

**AGREEMENT**  
**FOR THE COORDINATION OF THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL**  
**RESEARCH CENTRES, UNIVERSITIES AND SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**  
**PARKS PRESENT IN TRIESTE AND FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA**

## **PREAMBLE**

*Recalling* that the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region is marked by a significant presence of scientific institutions, basic and applied research centres as well as national and international higher education institutes, which mainly operate in sectors such as life sciences, physics, mathematics, environment, engineering as well as human and social sciences, a list of which follows:

- Agemont S.p.a., Agency for the Economic Development of the Mountain Region
- CBM, Consortium for Molecular Biomedicine
- CETA – Centre for Theoretical and Applied Ecology
- CIRMONT – Centre for International Mountainous Region Research
- CISM – International Centre for Mechanical Sciences of Udine
- CNR – ISM Institute of Structure of Matter
- CNR – Marine Science Institute – Trieste
- CNR – IC National Council of Research – Institute of Crystallography
- CNR – INFN “Democritos”
- CNR – INFN TASC National laboratory
- “Luciano Fonda” University College for Sciences - Trieste
- United World College of the Adriatic
- “Giuseppe Tartini” Music Conservatory
- “Jacopo Tomadini” Music Conservatory
- Trieste AREA Science Park Consortium
- Consorzio Friuli Innovazione
- Consortium for the Increment of Studies and Research of the Physics Departments of the University of Trieste
- Consortium for Higher Naval Research – Rinave Consortium
- CRESEM – “Guglielmo Marconi” Radioelectric Experimental Centre
- CRITA, Centre for Research and Technological Innovation in Agriculture
- CSS – Permanent Innovation theatre of Friuli-Venezia Giulia
- CSF – Centre for Liver Studies – Foundation for Studies of Liver Diseases
- CRO – Oncological Research Centre of Aviano
- EUROMED – Euro-Mediterranean Institute of Friuli-Venezia Giulia
- Trieste International Foundation for the Progress and Freedom of Sciences
- “Callerio” Foundation
- “Rino Snaidero” Scientific Foundation
- F.I.F. – Italian Liver Foundation
- ICGEB – International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology
- ICS/UNIDO - International Centre for Science and High Technology
- ICTP – International Centre for Theoretical Physics
- IGA – Institute for Applied Genomics
- INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Trieste
- INdAM, “Francesco Severi” National Institute for Advanced Mathematics - Trieste
- INFN – Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics - Trieste

- INFORMEST – ISDEE Study and Research Area (Institute of study and documentation on the European Community and Eastern Europe)
- IRCCS – “Burlo Garofolo” Mother & Child Institute for Scientific Research and Treatment
- IRCCS – “Eugenio Medea” Institute for Scientific Research and Treatment, Regional Centre of San Vito al Tagliamento
- ISIG – Institute of International Sociology of Gorizia
- LNCIB – National Laboratory of the Interuniversity Consortium for Biotechnology
- OGS – National Institute of oceanography and Experimental Geophysics
- Pordenone Technology Pole
- Miramare Natural Marine Reserve
- Sincrotrone Trieste S.C.p.A. (Synchrotron Light Laboratory)
- International School of Trieste
- SISSA – ISAS – International School for Advanced Studies
- Immaginario Scientifico Science Centre, Trieste
- TWAS – Third World Academy of Sciences
- University of Trieste
- University of Udine

***Having said that:***

- the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region has been called upon – also by virtue of the competencies assigned to it by its Statutes and relevant legislation – to play an active role as a driving force for the promotion and development of research and international collaboration activities;
- ICTP, TWAS-IAP, ICGEB and ICS are international organisations that are funded by the Italian government. The quality of their programmes contributes to ensuring the level of international excellence in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region within the framework of the sustainable development initiatives launched by the United Nations, and in close coordination with G77;
- the research activity of the above-mentioned institutions can be further boosted by developing interdisciplinary projects in cooperation with other scientific centres of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, the Universities of Trieste and Udine as well as S.I.S.S.A.-I.S.A.S.;
- in Friuli-Venezia Giulia there are four science & technology parks, i.e. AREA Science Park, Agemont, the “Luigi Danieli” Science & Technology Park of Udine and the Pordenone Technology Pole;
- AREA Science Park is the Science & Technology Park of Friuli-Venezia Giulia, long consolidated as one of the main European multi-sector parks of this kind, at present hosting 87 centres, institutes and companies employing over 2200 people in the field of research and multidisciplinary development (life sciences, electronics and information technology, physics, materials, environment), technology transfer, training and qualified services to businesses and the Public Administration;
- the Trieste AREA Science Park Consortium is the steering and management body of AREA Science Park, one of the thirteen national research institutes operating under the supervision of the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR);
- the Consortium combines its management and development tasks for the Science Park with activities in the field of technological promotion, enhancement of research results and innovation dissemination, strategic and operational management of training - for the industry, too – study of and technical support to innovative businesses, at both national and international level by jointly defining

strategies with the Regional authorities;

- in the light of the important role played by the science & technology pole of Friuli-Venezia Giulia and its international relations, in compliance with art. 9 of Law Decree No. 381/99, every year the Consortium convenes, on behalf of the Italian Ministry of University and Research, the Conference of the national and international research centres funded by the Italian State and located in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, with the aim of assessing programmes and activities also from the point of view of the collaborations and interactions developed among one another;

*Whereas* the importance of stepping up coordination of the activities of all the Research Centres in Friuli-Venezia Giulia and the regional Universities, and considering the priorities of the Italian and international scientific, technological and training activities;

the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, the Ministry of Education, University and Research and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, upon agreeing on the importance of coordinating the activities of the national and international research centres, the Universities as well as the Science & Technology Parks operating in Friuli-Venezia Giulia and collaborating to this end, stipulate the following

### **Agreement for the Coordination of the national and international Research Centres, Universities and Science & Technology Parks present in Friuli-Venezia Giulia**

#### **A. Creation of a Coordination Body and Purpose of the Agreement**

1. A Coordination Body is hereby set up for the research centres, universities and science & technology parks specified in the preamble to this agreement, in full respect of their autonomy. The Coordination Body, hereinafter CER, is presided over by the President of the Trieste AREA Science Park Consortium.
2. The purpose of this Agreement is to strengthen and integrate, through CER, the capacity to act of the research centres, universities and the science & technology parks that are present in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, by promoting the best synergies among the same, collaboration between science & technology parks and by boosting their contribution to development and the dissemination of science and technology, while taking into account the impact on the economic and social fabric of the Region.
3. This Agreement can be signed by the institutions listed in the preamble, which is an integral part of this deed.
4. This Agreement may be also be entered into by scientific institutions, basic and applied research institutes as well as national and international higher education organisations operating in the Region.

#### **B. Operational objectives and expected results**

1. Enhancement of research and the scientific, economic and knowledge potentials that are present in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region for economic, industrial and social purposes, by:
  - 1.1. stepping up the connection of science institutions with the social and economic world of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region as well as with the local industrial fabric, in particular the small and medium-sized enterprises;
  - 1.2. greater coordination of the activities developed by the regional science & technology parks by means of strategies and actions jointly defined with the Region;
  - 1.3. support to the development and implementation of strategic projects with regional scope and a

significant systemic impact at local level;

- 1.4. promotion and supply of support services for the development of new projects and access to new forms of funding, among which information, support and training on European research deserve to be mentioned;
- 1.5. implementation of interdisciplinary/inter-sector mobility and adoption of common strategies and guidelines in the sector of higher education, to be defined with the regional Universities;
- 1.6. study and definition of models for the monitoring and measurement of research results, so that the Region can assess the overall impact of regional policies on the university, research and innovation sectors.

2. Strengthening the role as well as the national and international visibility of the centres operating in Friuli-Venezia Giulia, by:

- 2.1. upgrading the service offer for internationalisation in the fields of reception, researchers' international mobility, training and cultural exchange for both experienced scientists and young researchers;
- 2.2. carrying out studies and analyses on the incoming flows of foreign researchers to the Region;
- 2.3. developing and consolidating partnerships and international collaboration initiatives in agreement with the Universities, research institutes and businesses of the Region.

3. Promotion of technical and scientific dissemination and innovation diffusion, by:

- 3.1 promoting the CER activities by drafting information and promotional materials;
- 3.2 organising, in collaboration with the Region, national and international events for technical and scientific dissemination, technology transfer, promotion and innovation diffusion;
- 3.3 publishing studies and research on scientific and technology-transfer topics of regional interest;
- 3.4 publishing reports, in coordination with the Region, on topical subjects to be circulated among scientific institutions, local businesses and the public at large.

### **C. Lines of activity**

To pursue this purpose, CER shall identify the following main lines of activity within the framework of the above-mentioned operational objectives:

- **Enhancement of research and the scientific, economic and knowledge potential present in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region for economic, industrial and social purposes**

1. line of activity No.1: mapping the regional scientific institutions by carrying out regular surveys, also focused on specific topics, according to outlines jointly defined with the Regional administration, by using appropriate methods and IT technologies. The results will make up a basis of information that will support the Region in the development of a regional accreditation system for public and private scientific institutions.
2. line of activity No. 2: study and definition of models for the measurement of research and technology-transfer results obtained by the regional institutions, so as to provide the Region with an impact assessment tool to evaluate the regional policies dealing with universities, research and innovation, in compliance with the national guidelines and the directions included in the National Strategic Framework.
3. line of activity No. 3: identification of possible ways of providing incentives for the regional scientific institutions, for the purpose of strengthening initiatives with significant potentials in terms of local impact and actual use by businesses, in view of their possible adoption by the

Region.

4. line of activity No. 4: coordination of the regional Science & Technology Parks with regard to their entire activity or individual projects, with the aim of developing synergies with the Region.
5. line of activity No. 5: consultancy, individual support and training activities to facilitate the participation of regional scientific institutions in European research programmes coordinated at regional level by the APRE FVG Regional Committee.

- **Strengthening the international role of the research centres of Friuli-Venezia Giulia**

1. line of activity No. 1: International House, an international reception, training and interchange centre. By developing an integrated service network and through the creation of a single reception desk, the reception services for foreign researchers and students in the Region can be rationalised. Additional measures are targeted at enhancing the regional scientific potentials, such as the Incoming Visiting Researchers Programme for highly qualified individual researchers at international level, to be hosted at the scientific institutions of CER, the Outgoing Mobility Programme for the students/researchers of the scientific institutions of Friuli-Venezia Giulia who are hosted at university institutions abroad and the co-funding of strategic research projects having an impact on market activities.
2. line of activity No. 2: Strengthening the connections between CER and the Regional Office in Brussels by organising workshops and itinerant meetings regarding research carried out at the various regional scientific institutions, with the participation of European Commission officers. One-to-one meetings with EC officers will also be organised as well as training and practice periods for university students on topics concerning research and European institutions.

- **Scientific dissemination**

1. Activity line No. 1: introduction of scientific dissemination initiatives through the organisation of events and seminar cycles on the topics agreed with the Region and targeted at the public at large, with the aim of bringing science closer to society and the regional business world so as to enhance its competitiveness.
2. Activity line No. 2: creation of a web site for the research and science system which the Region intends to develop, so as to turn it into a tool of scientific dissemination, networking the regional scientific institutions and supplying services to users.

**D. Coordination organs**

**d.1 President**

The planning and operational execution of the Coordination Body activities shall be carried out by the President of the Trieste AREA Science Park Consortium, in collaboration with the Assembly, the Strategic Committee, the Scientific Committee and the Organising Secretariat.

**d.2 Assembly**

The Assembly of the Coordination Body – including the representatives of the scientific institutions signatories to this Agreement and presided over by the President of the Trieste AREA Science Park Consortium – shall make annual decisions on the guidelines for the activities proposed by the Strategic Committee. The Assembly shall meet in conjunction with the Conference, as per art. 9 of Decree law No. 381/99, mentioned in the introduction to this Agreement.

Meetings shall be attended by a representative of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, a representative of the Ministry of Education, University and Research as well as a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### **d.3 Strategic Committee**

Among the strategic priorities identified on a yearly basis by the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region, the Strategic Committee shall carry out steering functions, by defining the programme objectives and the relevant activities to be developed. To this end, the Strategic Committee can set up working groups with consultative and proactive functions subdivided by topic, also using the competencies and contributions of the various CER institutions.

The Committee is composed of the members of the Scientific Committee plus three members by right, as follows: Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, University and Research.

The Presidency of the Strategic Committee is entrusted to the President of the Trieste AREA Science Park Consortium.

### **d.4 Scientific Committee**

The Scientific Committee assists the Strategic Committee in the definition of proposals for programme objectives and the subsequent activities to be developed.

The Committee includes eleven members, three of whom are appointed by right by the Rectors of the regional Universities or their delegates. The remaining eight members, appointed by the Regional administration, can also come from outside the region. The Presidency of the Scientific Committee is entrusted, according to a two-year rotation system, to the rectors of the Universities of Trieste and Udine and the Director of the International School of Advanced Studies. In the first term of office, the Committee shall be presided over by the Rector of the University of Trieste.

### **d.5 Organising Secretariat**

The Organising Secretariat, which has operational functions, shall be ensured by the Trieste AREA Science Park Consortium, through its Office for the Coordination and Internationalisation of regional Research institutions.

**E.** The Internal Rules shall regulate the organisational and management aspects of the Coordination Body. The Internal Rules are approved by the Assembly.

**F.** This agreement shall have a duration of 4 (four) years and can be renewed by agreement between its parties.

For the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region \_\_\_\_\_

For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs \_\_\_\_\_

For the Ministry of Education, University and Research \_\_\_\_\_