



profund

Die Gründungsförderung
der Freien Universität Berlin

„Enterprise University Partnership (EUPART)“

Berlin

December 1st, 2009



Principal objective: Strengthening the innovative potential of the Egyptian economy by substituting technology innovation for technology implantation

Methodology: Establishing 4 technology transfer offices (TTOs) at Egyptian universities as a model for the R&D sector in Egypt

Schedule: 3 years (completion 2011)



Consortium: Technische Universität Wien
Politecnico di Torino
Linköpings universitet
Freie Universität Berlin

American University in Cairo (project co-ordinator)
University of Cairo
University of Helwan
University of Assiut

Egypt. Ministry for Higher Education – Science and
Technology Development Fund
Egypt. Patent Office
Investors Association for 6th of October City



The tasks: Developing technology transfer mechanisms for universities customised to the Egyptian context

If needed: formulate an institutional IP policy

Setting up 4 TTOs to

- Conduct technology-transfer operations
- Spread technology-transfer expertise within Egypt's scientific community

Training stakeholders in the mechanisms developed:

- TTO staff
- Academics, students, administrators
- Civil servants, government officials



The office: Identification of commercial potentials of, and potential markets for, research results

Preparing and filing patent applications

Marketing and selling/licencing IP to the commercial sector (nationally/internationally?)

Support faculty/students in establishing (IP-based and other) companies & in other entrepreneurial activities



Challenges: Little ‚commercial‘ culture/experience at Egyptian universities

Distinct top-down governance on all levels of universities and government

Vague IP legislation



Status: Official project launch: 1/2009

Delay (bureaucratic nightmare) until September

Main activity as of now: Fact-finding missions of

- The Egyptian partners to the European universities
- The European Partners to Egypt:
 - * Government bodies at al
 - * Private sector
 - * Partner Universities



Some lessons:

Before committing yourself, make sure you know what you're in for

Ensure that all the relevant persons are involved on all stages

Be aware of the resources required, and that you can make them available

Ensure that your budget covers your costs