Factors influencing positioning of innovation based incubator.

IBI – A business development center for new entrepreneurs and SMEs that intend to develop innovative ideas.

1. ***The pre‐existing systems for innovation*** *–* an innovation‐based incubator will not be a duplication of something already existing and should not provide services and implement activities which are being delivered and carried out by other actors already dealing with innovation issues.
2. ***The partnership for innovation*** *–* a step forward, after the stakeholder analysis, is to consider what partnerships are the most convenient for the accomplishment of the IBI’s mission. As already stated, an IBI will have extreme difficulties if it intends to proceed alone, so efficacious agreements must be put in place with those organizations which, sharing the same mission, or part of it, can actively contribute to the development of the IBI
3. ***The regional and national policies for innovation***– as an IBI needs to “fit” in the regional innovation system, it needs to “fit” as well within the national and regional strategies for innovation. Innovative incubation processes should be part of the current, or future, strategies which politicians envisage to use in the effort to create new innovative companies, new stable jobs and enhanced added‐value in the region.
4. ***The regional economic environment-*** It is fundamental for IBIs to be close to the entrepreneurial community as possible and fully accessible.
5. ***The typology of entrepreneurs and their needs***–intrinsic characteristics of the potential entrepreneurs as well as of the existing SMEs need to be taken into consideration so not to fall in the error of delivering non‐needed services and implementing non‐efficacious actions to reach the mission and wasting the available scarce resources.