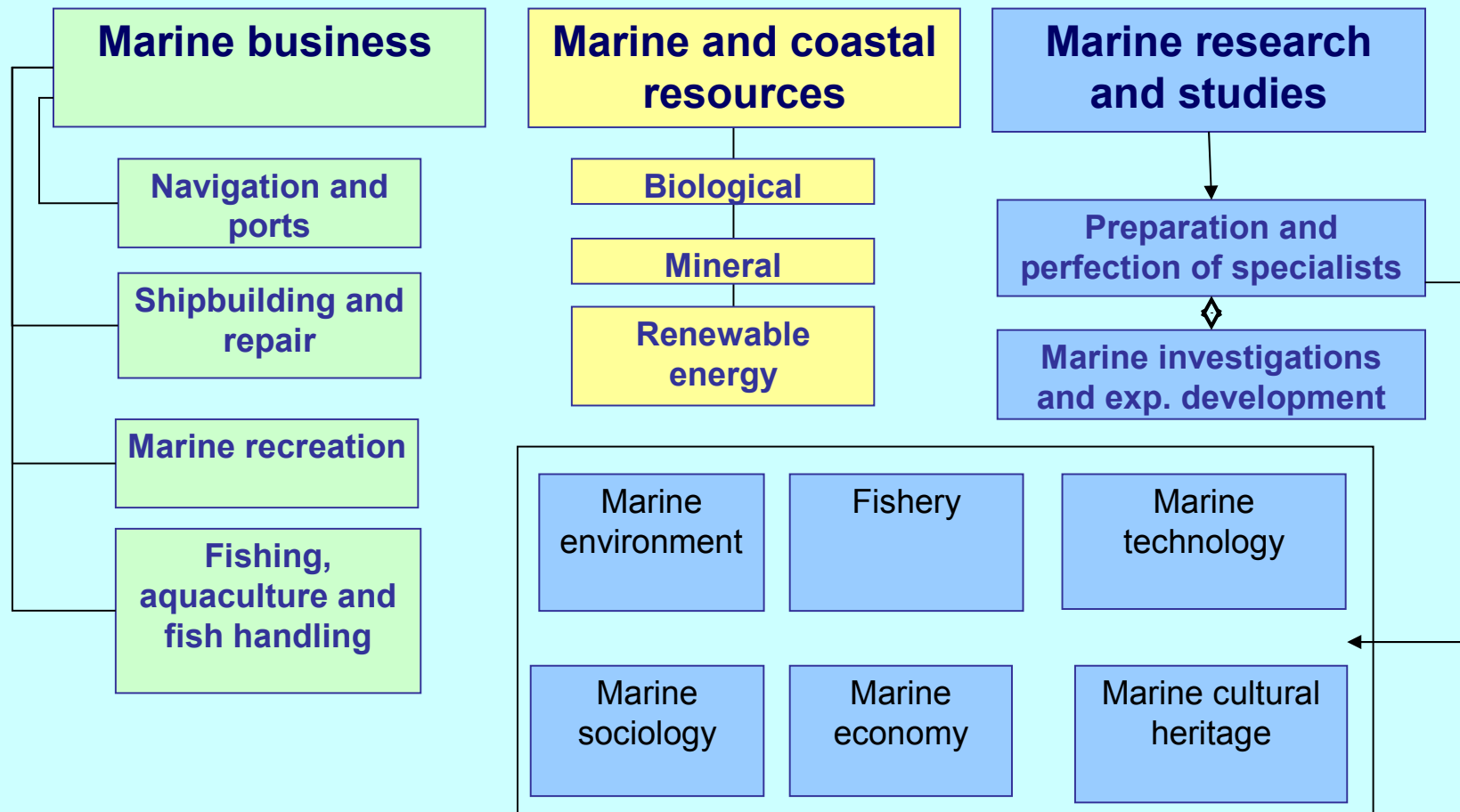
www.balticvalley.lt

Driving forces

For the implementation of the integrated maritime policy of the EU in Lithuania new approach was needed, focusing on:

- integrated balance of interests;
- achievements in marine science and technology.

Marine Sector of Lithuania



Plan of Regional Development for 2007-2013 foresees the region as:

- An important part of the international multimodal transport net;
- The region of competitive industry;
- The leading region of recreation, tourism and culture in Lithuania and the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea;
- The centre of Lithuanian marine science, studies and business having strong cooperation with local authorities and community.

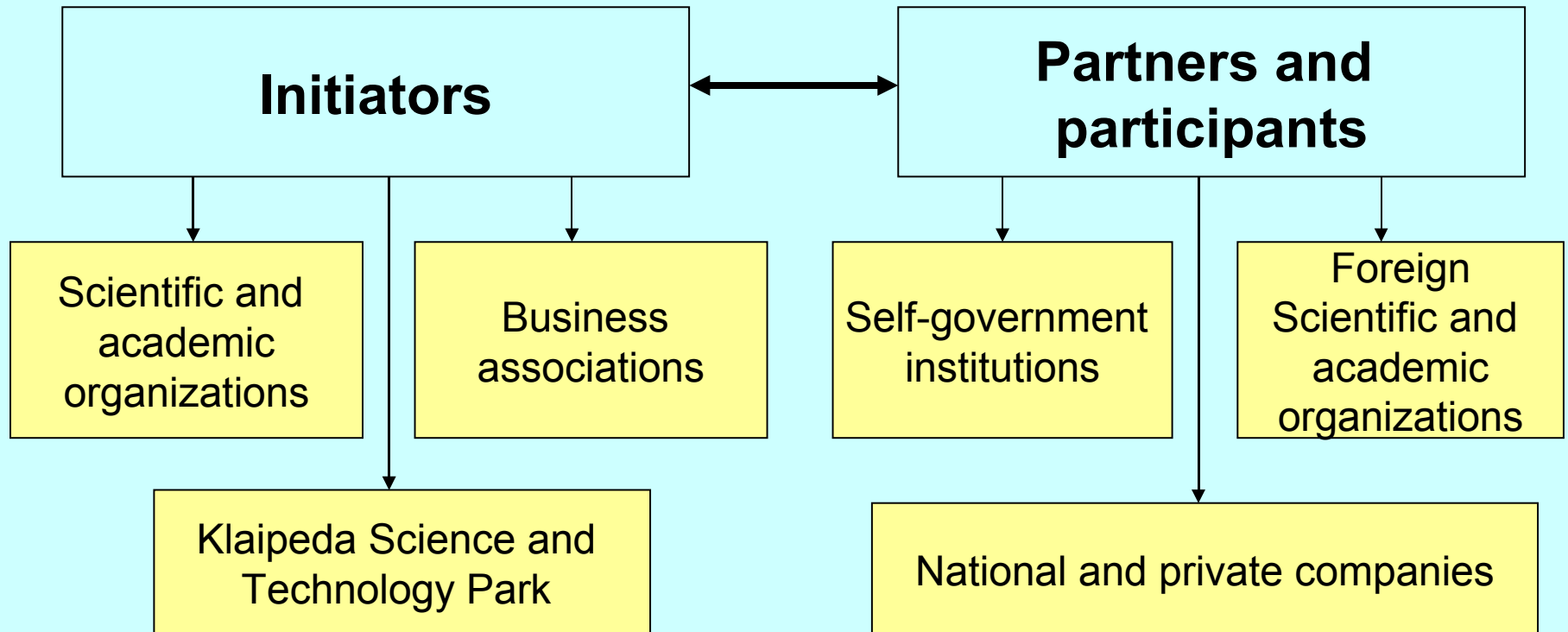
Common Principles of the Valleys

- Valley shall be developed with a view to building up research, studies and knowledge economy clusters of the international level in Lithuania;
- accelerating the development of knowledge society;
- consolidating the long-term foundation for the competitiveness of Lithuanian economy.

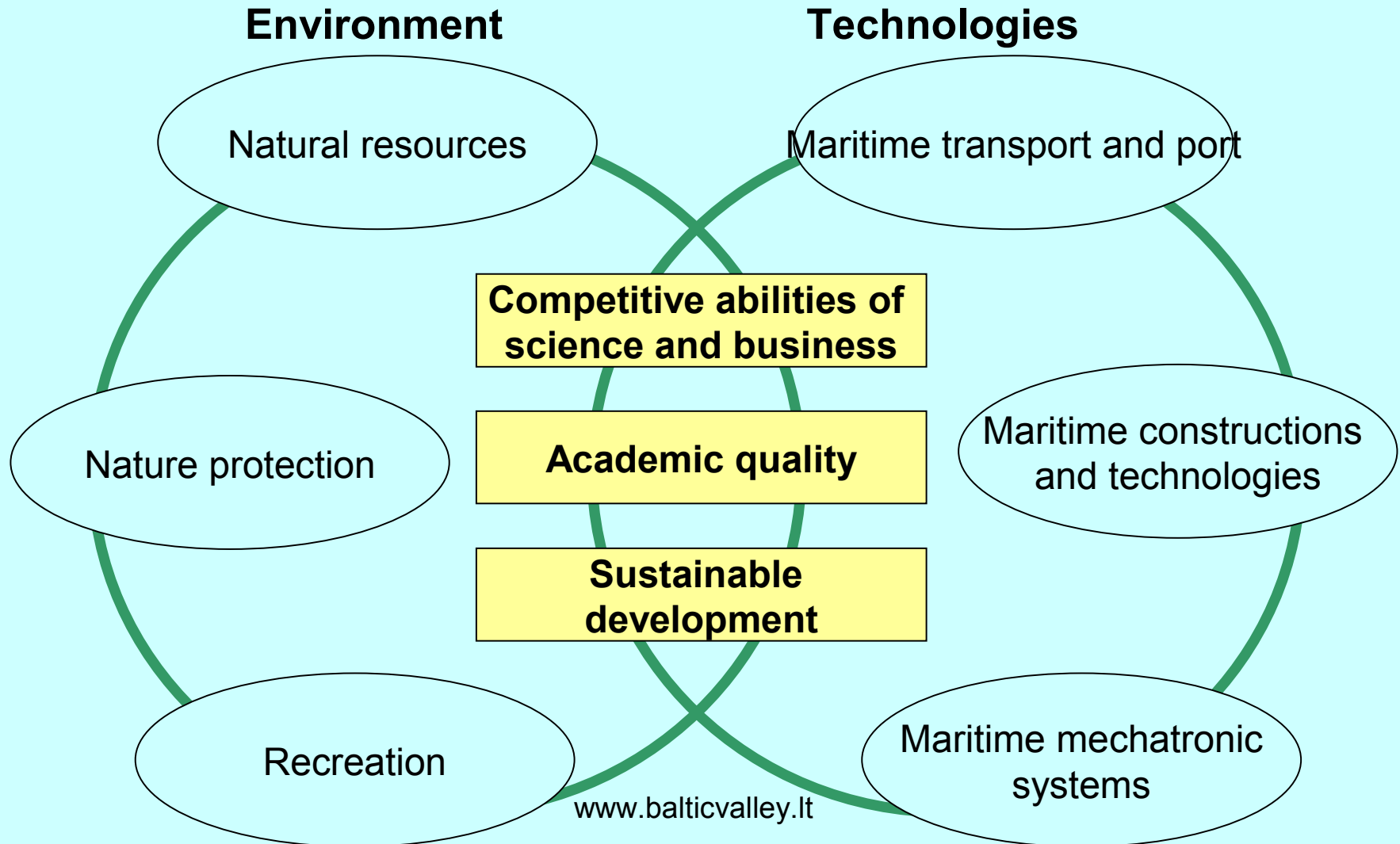
Creation of Marine Valley

- Based on 2008 EU Integrated Maritime Policy and 2009 EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and Action plan.
- Government of the Republic of Lithuania enacted the Resolution on the Approval of The Programme of Integrated Science, Studies and Business Centre (Valley) for the development of Lithuanian Maritime Sector (No. 786, 23rd July, 2008).
- Allocated financing - approx. 70 mln. EUR.

Initiators and Partners



Main streamlines of the Marine Valley

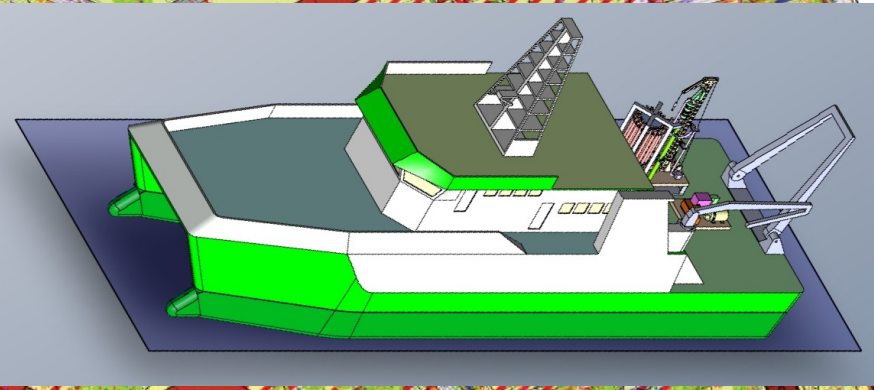
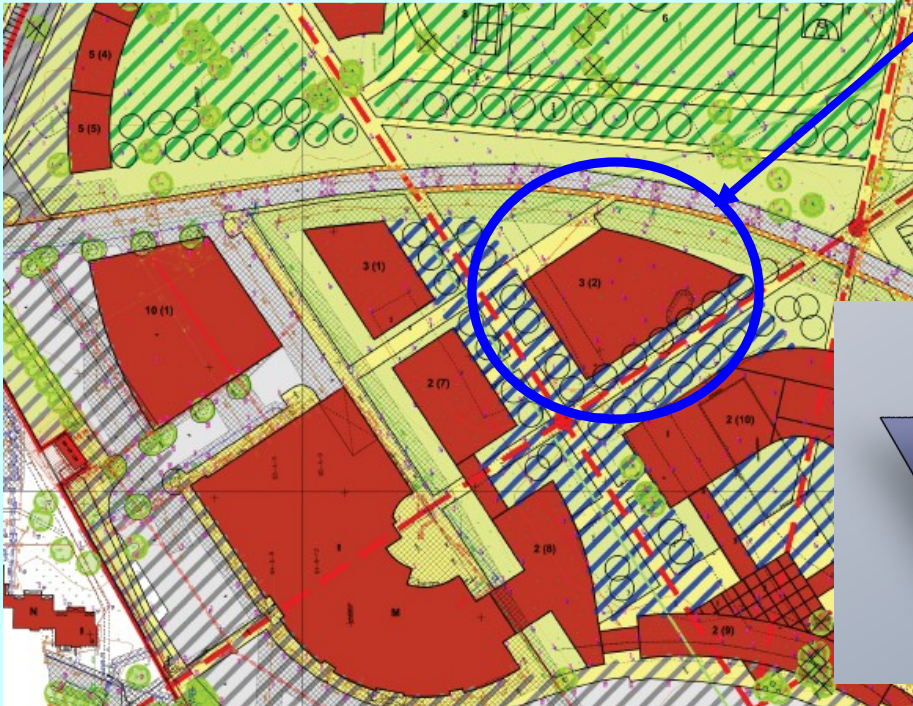
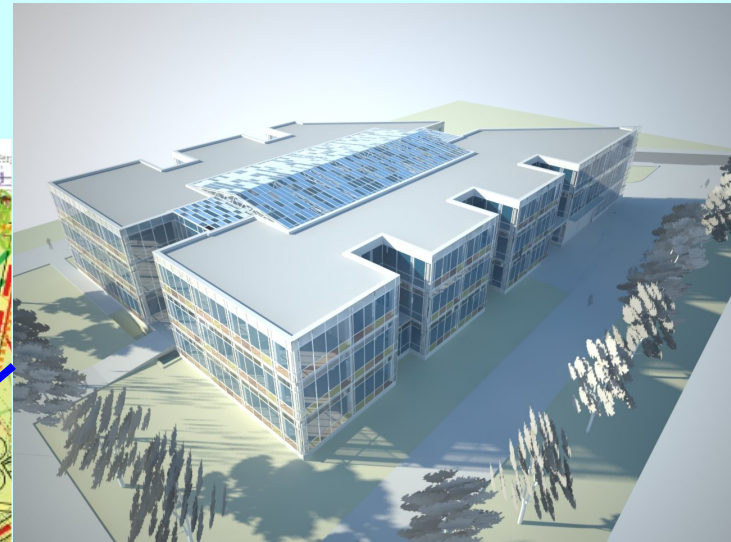


Aim and objectives of the Valley Programme

- to create a **modern research infrastructure** for the maritime research, academic studies, technological development and the needs of various state institutions;
- to consolidate the most qualified researchers;
- to update and modernize the **infrastructure of university-level marine and maritime studies**;
- to create **conditions for cooperation between maritime business and research/academic institutions**, as well as for the emergence of knowledge-based enterprises relying on the commercialisation of scientific output;
- to increase the **competitiveness** of Lithuanian marine science and maritime technologies on the international market.

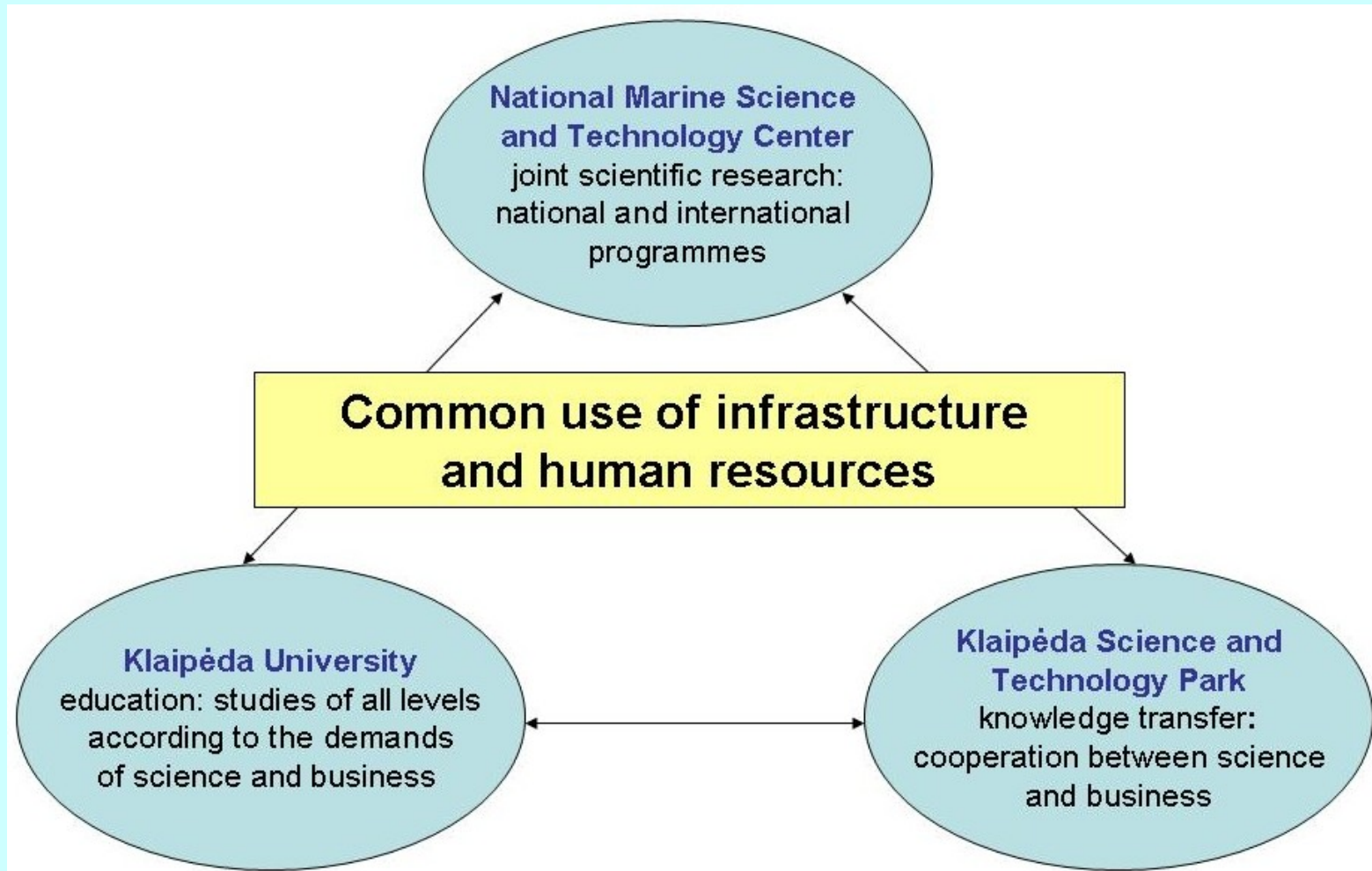
Scientific laboratories

Marine Ecosystems
Marine Chemistry
Fishery and aquaculture
Waterborne Technologies
Reliability of Maritime structures



Measures to be implemented till 2013

Structure



Principles of Management

- Valley laboratories operate as the Centre of Open Access
- Association “Baltic Valley” is responsible for integration of interests of science, studies and business

Perspectives

To integrate Lithuanian Marine Valley to the implementation of the EU Maritime policy:

- EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and Action Plan, Brussels, 10.6.2009 COM(2009) 248
- EU Strategy for Marine and Maritime Scientific Research, Brussels, 3.9.2008 COM (2008) 534

Proposal

The idea of the common project “Marine Science and Research Infrastructure Network for the Baltic Sea Region”.

The necessity of the Project – to connect the existing scientific infrastructural facilities of the Baltic Sea regions creating an open access for the needs of entire Baltic Sea region, to exploit the full potential of the region in research and innovation.

1. Project concept development (the aim and objectives of the project, the activities of the Project, the phases of the implementation of the Project, the creation of the network, the functioning of the network).
2. Finding the existing or creating the new financial instrument.
3. Project application.

Summing-up

- In order to achieve the goals of EU integrated sea strategy and BSR Strategy it is necessary to renew and to develop the infrastructure of scientific research.
- This process is developed in different countries of the Baltic Sea Region but integration is not sufficient.
- Our preposition is to initiate the new EU Project “Marine Science and Research Infrastructure Network for the Baltic Sea Region” and to allocate needed financing.