

**SECTORIAL OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME „INCREASE OF ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS”**

**PRIORITY AXIS 2: RDI FOR COMPETITIVENESS**

**Operation 2.2.1: Development of the existing R&D infrastructure and the creation of new infrastructures**

**DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF INCD ECOIND RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE**

National Institute of Research and Development for Industrial Ecology during POS-CCE 2007-2013 program developed the following projects:

* **INFRAECO** – “*Development of INCD ECOIND Research Infrastructure for Expansion and Diversification of Industrial Ecology Research*”

***Project no. 115/2006; Financing Contract Number 08/01.03.2009***

No reimbursable grant: 32.846.412 lei

Period of time: March 2009 – February 2012 (36 months)

* **MEDIND** – „ *Advanced Interdisciplinary Research Center for Environment and Industry*”

***Project no.1881/48693; Financing Contract No. 657/08.08.2014***

No reimbursable grant: 9.989.080, 63 lei

Period of time: August 2014 – December 2015 (17 months)

**Financing**: European Regional Development Fund and National Budget

***General aims:***

* Expansion of INCD ECOIND domains of activity as well as diversification and opening of new research paths / directions by developing a new research infrastructure and upgrading the departments / research labs with new, modern and performant instruments, equipments and installations.
* The opening of a new advanced interdisciplinary research center is based on the need to cover a wide spectrum of activities related to industrial ecology as well as to develop new R&D programs with a major international impact, which are not enough or at all cover at the national level.

***Specific aims:***

* A new research infrastructure with 18 new labs;
* Developing new research directions: 15 directions based on INCD ECOIND traditional research (control, prevention, evaluation and mitigation of industrial pollution) and 10 new directions fitting the new research objectives, according to the new international and national ecological research directions (molecular biology, genetics, electronic microscopy, ecotoxicology, indoor air quality evaluation combined with the smell detection by dynamic olfactometry as well as slug and industrial waste characterization);
* Enhancing the research capacity and institute visibility as well as developing international and national collaborations;
* Developing collaborations with technological networks and stimulating the innovation by transferring the research results to the economic environment / market;
* Broadening the qualifications and career development of the research personnel as well as employing young researchers (16 new jobs);
* Institutional development, enhancing the managerial efficiency;

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| **PERFORMANCE INDICATORS** | **INFRAECO** | **MEDIND** |
| Upgraded R&D labs during project (number) | 6 | 4 |
| New R&D labs created during project (number) | 13 | 5 |
| R&D equipments over 100.000 EUR bought during project (number) | 9 | 4 |
| Total R&D equipments bought during project (number) | 54 | 71 |
| **RESULT INDICATOR** | **INFRAECO** | **MEDIND** |
| New R&D jobs created during project (number) | 13 | 3 |
| Number of projects conducted in the new research infrastructure (number) | 10 international projects | **10** R&D collaborations with other research centers  **6** new proposals for national and international programs and **3** projects accepted for financing  **3** patents |

Development of INCD ECOIND Research Infrastructure for Expansion and Diversification of Industrial Ecology Research will enhance the Institute visibility in the Romanian Research Field as a first step in accessing the European Research Field with a focus on Environment, Biotechnology and Environmental Nanotechnology. Reaching the specific aims, see above, will have an expected major impact on:

* developing the institutional capacity by extension and completion of a research infrastructure at European standards as well as by raising the research personnel level and its structural diversification which will cover all the needs to have a competitive and multidisciplinary environmental research.
* enhancing the options to reach the top level Romanian research as well as the environmental technological platforms and European networks.
* raising and strengthening the administrative capacity of the Institute in order to manage complex projects, integrate and stimulate the cooperation with other national and international research institutes and universities.
* enhancing the institute visibility in the national and international scientific community as well as in the industrial environment.
* enhancing the transfer of the Institute scientific results such as methods, technics and innovating technologies to the economy/ market.