

Centres for Higher Education and Industrial Cooperation (HEICC) in Hungary

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The case study describes the Hungarian HEICC scheme that provides grants for joint university-industry competence centres in Hungary, describing their role for knowledge transfer and interactions with other policies.

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Topics covered

Policy mix, Competence Centres, collaborative research, contract research

What is the HEICC scheme?

- HEICC scheme was **established in 2016**
- **NRDI Office** is responsible authority
- NRDI Office provided **grants for HEIC Centres** within universities
- Centres are **managed by university-industry consortia**
- Universities are **consortium leader**
- To date, **3 universities** received EUR 26 million

HEIC Centres

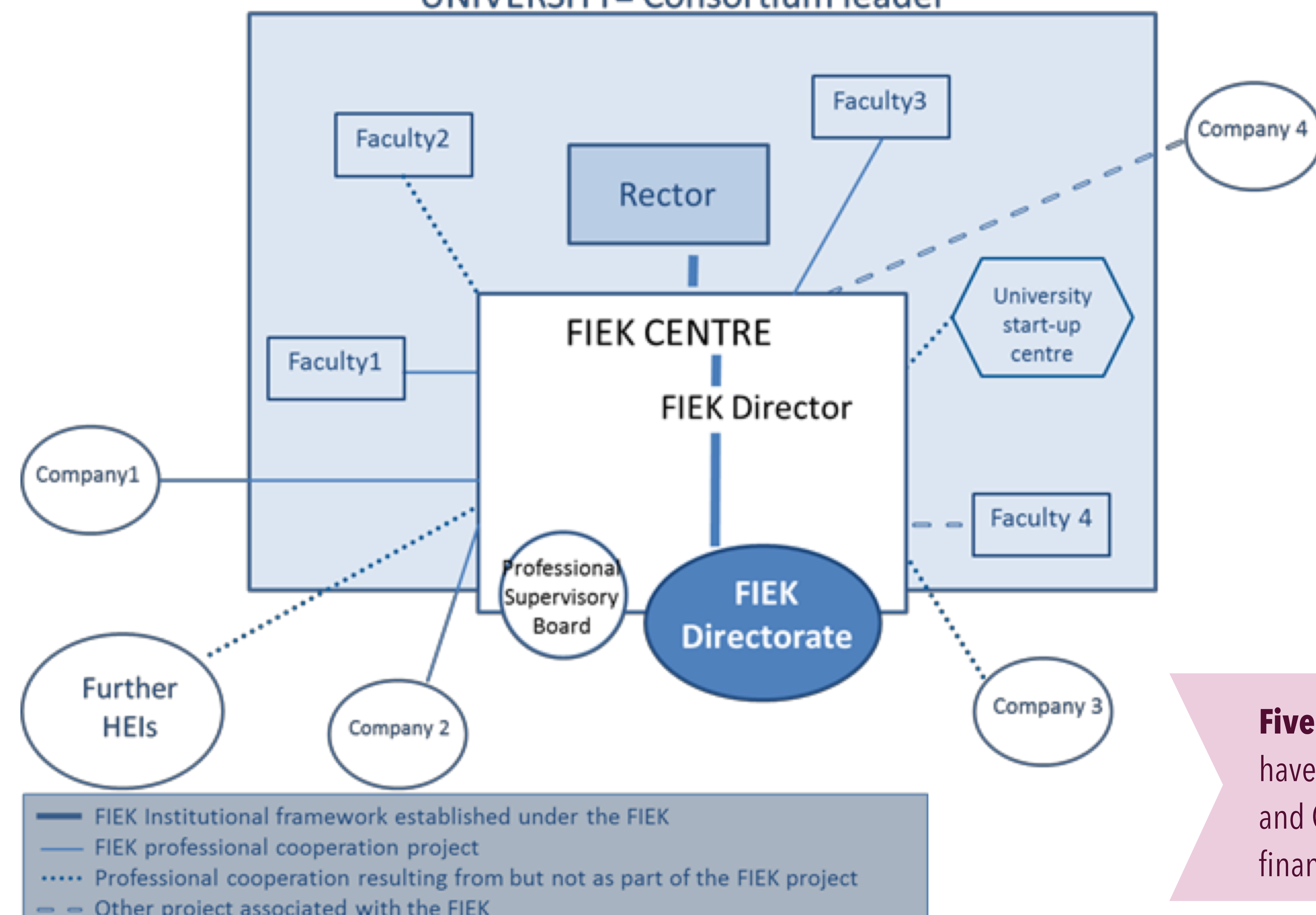
Centres are independent from university faculties

Long-term funding for research infrastructure

Competence Centres: Connect companies with university researchers

Operational model of HEICC (or FIEK in Hungarian)

UNIVERSITY= Consortium leader



Existing HEIC Centres

ICT/energy/pharmaceuticals

- Budapest University of Technology and Economics
- Industry partner: Nokia, Gedeon Richter, Siemens, MVM – Hungarian power company

Biotech:

- Eötvös Lóránd University
- Industry partner: CRU Hungary Clinical Research Units Hungary Ltd., Servier Hungary, Ltd., Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Agricultural Informatics:

- Szent István University
- Industry partner: AXIAL Ltd, Asseco Central Europe Hungary, EnergoTest Ltd., SKC Consulting Ltd.

Five other HEIC Centres have started outside Budapest and Central-Hungary Region, financed by EU funds.

Channels of knowledge transfer

University-industry collaborative research

Contract research

Academic consultancy

Interactions with other policies

- **Grants:**
 - National Competitiveness & Excellence Programme
 - R&D Competitiveness & Excellence Cooperation
 - National Excellence Programme
 - Competitiveness & Excellence Cooperation
- **Tax incentives**
- **Innovation Voucher**
- **Technology Transfer Offices**
- **Incubators**

Conclusions

- **Institutional infrastructure** key for collaboration with other research groups
- **Strengthen already existing industry partnerships** – make them more long-term oriented
- Creating a **sustainable model based on mutual business benefit**
- Need for **clear IP regulations**
- On the basis of the results so far, the **continuation and expansion of the programme** is expected