



Policy Research Corporation



SOUND SOLUTIONS BASED ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Towards a Maritime **Knowlegde and Innovation Community?**

Dr. Harry Webers

Rome, 1 October 2008

CONTENTS

European Institute of Technology and KICs

Opportunity for a maritime KIC

The way forward?

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND KICs

Background

In midterm review of the Lisbon agenda in 2005 the establishment of **European Institute of Technology (EIT)** was proposed by the Commission*

Objective

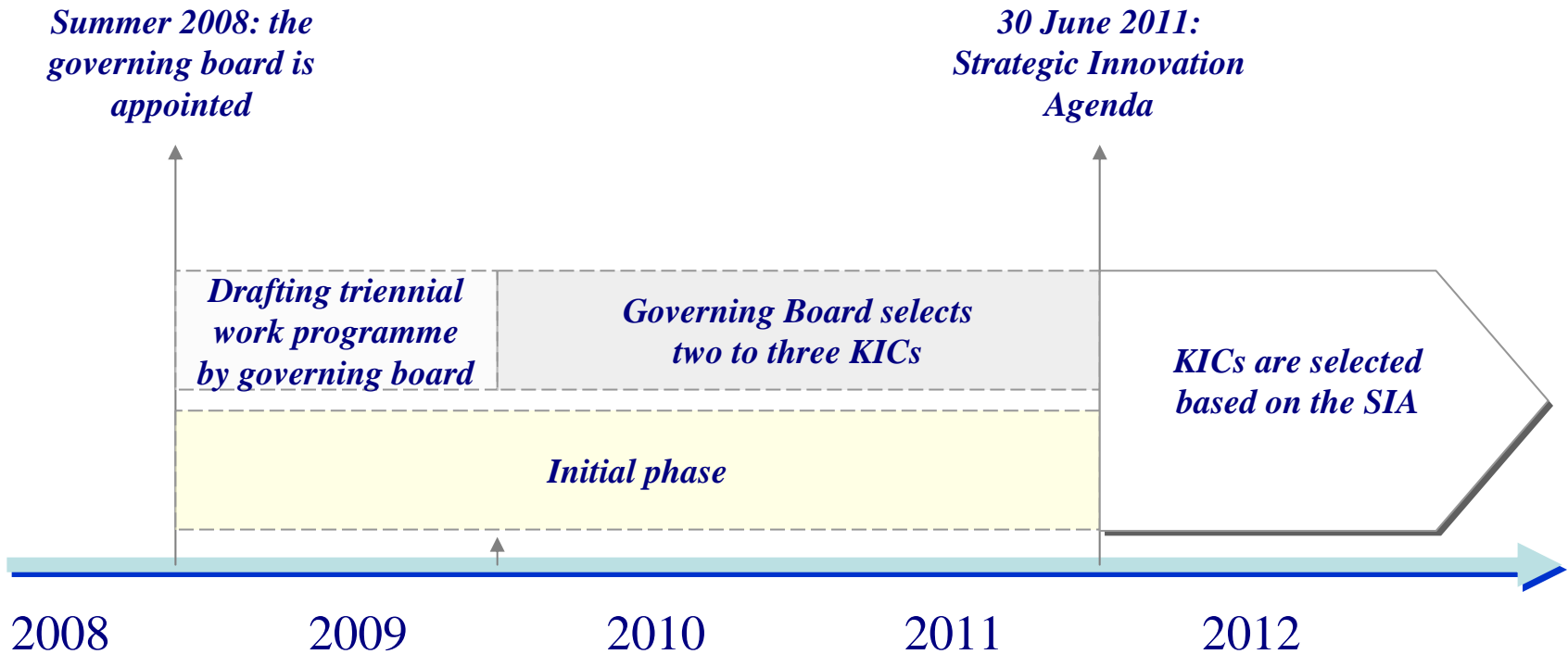
EIT will have objective to enhance European competitiveness and contribute to sustainable economic growth by reinforcing innovation capacity of Member States and the Community

Instrument

Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KIC): strategic partnerships among Europe's best business, research and higher education actors to promote and coordinate innovation, research and higher education at the highest levels

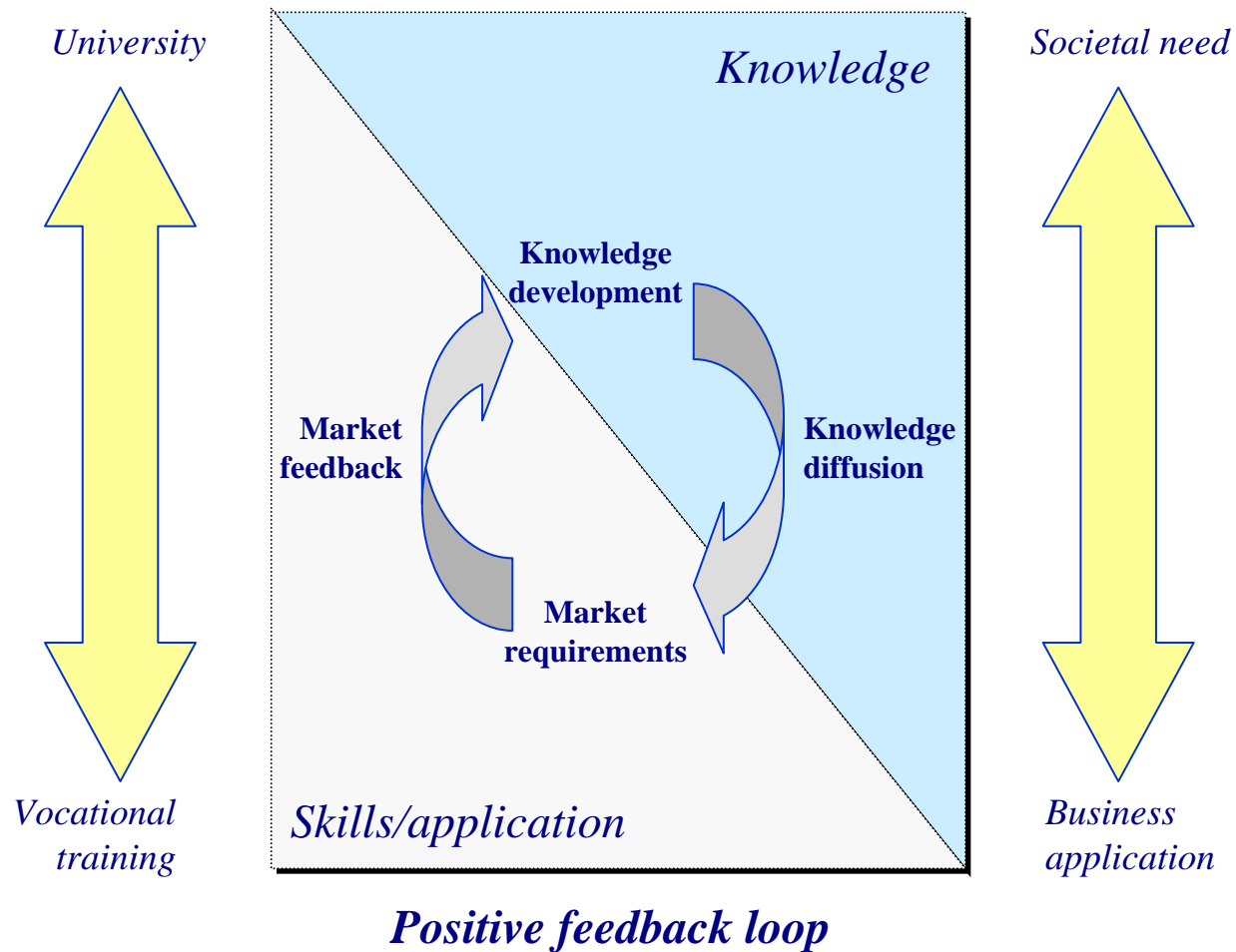
* On January 11, 2008, EIT Legislation was adopted; a total budget of €308.7 million for the period 2008-2013 will be available for the EIT

START-UP PHASE OF EIT AND INITIATION OF KICs



Mid 2009 two (or possibly three) KICs will be selected
Other KICs will not be selected before mid 2011 / early 2012

KICs MAY BE KEY TO ENHANCE ECONOMIC GROWTH



Enhancement of knowledge diffusion and the application of knowledge are the two main challenges for a KIC

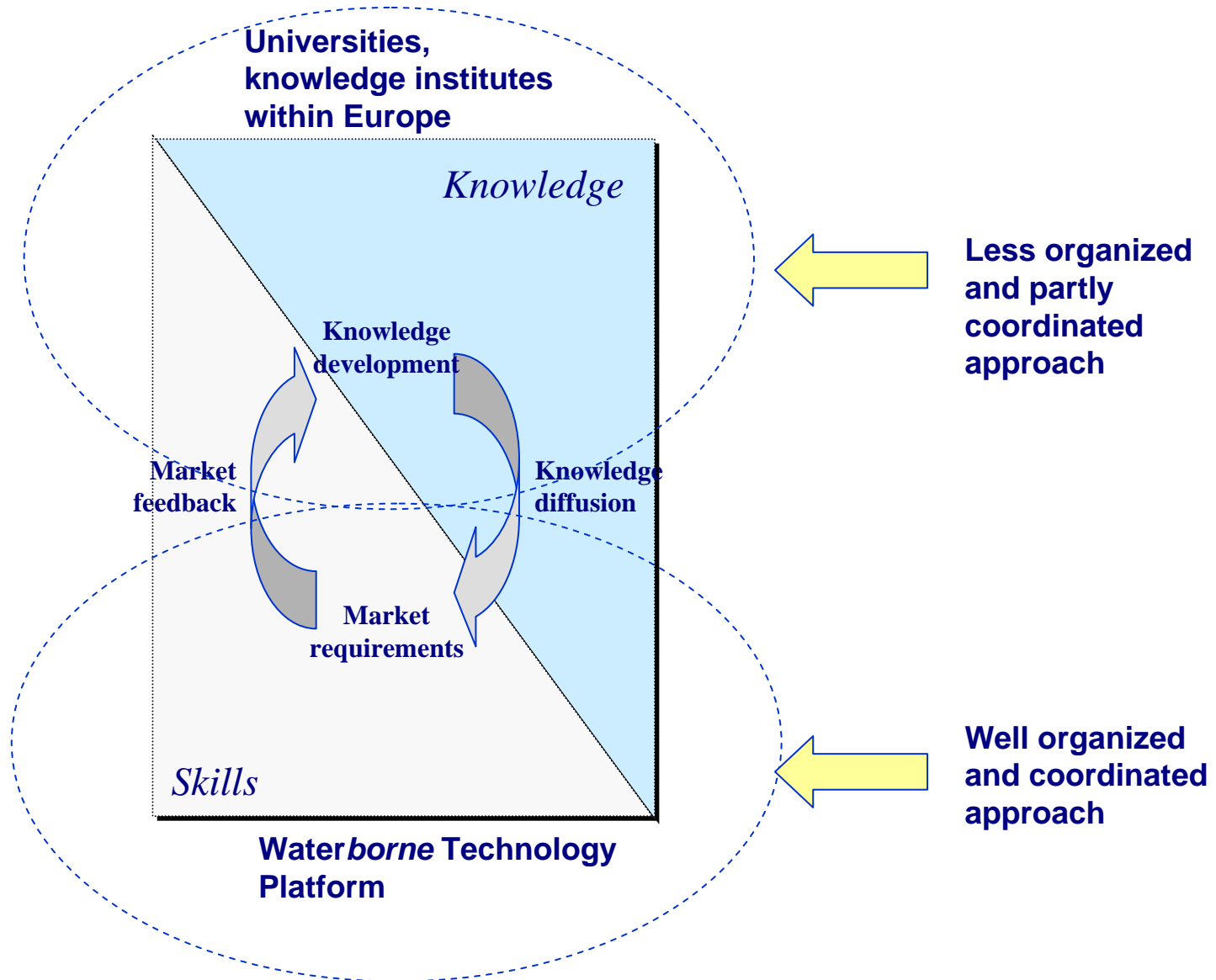
CONTENTS

European Institute of Technology and KICs

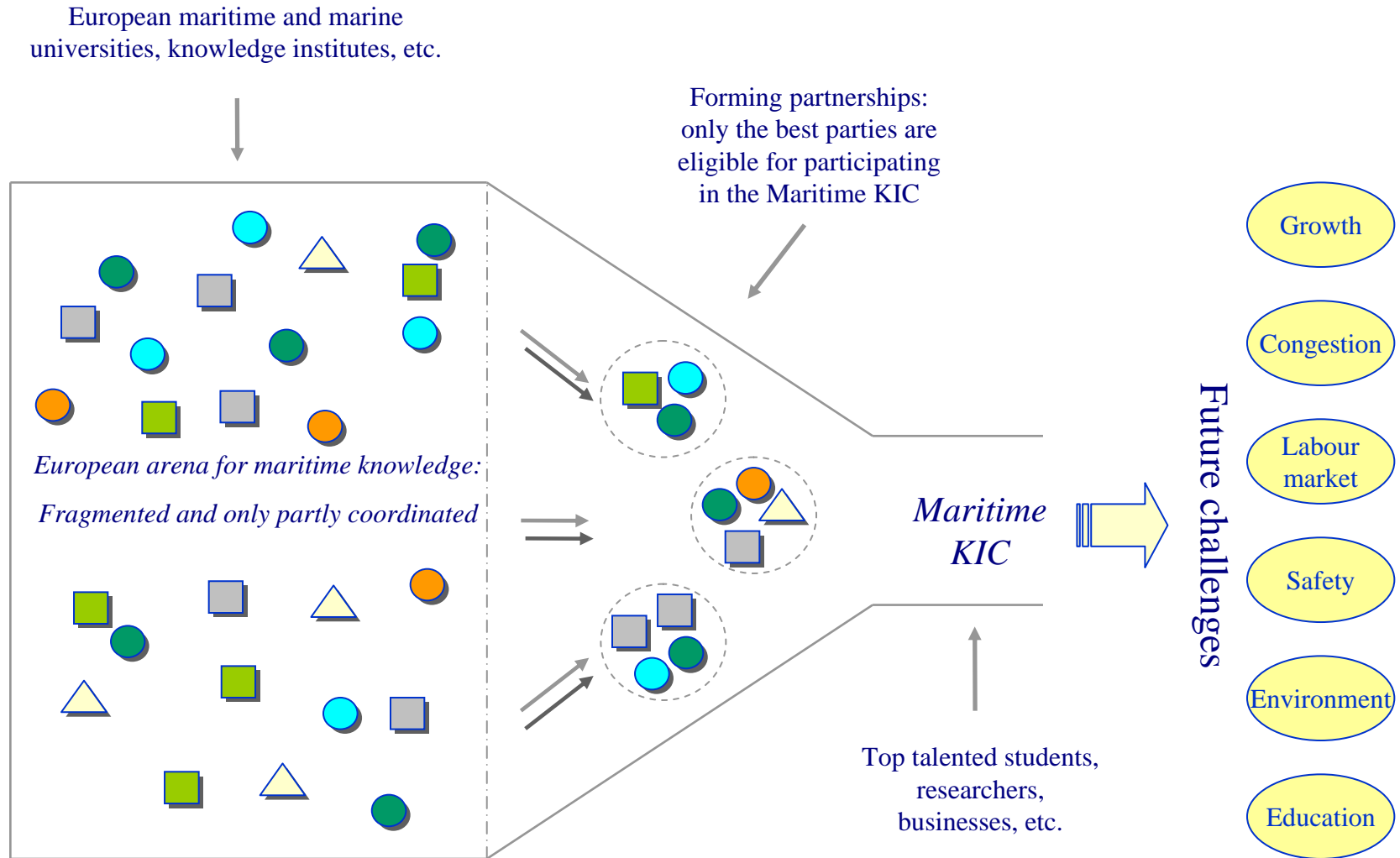
Opportunity for a maritime KIC

The way forward?

A MARITIME KIC: CLOSING THE FEEDBACK LOOP



A MARITIME KIC: PARTNERSHIPS BASED ON EXCELLENCE



A MARITIME KIC: VALUE ADDED

Closing the feedback loop

- Integrated research approach (fundamental and applied maritime/marine research)
- Accelerating knowledge diffusion and innovation

Partnerships based on excellence

- Establishing strong networks and cross-relations
- Building long-term sustainable capabilities

Other

- Complementary to the Integrated Maritime Policy
- Adding to a sustainable future for the maritime and the marine environment
- Improving the image of the maritime and marine fields

CONTENTS

European Institute of Technology and KICs

Opportunity for a maritime KIC

The way forward?

THE WAY FORWARD?

Continue effort to work towards establishment of a Maritime KIC?

- A Terms of Reference for a Maritime KIC has been drafted on behalf of the *Waterborne* Technology Platform and the European Network of Maritime Clusters
- The ToR has been sent before the summer to *Waterborne* strategy committee, members of European Network of Maritime Clusters, Support Group and Mirror Group *Waterborne* TP, DG MARE, DG Research and DG TREN
- Key issues: legal configuration of a Maritime KIC, working model (interaction between strategic and operational level of the KIC), financial requirements, operational management, control and accountability, relationship with EIT

Timing?

Funding (co-financing by ENMC in study phase)?

Critical success factors?

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

Participating members should be selected based on academic excellence (not on geographical spread, principles of proportionality, etc.)

KIC members must be individuals, not representatives of organisations

The Maritime KIC would have to be set up so that there is no dominance by a few large organisations and ensure that effective support is given to the SMEs

The KIC should primarily focus on European industries and knowledge institutes, but should be open for linkages with non-EU partners

Maritime KIC should have integral focus on maritime and marine affairs

All restrictions for knowledge transfer must be countered (adequate protection of intellectual property rights, equal participation, etc.)

A governance concept of the Maritime KIC has to be established that is able to meet the challenges



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TERMS OF REFERENCE KIC

Four different steps

- Setting up steering mechanisms
- Consultation rounds
- Preparation steering group and theme groups
- Drafting the final report

Timeline: to be completed before April 2009

Estimated budget: some 250 mandays



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