



SMART SPECIALIZATION STRATEGY OF NORTH-EAST ROMANIA
***“Project cofinanced by European Regional Development Fund
through POAT 2007 – 2013”***

SWOT ANALYSIS

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STRONG POINTS	WEAK POINTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identification of industrial agglomerations which could be „clusterised” – wood and furniture industry, machinery and equipment industry, rubber products industry ▪ Existence of six clusters – medical imaging, clothing, tourism, new media, ICT, food industry ▪ Strong link between PIB/capita and expenses on research-development ▪ The share of SMEs in total firms is high (99.7%) and similar to the national and European level ▪ The existence of dedicated network innovation activity and the Regional Innovation Laboratory ▪ Second place in the national ranking in terms of the number of innovative enterprises, most of them making both product and process innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low value of GDP in the North-East Region - intra-regional disparities accentuated ▪ Low value of GDP/capita ▪ Structure of gross value added at the county level is heterogeneous ▪ Employment rate in the region much lower than the national average ▪ Uneven distribution of active local units in counties in the region (highly concentrated in Iasi and highly dispersed in Botosani and Vaslui) ▪ Density of SMEs very low, placing the region in last place nationally ▪ Reduced spirit of initiative of the population in terms of number of new enterprises

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Existence of Centres of Excellence in higher education institutions ▪ The existence of the 79 recognized research centers CNSIS ▪ Business infrastructure well represented at regional level ▪ High number of PhD's and doctoral schools in the region, most of them choosing real and technical profile ▪ Skilled labor in RDI ▪ The high rate of youth employment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low levels of foreign direct investment in 2011 - 7th place nationally, most investments are in areas with low added value ▪ Low competitive potential for Suceava, Neamt, Bacau, Vaslui and inexistent competitive potential in the county of Botosani ▪ Last place in terms of innovation expenditure ▪ Labour productivity below the national average ▪ Low share of expenditures on research and development in the region's GDP ▪ Results of the CD enterprises below national average (turnover, number of employees) ▪ Low number of employees in research and development in the region ▪ Reduced collaboration between business environment and universities / research institutes - low technological transfer |
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OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The share allocated to the Member State level of R&D and innovation and the competitiveness of SMEs for the period 2014-2020 ▪ Develop a national strategy for research, development and innovation 2014-2020 ▪ Funding opportunities for research and development projects by national and structural funds ▪ Development of business environment as a result of establishment of business support infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legislative, political, economic and institutional instability ▪ Reduced ability for co-financing ▪ Emigration of qualified personnel, particularly in the areas of knowledge-intensive ▪ The reluctance of enterprises to invest in research and development activity ▪ Lack of coordination among different sectoral policies with implications for the development of the RDI sector