

Creating public-private partnership model

DIMECC

Institution: DIMECC Ltd.
Country: Finland
Type of partnership: HEI-SME partnership
Website: <https://www.dimecc.com/>

Background

DIMECC is the leading breakthrough-oriented co-creation ecosystem that speeds up time to market. DIMECC has its own innovation platform that makes leaders and winners meet.

DIMECC is a major player that has emerged from the need for companies to develop new types of innovations.

These innovations require huge investments and collaboration. DIMECC's consortia can include several dozen companies. Over the years, the operation of the innovation platform has converged with small and medium-sized enterprises.

DIMECC's role in technology innovation is to help companies resolve challenges related to high-risk research activities, disruptive business transformation, and capability development needs by offering focused co-creation services.

Story

DIMECC was founded more than ten years ago. It focused on the preparation and management of industrial research programs.

In 2016, DIMECC Ltd. was born, which merged DIGILE Ltd. and FIMECC. The merger was driven by changes in state innovation policy, such as cuts in research funding.

Stakeholders

DIMECC has many stakeholders. DIMECC's network consists of 2.000+ R&D&I professionals, 400+ organizations, 66 shareholders and 10+ co-creation facilitators along with multiple universities and start-up companies.

Big companies such as Upper Austrian Research GmbH which focuses on research of the federal province of Upper Austria. It's OWL Clustermanagement GmbH makes the process of developing solutions for intelligent products and production processes easy for research institutes and organisations.

Small companies such as Inno-W Oy and Jyväskylän Turbiini Oy. Research organizations like Teknologian tutkimuskeskus VTT Oy and Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy.

"The aim is to create long-term large-scale research projects."

"According to many years of statistics, DIMECC's customers have been more successful in terms of return on equity than other companies."

Resource needs

1. Big companies and research institutes are needed for putting all the research data into practice and develop products or services further.
2. As the need for companies to develop new types of innovations grow, so does the need for funding. It is also important to make investments into the areas which will further the cause of developing new innovations.
3. Collaboration plays a key role into creating new innovations. Diversity of different industries gives a significant boost for innovative work.

Outputs

The aim is to create long-term large-scale research projects, the results of which will bring large development steps to the participating companies.

The goal is to develop some new technology or operating model as well as employ new employees.

The use of digital is reflected in many different projects. It is essential that research work is transformed into products or services in projects.

"The successful history has created a structure which enables innovative projects."



Demola and DIMECC partnership (credit: STT Info)

Motivations

1. Companies have the motivation to do R&D together with other companies.
2. This enables them to develop innovative and challenging things with greater force. Companies and research organizations form a consortium, on the basis of which they start building a project application and applying for research funding.



Barriers

1. One challenge is to keep up with changes in government policy. It would be better if innovation policy decision-making could be made longer-term, which would take place over government terms. Thus, large companies would be better able to put their own R&D money into long-term development programs.
2. Getting funding is becoming increasingly shorter and smaller, with the focus shifting to project applications and competition against others instead of collaboration.
3. A lot of research is being done in Europe and especially in Finland in proportion to the population. An ongoing challenge is to put this research into practice and develop products or services.

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Key success factors

1

Internal need

Behind the success are the companies that own DIMECC, because the challenges and the need to solve them comes from these companies.

2

Investments

Companies invest in R&D if they are confident that the innovation policy and conditions will remain favorable for development investments in Finland.

3

Collaboration

With long-term development work and larger consortia, companies want to develop things a degree bigger than they could do alone.

“DIMECC consortia and their innovations generate investments that create jobs.”

Author: Petri Linna, Community Manager, Crazy Town Oy

Interviewee: Harri Kulmala, CEO, DIMECC Ltd.