

ICN2 workshop on research, strategy and innovation

Hotel Rey Don Jaime
Castelldefels, Barcelona
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ICN2 Strategy Presentation

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Institut Català
de Nanociència
i Nanotecnologia



Member of:



Barcelona Institute of
Science and Technology



Generalitat de Catalunya
Departament d'Economia
i Coneixement



CSIC
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS

UAB

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

BOARD OF PATRONS:

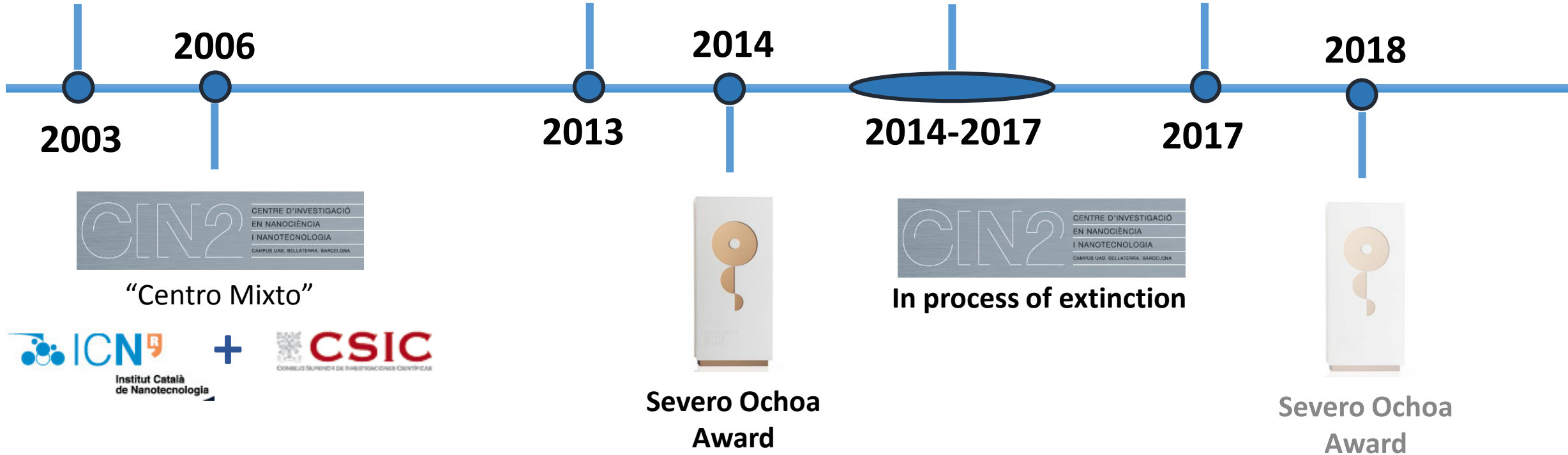


ICN2 History in a Nutshell



Integration in
ICN2

Formal ascription
of CSIC researchers
to ICN2



Nanoscience and Nanotechnology: “There’s Plenty of Room at the Bottom”

Richard P. Feynman

Dec. 1959, APS Meeting @ CALTECH



Nanoscience and Nanotechnology:

“There’s Plenty of Room at the Bottom”

“Manipulating and controlling things at a small scale”

- Better electron microscopes (could we see an atom)? STM; TEM
- How to we write small? nanolithography
- Rearranging the atoms one by one Atomic manipulation (STM)
- Miniaturization: The Encyclopaedia Britannica in the head of a pin hard disks
- Machines at the atomic level? Nanorobots; Nanomotors
- Computer miniaturization 22 nm technology
- “Swallow the surgeon” Diagnosis, drug delivery, ...
- New science of the Small and the Complex
- Interplay with Biology
- Enormous number of technological applications

Research Groups at ICN2



200 people

130 Researchers

40 Admin

30 Technicians / support

18 Research Groups

Nanoscale Manipulation and Characterization

Aitor Mugarza, Jordi Fraxedas, Jordi Arbiol, Klaas-Jan Tielrooij

- Nanoscopies (SPM): STM, AFM
- PES, XRD, ...
- Ultrafast Dynamics

Nano-Bio Interfaces and Devices

Arben Merkoçi, Laura Lechuga, Jose Garrido

- Biosensors
- Bioanalysis
- Biofunctionalization
- Bioelectronics
- Implants

Theory and Simulation

Stephan Roche, Pablo Ordejón

- Atomistic Simulations
- Electronic Transport

Nanodevice Fabrication and Physical Properties

Clivia Sotomayor, Gustau Catalán, Josep Nogues, Sergio Valenzuela

- Spintronics
- Magnetic Nanostructures
- Oxide Nanoelectronics
- Photonics and Phononics

Chemical Routes to Nanostructures

Daniel Ruiz, Daniel Maspoch, Victor Puentes, Pedro Gomez, Monica Lira

- Supramolecular Chemistry
- Inorganic Nanoparticles
- Energy-oriented materials (photovoltaics and batteries)

Research Support



Scientific-Technical Support Divisions

Electron Microscopy Division

Nanomaterial Growth Division

Instrument Development Division

Nanofabrication Lab

Core Support Facilities

- Surface Analysis Photoemission (XPS/ARUPS)
- Molecular Spectrometry
- Physicochemical analysis
- Light Microscopy
- X-Ray Diffraction
- SQUID Magnetometry
- Bio-Lab

Technical Facilities

Mechanical Workshop

Foundational Mission of ICN2



“The mission of ICN2 is **to achieve the highest level of scientific and technological excellence** in the area of nanoscience and nanotechnology. All the human and material resources, initiatives and activities developed by ICN2 are addressed to achieve this mission.”

Statutes of ICN2, Article 5.2

The ICN2 strategy is steered towards achieving this mission

What is Excellence?



Difficult to define precisely

- Numerical indicators - Impact factors, citations, rankings....
- Benchmarking
- Impact (other than citations)
- Fundamental vs. Application - Oriented research
- Peer Review

..... but “I know it when I see it”

1964 - US Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart's ruling about Jacobellis vs. Ohio case (referring to hard-core pornography in a case of motion picture obscenity accusation)

“Excellence is ultimately what your peers value as excellent”

F.E. Baldeston (1995) Managing Today's University: Strategies for Viability, Change and Excellence



"Capacity is [the] ability of individuals, organizations and systems to perform appropriate functions efficiently, effectively and sustainably" ([UNESCO 2005](#)).

- a) **Human resource development:** providing the skills, information, knowledge and training to enable actors to perform effectively.
- b) **Organisational development:** the elaboration of management processes, structures and procedures within organisations as well as with regard to their relationships to other stakeholders (such as the business community and government).
- c) **Institutional and legal framework development:** creating and maintaining legal and institutional arrangements that enable organisations, institutions and agencies to enhance their capacities

OECD Report on "Centers of Excellence as a Tool for Capacity Building", Tomas Hellström, 2013

"Centres of Excellence and Capacity Building: from Strategy to Impact", Tomas Hellström, Science and Public Policy, 45(4), 2018, 543–552

“Nanodevices for Societal Challenges”

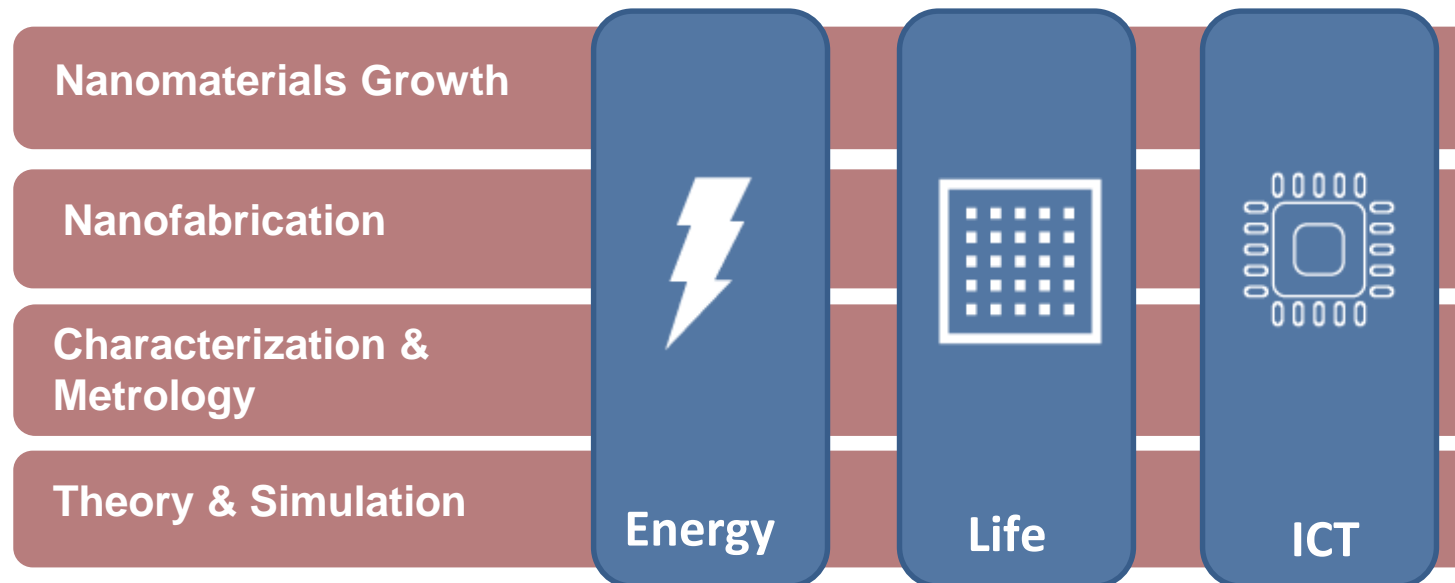
A unifying, **strategic program** that brings together diverse lines of research of ICN2 in a coordinated, synergistic set of projects to significantly advance technologies along the whole process chain of **nanodevice design and fabrication**.



Severo Ochoa
Centre of Excellence Award
(2014-2018)



Basic knowledge to develop new, disruptive devices in three **Core Areas**:



- The first **common scientific goals** for the institute
- Designed to **boost the collaboration between groups**
- With a target on **technological results**, based on fundamental science
- Professionalization of the **HR Department**, with a number of important actions
 - Recruitment processes based on OTM-R
 - Training Programs
 - People's developing officer
 - Equal-opportunities and diversity plan
 - ...
- Scientific Infrastructures – Clean Room & Mechanical Workshop
- Incorporation of 2 new groups
- Dissemination and Communication activities enhanced
- Boost of technological activity

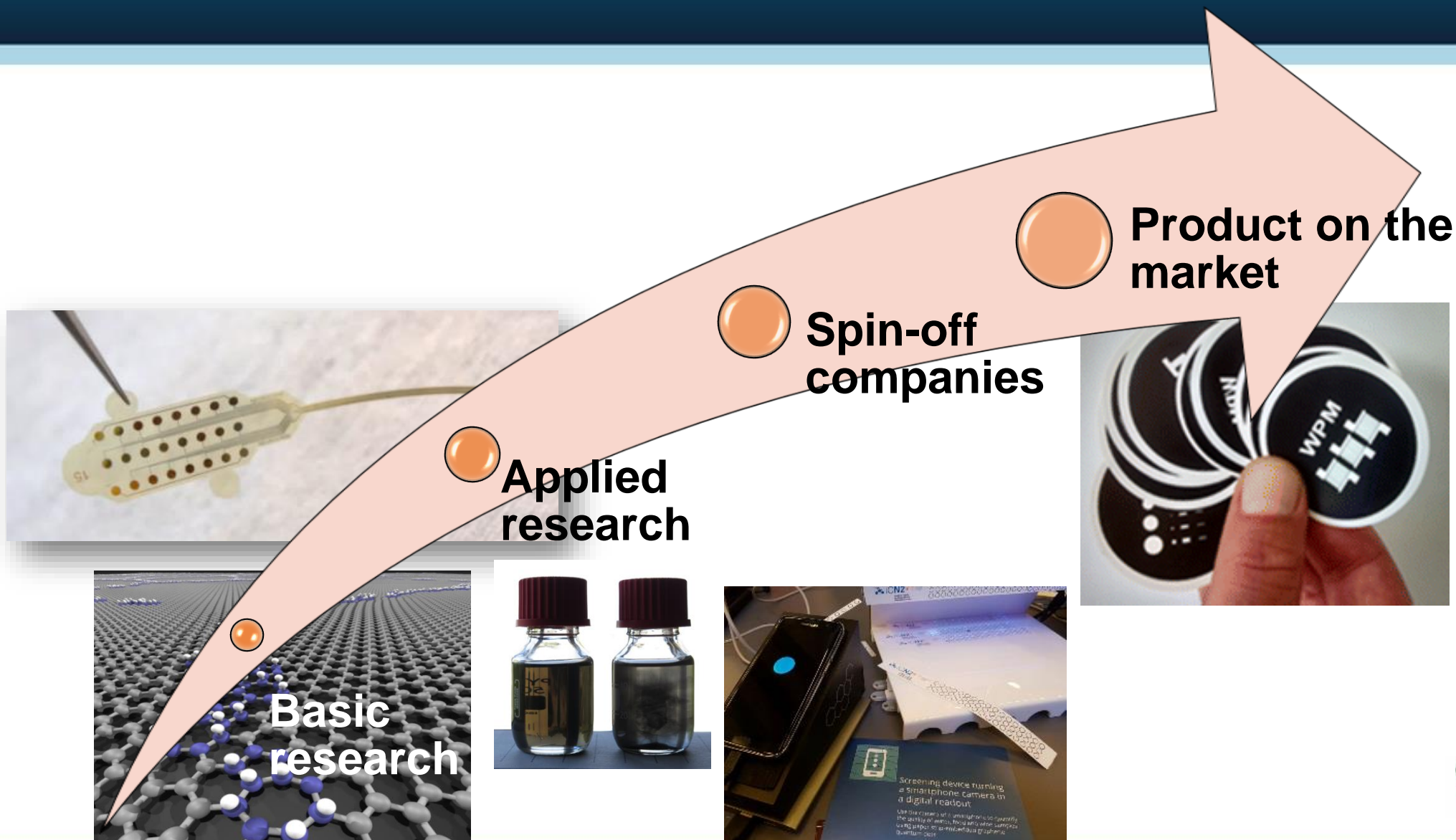


Severo Ochoa
Centre of Excellence Award
(2014-2018)



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

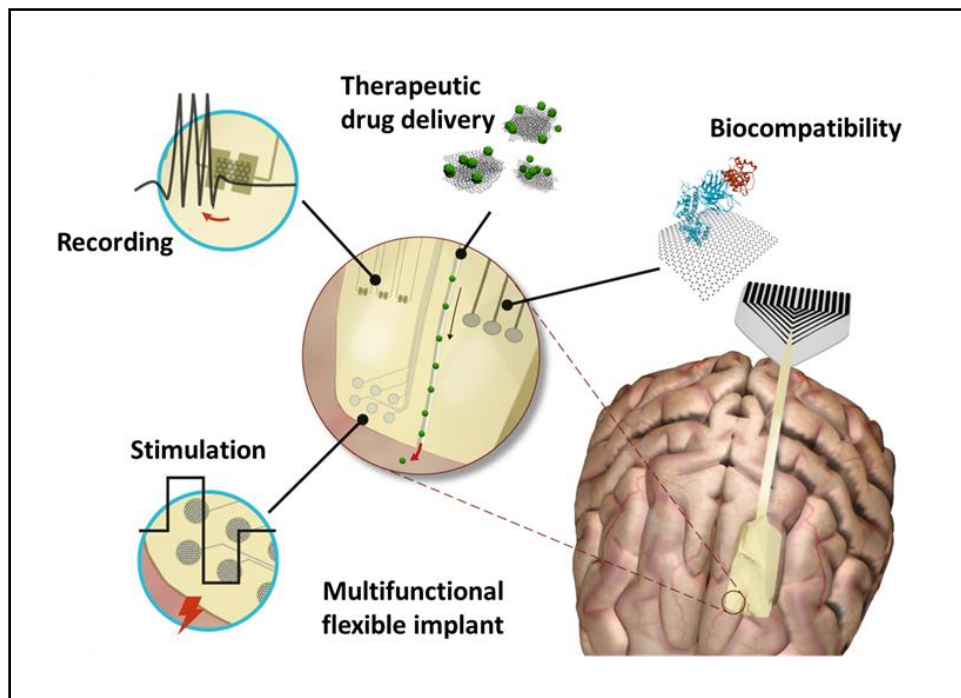
Graphene: the whole value chain



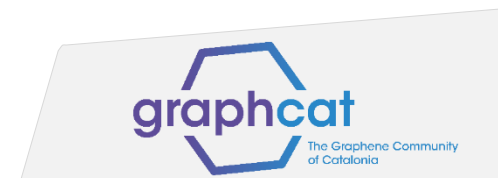
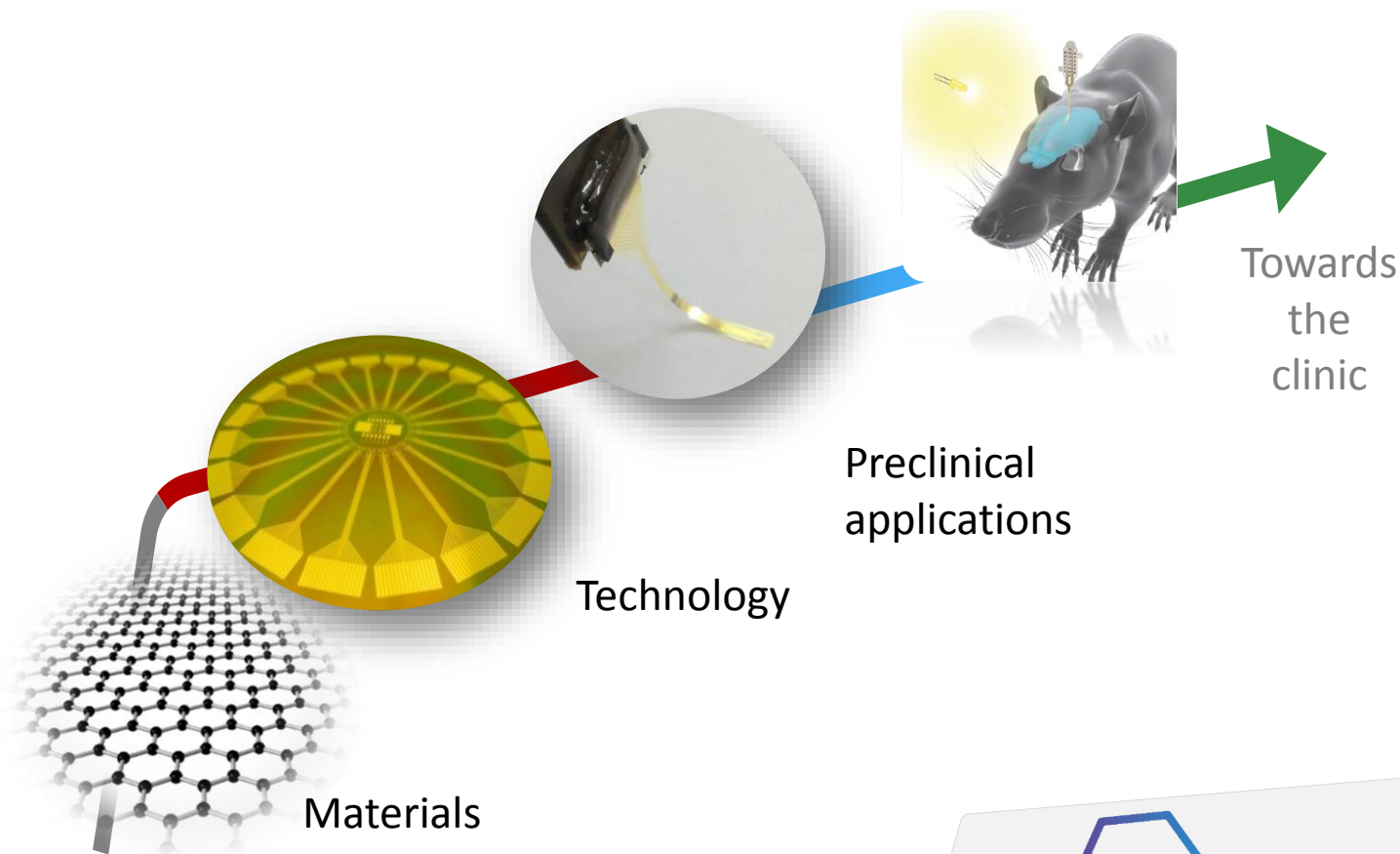
From Research to the Clinic: graphene neural interfaces



Multifunctional cortical implants



J.A. Garrido



Collaborations with Industry (SO 2014-2018)



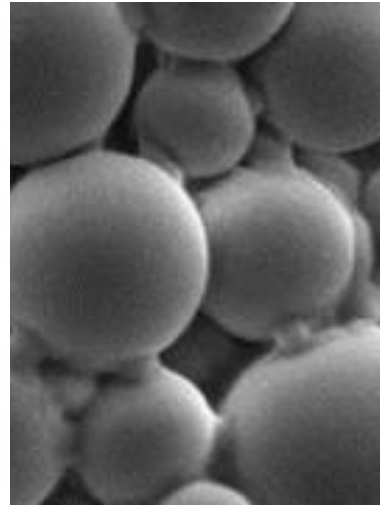
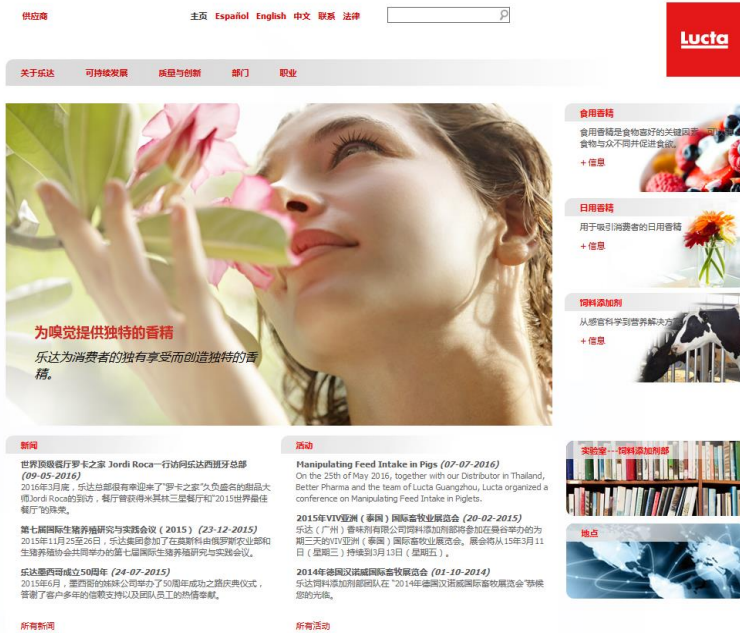
Chemipol



Soluciones pensando en ti



Products in the market



Laundry softener

35.000 Kg of product
Income of 450.000 € for Lucta
Royalties of 13.251 € for ICN2



Antifungal paints



Biogas+



Graphene Oxide Sensors



Spin-off companies based on ICN2 technology



LIFE

 nano targeting

APPLIED
NANOPARTICLES
BioGAS⁺

ENERGY

 sensia

 EARTH DAS

 paperdrop
DIAGNOSTICS

Future  chromes

 SIMUNE
ATOMISTIC SIMULATIONS

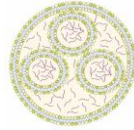
 BIO D
Bio.
Optical.
Detection.

 AHEAD
THERAPEUTICS

 Graphenica Lab

ICT

Spin-off – Two likely success stories



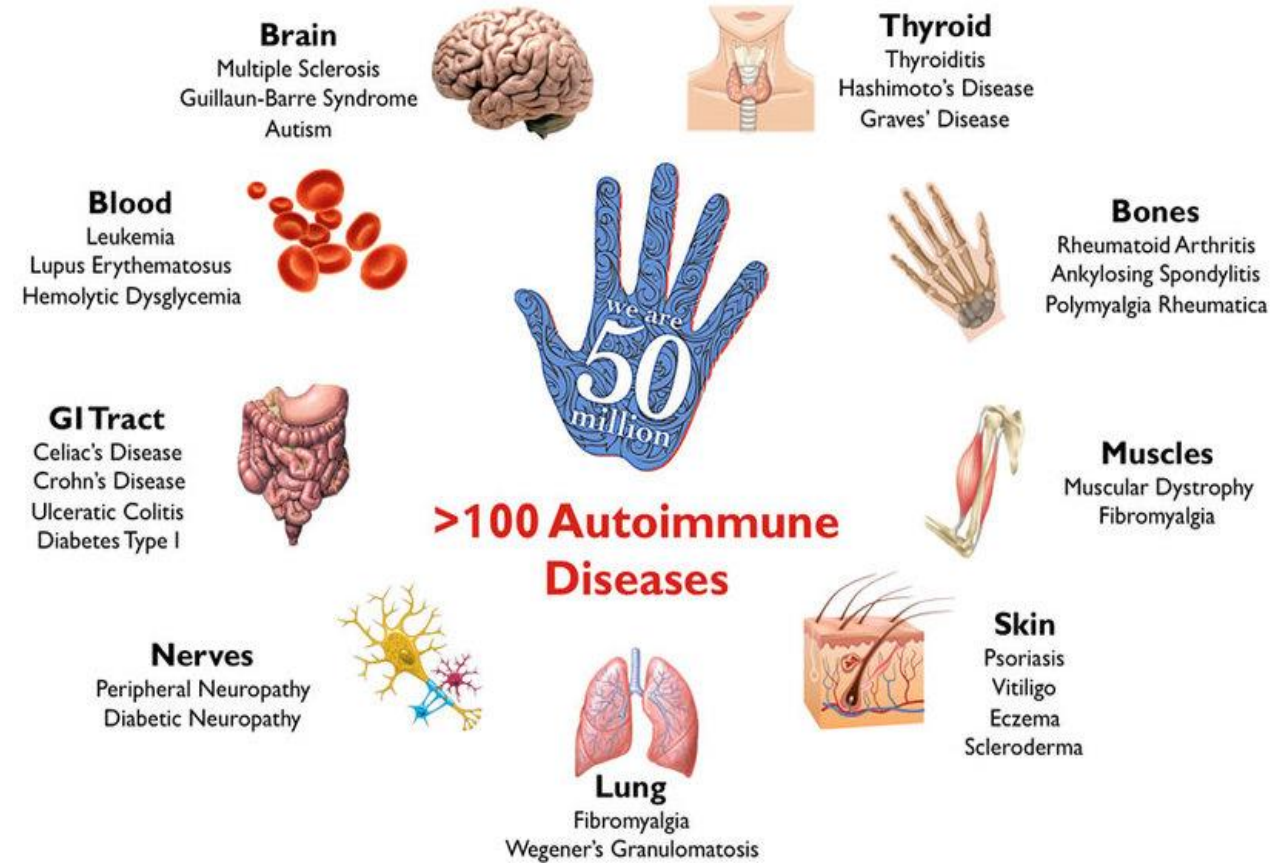
Liposme as a nanocapsule

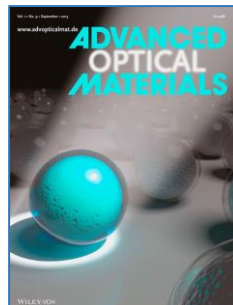
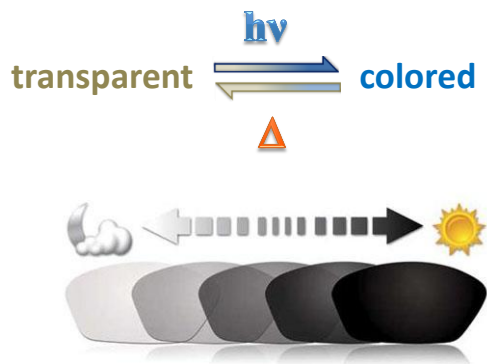
Goal: Clinical Trials (humans)
5 years
Needs: 5.2 M€
Raised: 1.3 M€



D. Maspoch

Autoimmune Diseases





Technology: fast changing photochromic coating.
Patent and publication

Futurechromes



Futurechromes, S.L.

Spin-off created on 6/2014
ICN2 joins the Spin-off on 4/2015



R&D and Distribution Agreement with a US global glasses manufacturer.

New joint US patent application by ICN2, CSIC, Futurechromes and US Company.



CSIC patent license.
CSIC received royalties
~ 83 k€ until now.

>1 M€ investment (100% private)
No public funding.



Commercial Product in TRL=6 (pre-production).
Royalty of 0,5US\$/glass sold during 20 years.
Worldwide sales from 2018.



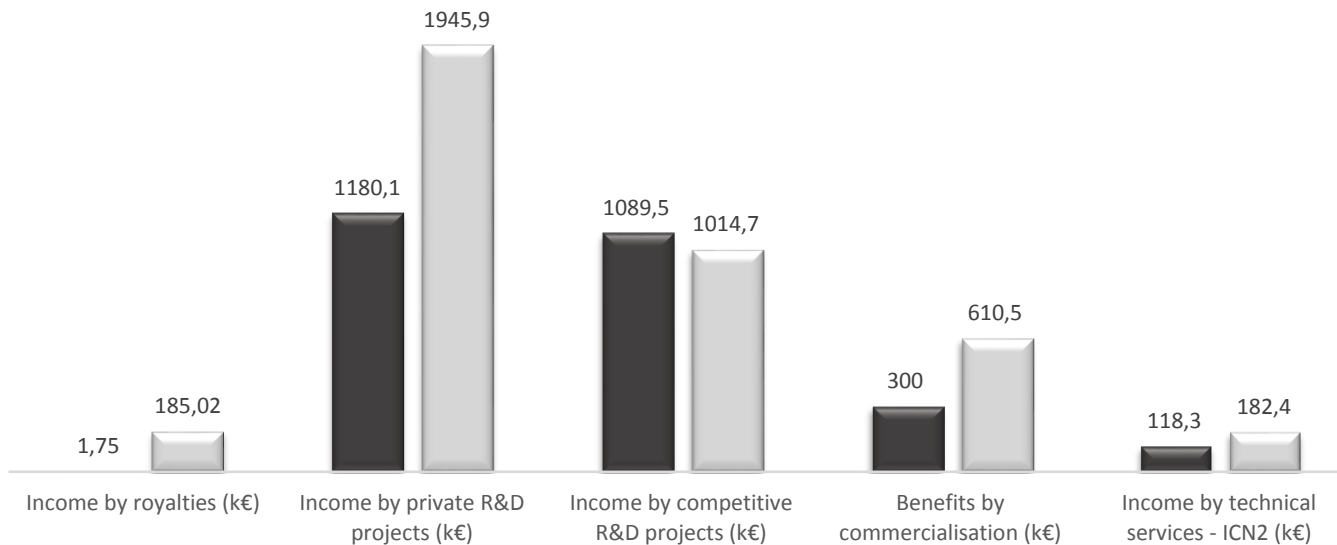


Severo Ochoa Centre of Excellence Award (2014-2018)



SO impact on innovation

■ 2009-2013 ■ 2014-2017



Industrial Collaborations

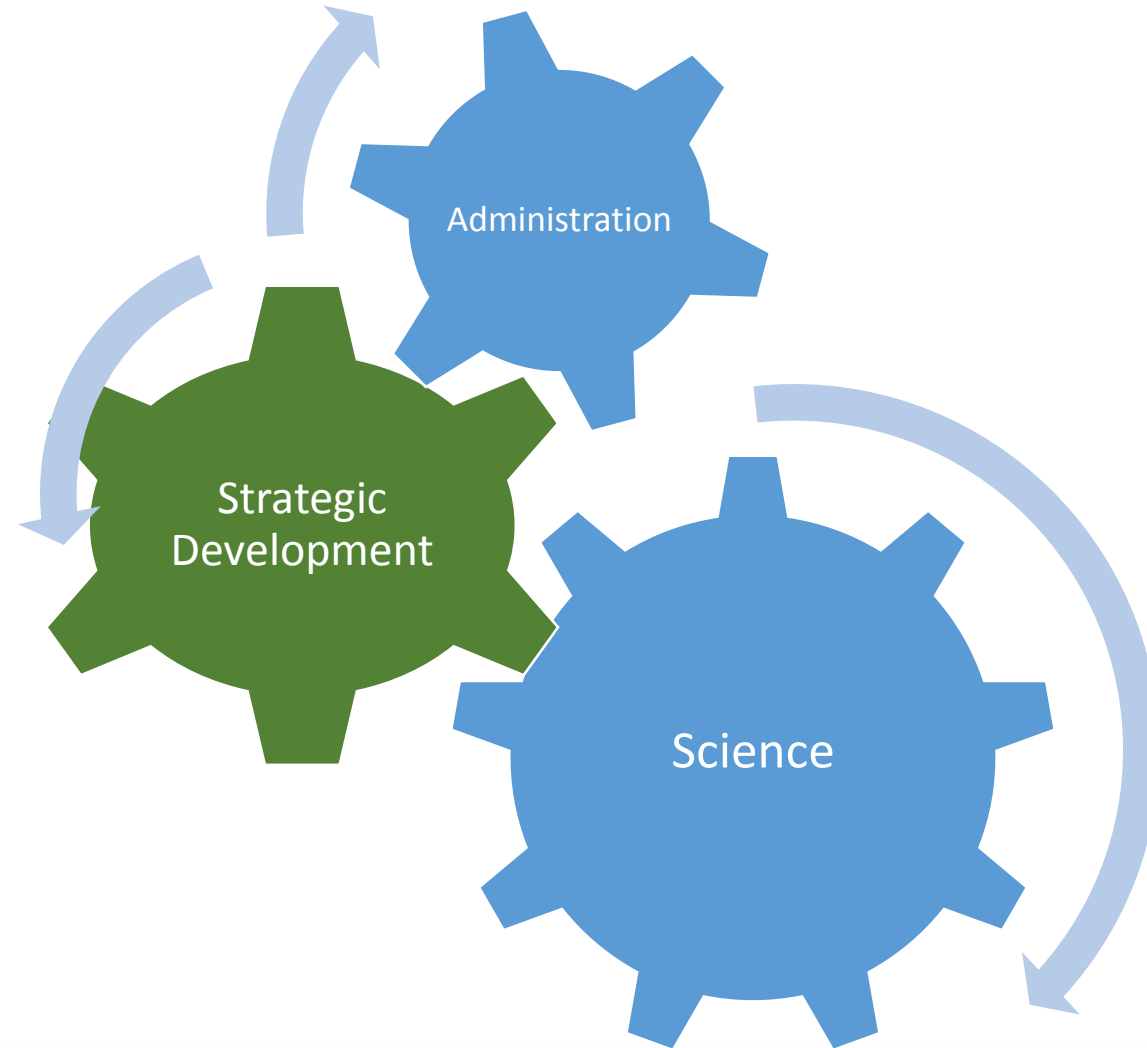


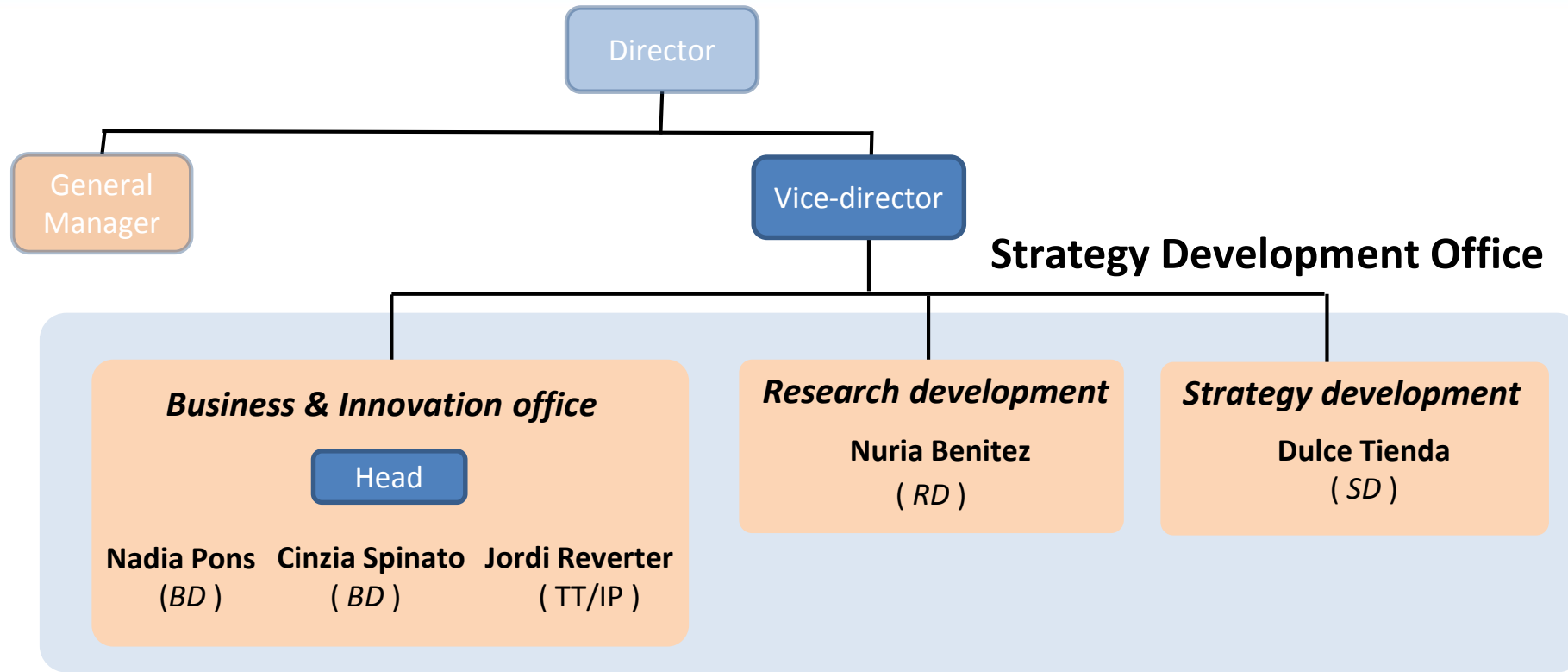
Severo Ochoa
Centre of Excellence Award
(2018-2022)



How do we jump to the next level?

Organizational Development





Roles of the Strategy Development Office

Strategy Development: Prepare and coordinate projects of strategic importance to the ICN2.

Research Development: Provision of advanced research funding support to ICN2 researchers.

Technology Transfer/IP Strategy: IP strategy & management, technology transfer support.

Business Development: Assist in developing and maintaining relationships with industry and the business community.

Strengthening the Technology Outcomes



- **Business and Technology Office**
- **Technology Accelerator:** resources (lab space, economic support for technology valorisation, mentoring) to support the early stages of technology transfer and drive value generation
- **ICN2 Venture Programme:** a financial instrument to allow participation in spinoffs based on emerging ICN2 technologies
- **KTT & BD Training and Mentoring Program:** an annual programme to identify and train ICN2 entrepreneurs.
- **A Roadmap for advancing TRLs**
- **Increase the links with the business sector,** by means of several actions



- **Junior Group Leader recruitment.** One already hired (Klaas-Jan Tielrooij, previously postdoc at ICFO); recruiting 2 more. Includes a generous start-up funding for expenses, personnel and equipment
- **Continued alignment of ICN2 recruitment procedures with European/International standards.** OTM-R
- **Participation in several H2020 COFUND projects**
- **Relocation package for international PhD and Postdocs fellows**
- **International Woman Master's Grants.** Sponsoring 2 women per year for their Master completion in the Barcelona area, performing their Master Project at ICN2



- **The ICN2 PhD Programme**, designed to boost the excellence of doctoral research at the ICN2, with an admission protocol, a training path, mentoring, and periodic assessment.
- **The ICN2 Mentoring Programme**
- **An Industrial PhD Programme**
- **The ICN2 Postdoctoral Training Programme**,
- **Research Competence Framework:** Aligning with the EC initiatives, define and implement a researcher competence framework, with competences defined for each career stage, based on the ECs research profile descriptors, with an emphasis on transferable skills.
- **Adoption of a Career Development Management Software** – control, tracking and management
- **Strengthening the ICN2 community**

Addressing the Gender Gap



The gender dimension will be addressed in all contexts:

- **ICN2 PhD Programme** – dissemination, selection panels including women, inclusion of members of the ICN2 Gender and Equality Committee in the selection processes
- **Mentoring Programme** – Roadmap designed for women
- **Working conditions and benefits:** family-friendly working conditions, incl. flexible working hours, temporary home-based working for personal/family reasons
- **ICN2 Governance:** Gender dimension and gender balance included into every decision-making process.

Specific tools:

- **Gender indicators used for internal evaluation at the group / unit level**
- **Membership of women in science associations**
- **Women in Science Seminars**
- **Travel allowances for women researchers**

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Thank you, and enjoy the Workshop!

Organised by:



Endorsed by the EARMA alumni:

