



GEORGIA'S INNOVATION &
TECHNOLOGY AGENCY

TOOLS TO STRENGTHEN THE INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM IN GEORGIA

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BRIEF REVIEW



- **GEORGIA'S INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY**

- **Established in February 2014;**
- **Chairman of the research and innovation board (Under the Ministry);**
- **Socio-Economic Development strategy – Georgia 2020;**
- **Strategy – Innovative Georgia 2020;**

- **GITA-S FUNCTIONS AND OBJECTIVES**

- **Establishment of Innovation ecosystem in Georgia;**
- **Supporting Business;**
- **Scientific Infrastructure;**
- **Financial Mechanisms – Grants, Investment programs;**
- **Infrastructure;**



ESTABLISHED AND ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- **CREATES INFRASTRUCTURE FOR INNOVATION:**
 - ✓ Tech parks;
 - ✓ Incubators;
 - ✓ Accelerators;
 - ✓ Innovation Laboratories (iLAB)
 - ✓ Fabrication Laboratories (FabLab)
 - ✓ BroadBand for All – High Speed Fiber optic internet – Open Net
- **SKILLS & CAPACITY BUILDING;**
- **REGULATORY FRAMEWORK;**
 - **Law on Grants;**
 - **Law on Innovation;**
 - **Amendments to the existing law;**
- **COMMERCIALISATION OF INNOVATION;**



GRANTS FOR INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

➤ **MINI GRANTS PROGRAM (750.000 GEL)**

- **AIM:** SUPPORTING MARKET ORIENTED INNOVATIVE PROJECTS INTO THE PROCESS OF COMMERCIALIZATION.
- **BENEFICIARIES:** NON-COMMERCIAL INSTITUTES AND INDIVIDUALS.
- **NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS** - 150
- **MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT** - 50.000 GEL
- **DURATION:** 12 MONTHS
- **17 PROJECTS FINANCED** (IT, BIOTECH, NEW MATERIALS...)

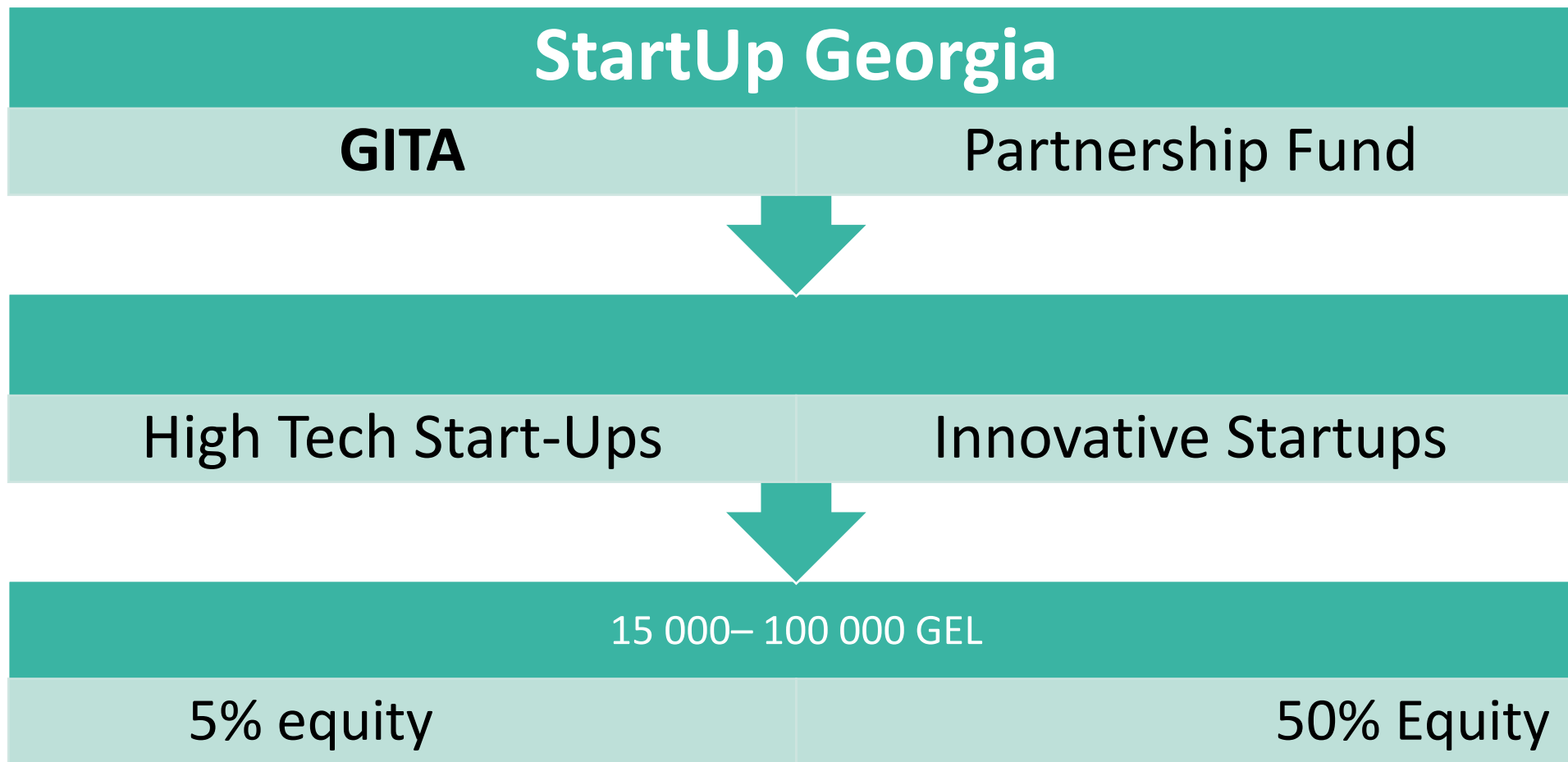
GRANTS FOR PRE - STARTUPS

➤ MICRO GRANTS PROGRAM (UP TO 5.000 GEL)

- **AIM:** SUPPORTING EARLY STAGE STARTUPS WITH PROTOTYPING, GLOBAL MARKET CONNECTIONS AND LOCAL MARKETING.
- **BENEFICIARIES:** NON-COMMERCIAL INSTITUTES AND INDIVIDUALS.
- **AMOUNT OF APPLICANTS:** 200
- **AMOUNT OF AWARDED GRANTS** – MORE THAN 64 APPLICANTS
- **DURATION:** 12 MONTHS

GRANTING STARTUPS

4 POINT ECONOMIC REFORM PLAN



WORLD BANK PROJECT

Georgia National Innovation Ecosystem (GENIE Project)

Component 1

Infrastructure for Innovation

1.1 Innovation Centers (IC)

1.2 Regional Innovation
Hubs (RIH)

1.3 Rural BroadBand
Connectivity

Component 2

Innovation Services

2.1 Building the
innovation community

2.2 Skills Development for
Jobs

2.3 Business Innovation
Support

Component 3

Innovation Financing

3.1 Start-up and
innovation matching
grants

3.2 Matching grant TA
and administration

3.3 Innovation financing
policy TA

Component 4: Project Management

MATCHING GRANTS MANUAL

- GRANTS OF WORLD BANK PROJECT:
 - Matching Grants
 - 30.000\$ Grants - Co-funding 10-15%
 - 250.000\$ Grants – Co-funding 40%
- Supporting start-ups
- Supporting Innovation



Horizon 2020 is the financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union, a Europe 2020 flagship initiative aimed at securing Europe's global competitiveness

10 reasons to apply for the SME Innovation Associate

- 1 Early stage support
- 2 The EU takes all the financial risks
- 3 Access to specialized knowledge
- 4 Light procedure
- 5 Critical support at the best time
- 6 A support tailored to the needs
- 7 Help in onboarding process
- 8 Core training by the EU
- 9 Multiple submissions are allowed
- 10 High chance of success



CALLS FOR PROPOSALS



European Commission

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Participant Portal

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Participant Portal > Calls

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Calls



H2020

Research Fund for Coal & Steel

3rd Health Programme

Promotion of Agricultural Products

Consumer Programme

COSME

Justice Programme

Calls for Proposals



Horizon 2020

[Advanced search for topics](#)
[Calls for tenders on TED](#)

- Excellent Science**
 - European Research Council (ERC)**
 - Future and Emerging Technologies (FET)**
 - Marie-Sklodowska-Curie Actions**
 - Research Infrastructures**
- Industrial Leadership**
 - Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (LEIT)**
 - Information and Communication Technologies**

Status Calls with forthcoming topics Calls with open topics Calls with only closed topics

Sort by Call title Call identifier Publication date

Filter a call

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Forthcoming/Open CALLS



GEORGIA'S INNOVATION &
TECHNOLOGY AGENCY

Topic: ICT-32-2017: Startup Europe for Growth and Innovation Radar

Forthcoming

Publication date: 14 October 2015

Types of action: CSA Coordination and support action, IA Innovation action

DeadlineModel: single-stage

Opening date: 08 December 2016

Deadline: 25 April 2017 17:00:00

Time Zone : (Brussels time)

Topic: SMEInst-03-2016-2017: Dedicated support to biotechnology SMEs closing the gap from lab to market

Open

Publication date: 14 October 2015

Types of action: SME-1 SME instrument phase 1

DeadlineModel: multiple cut-off

Opening date: 26 November 2015

Cut-off dates: 24 February 2016 17:00:00

03 May 2016 17:00:00

07 September 2016 17:00:00

09 November 2016 17:00:00

15 February 2017 17:00:00

03 May 2017 17:00:00

06 September 2017 17:00:00

08 November 2017 17:00:00

Time Zone : (Brussels time)

Topic: ICT-33-2017: Innovation procurement networks

Forthcoming

Publication date: 14 October 2015

Types of action: CSA Coordination and support action

DeadlineModel: single-stage

Opening date: 08 December 2016

Deadline: 25 April 2017 17:00:00

Time Zone : (Brussels time)

- "InnovFin – EU Finance for Innovators" is a joint initiative launched by the **European Investment Bank Group (EIB and EIF)** in cooperation with the European Commission under Horizon 2020.
- InnovFin consists of a series of integrated and complementary financing tools and advisory services offered by the EIB Group, covering the entire value chain of research and innovation (R&I) in order to support investments from the smallest to the largest enterprise.
- InnovFin is available across all eligible sectors under Horizon 2020, in EU Member States and Associated Countries.
- By 2020, InnovFin is expected to make over EUR 24bn of debt and equity financing available to innovative companies to support EUR 48bn of final R&I investments.

Two Products for Innovative Mid-Caps

1. Indirect Financing (Risk Sharing) for Senior Loans: Mid-Cap Guarantee



2. Direct Growth Financing (Mezzanine): Mid-Cap Growth Finance



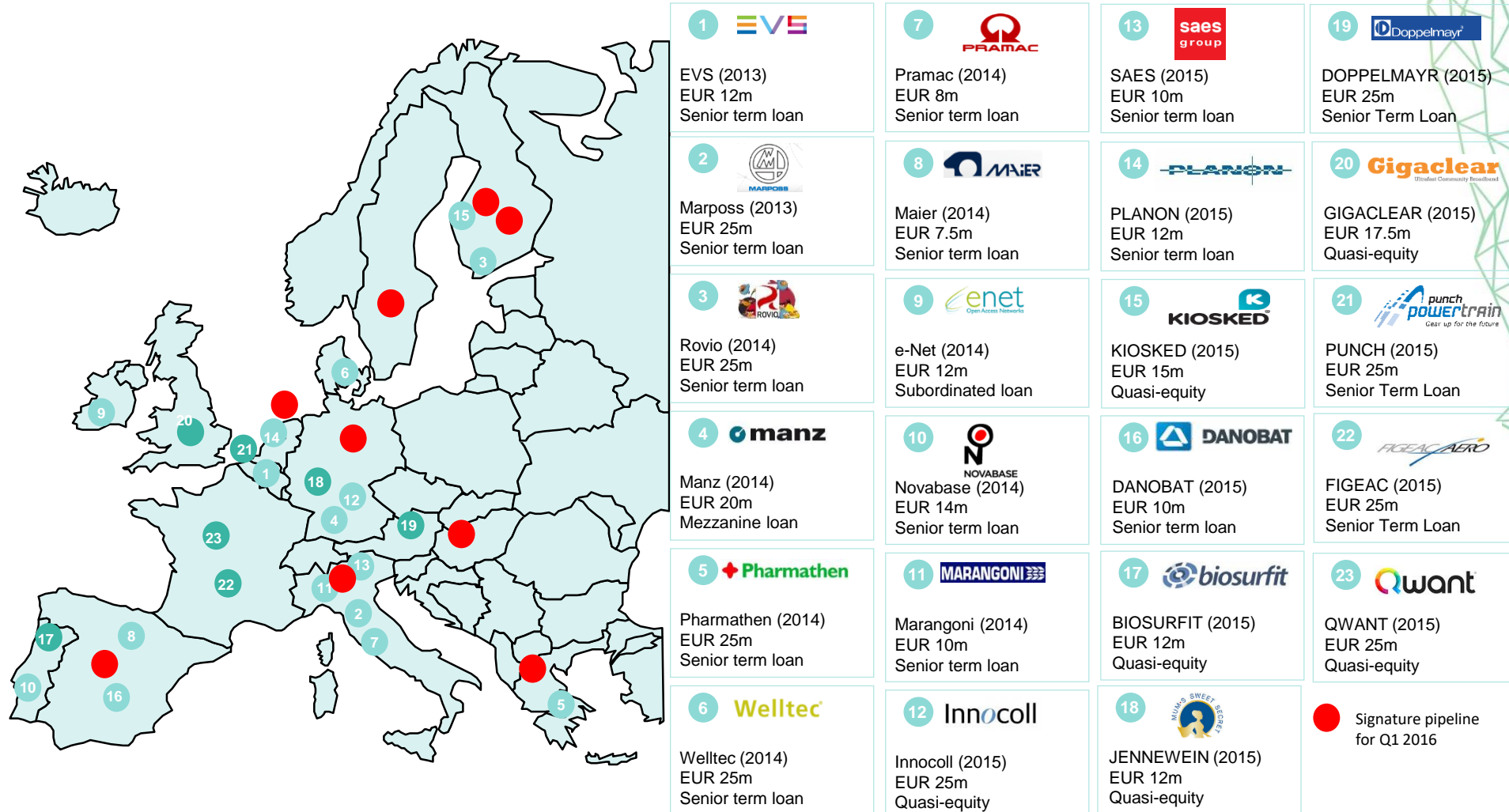
InnovFin MidCap Growth Finance

- Enables the EIB to provide between EUR 7.5m and EUR 25m in long-term senior, subordinated or mezzanine loans to innovative businesses with fewer than 3 000 employees in order to support their growth and investments in research and innovation (R&I).

InnovFin MidCap Guarantee

- MCG enables the EIB to provide a 50% guarantee on a portfolio (max EUR 500m) of new loans granted by financial intermediaries (FIs) to innovative companies with fewer than 3 000 employees at group level.

MidCap Growth Finance Transactions since Launch



InnovFin
SME Guarantee



GITA's
initiatives



GITA

Organized
InnovFin Info -
Day – 15
September, 2016

Will promote
InnovFin tools to
work in Georgia



FINANCING AND ADVISORY PROGRAMME SUPPORTING SME'S

BUILDING MODERN AND PROFITABLE SME'S IN GEORGIA THROUGH LOANS WITH GRANT
SUPPORT



What is the EU4Business-EBRD-Credit Line?

- A facility especially designed to help SMEs in Georgia to seize the opportunities presented by the DCFTA/AA (Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Association Agreement)
- **That means:** loans, grants and free-of-charge technical assistance available to SMEs that wish to upgrade their facilities to align their processes with the relevant EU Directives

Advantages

- By meeting EU Directives, the SME can better trade with EU countries even prior to Georgia's EU membership
- These investments typically also result in benefits related to EU markets as well as the competitive position in Georgia:
 - Improved quality of products, processes and working conditions
 - Increased capacity
 - Increase in sales, market share and profitability due to market expansion



Flexible Programme for Diverse Investment needs



List of Eligible Technologies (LET):

Credits for investments in pre- approved technology. . These investments should not exceed €300,000 and can receive a grant incentive of up to 10%



Simple Projects:

Credits for investments in reaching compliance with EU SPS or Food Safety technical regulations and standards as set forth in the DCFTA/ AA. These investments should not exceed €300,000 and can receive a grant incentive of up to 15%



Complex Projects:

Credits for more substantial investments in improving a company's competitiveness, ranging from new machinery to laboratory processes. Loans are possible up to €3 million with incentive grants of up to 15%





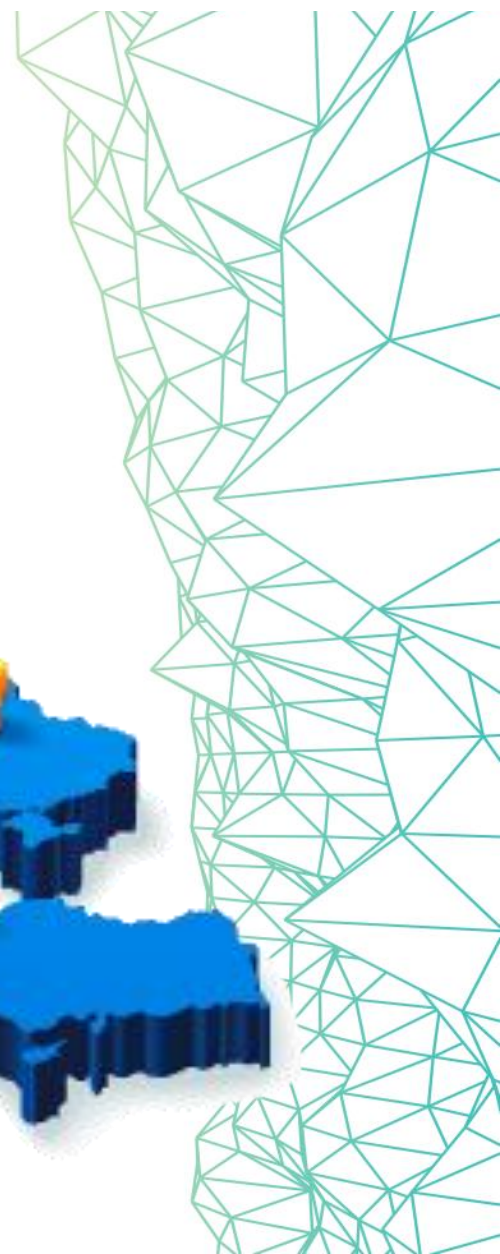
Enterprise Europe Network EEN

The Enterprise Europe Network is the world's largest support network for small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) with international ambitions.

Support for international business, innovation and research cooperation

- Partnership
- Advisory
- Innovation support

52 Countries
600 Organisations
3000 People



EEN services help you to

Feel the market

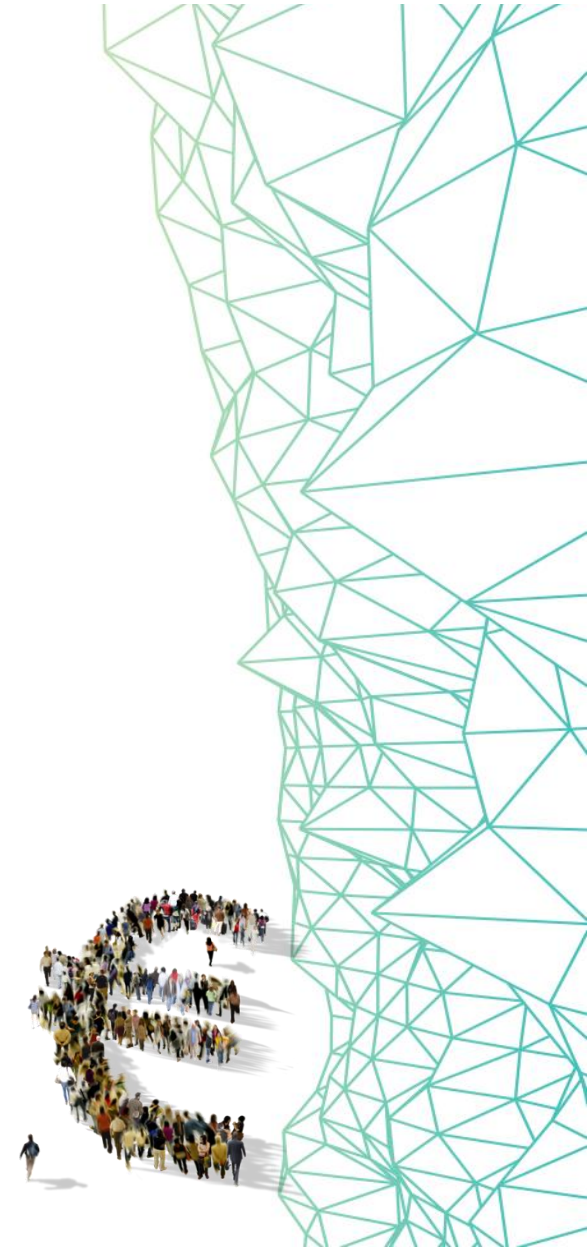
Sell your knowledge/technology

Find solutions to improve your products / services

Find cooperation partners & extend your network

Improve your competitiveness

Find partners in relevant EU programmes



EEN is active along the innovation value chain



**Support for
Research & Development**
Signposts SMEs to
relevant EU programs and
services (e.g. FP7/H2020,
NCPs, Eureka)

**Support for
Innovation & Technology**
Brokerage of innovation
offers & requests and
cooperation partners

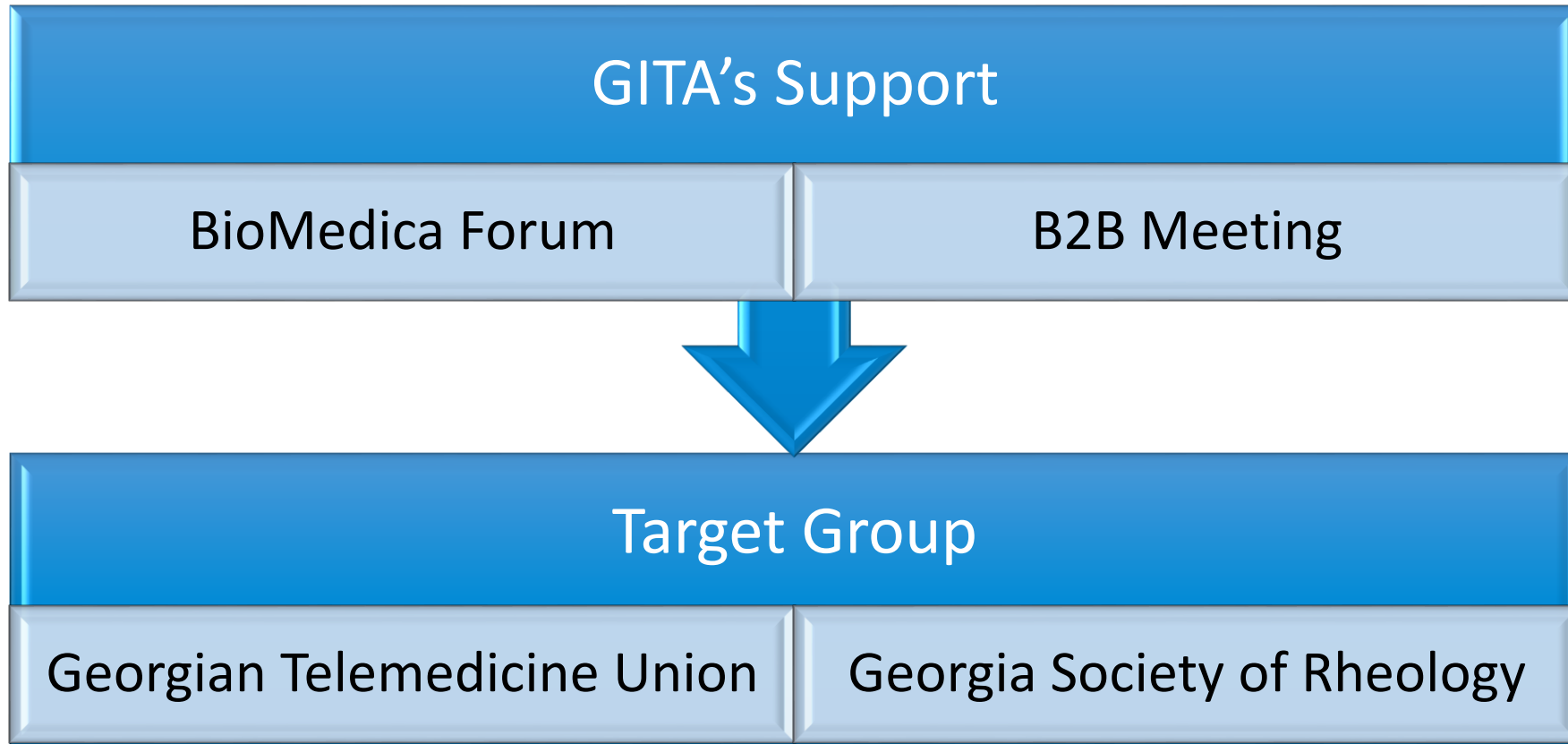
**Support for
Business & Markets**
Information on market
access, regulations and
business opportunities

The Network organises 70,000 international business meetings every year. Events include:

- Matchmaking and brokerage events where SMEs can meet potential business partners
- Company missions for targeted international meetings with strong business prospects



Enterprise Europe Networks helps small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) make the most of business opportunities in

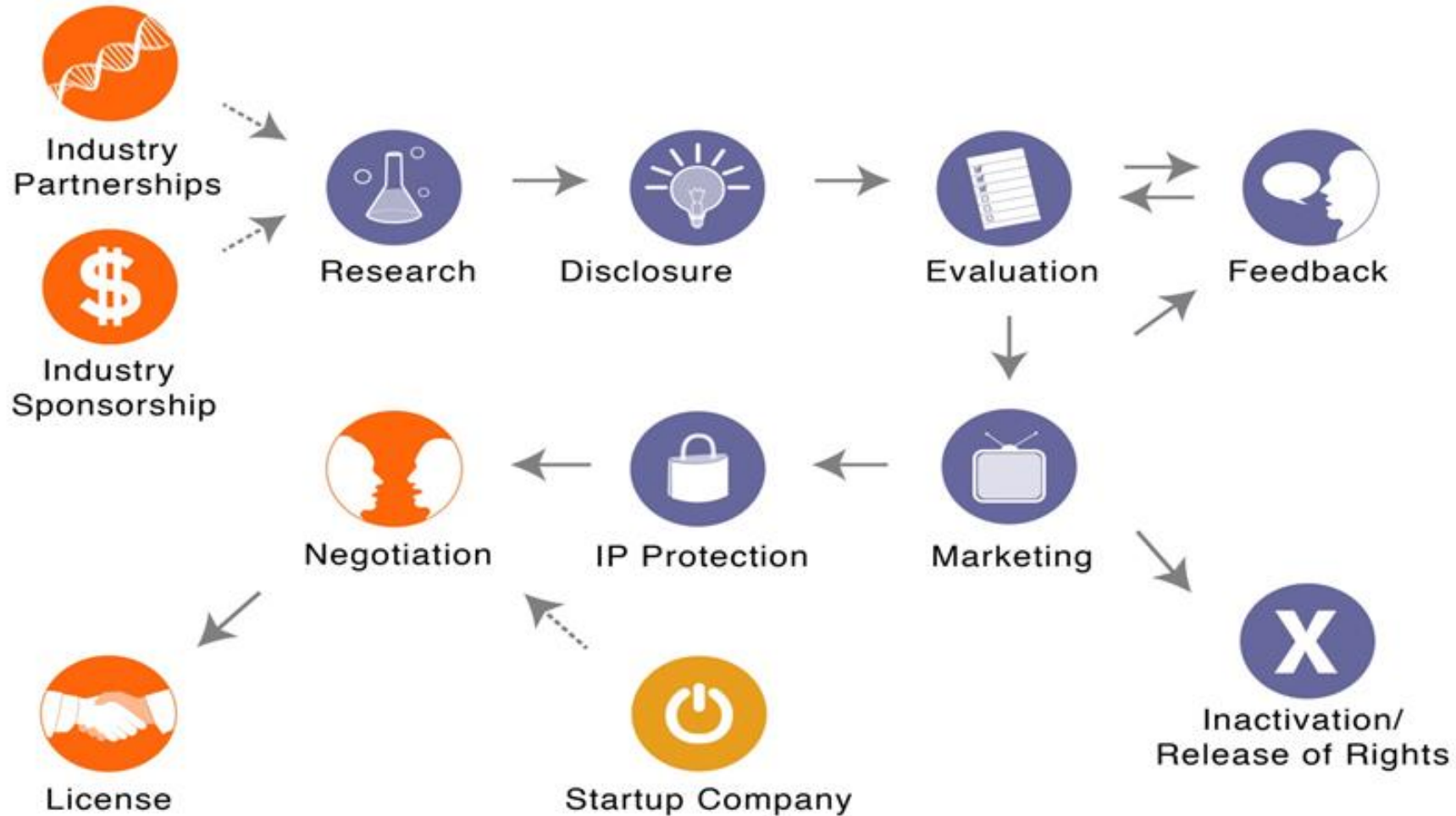




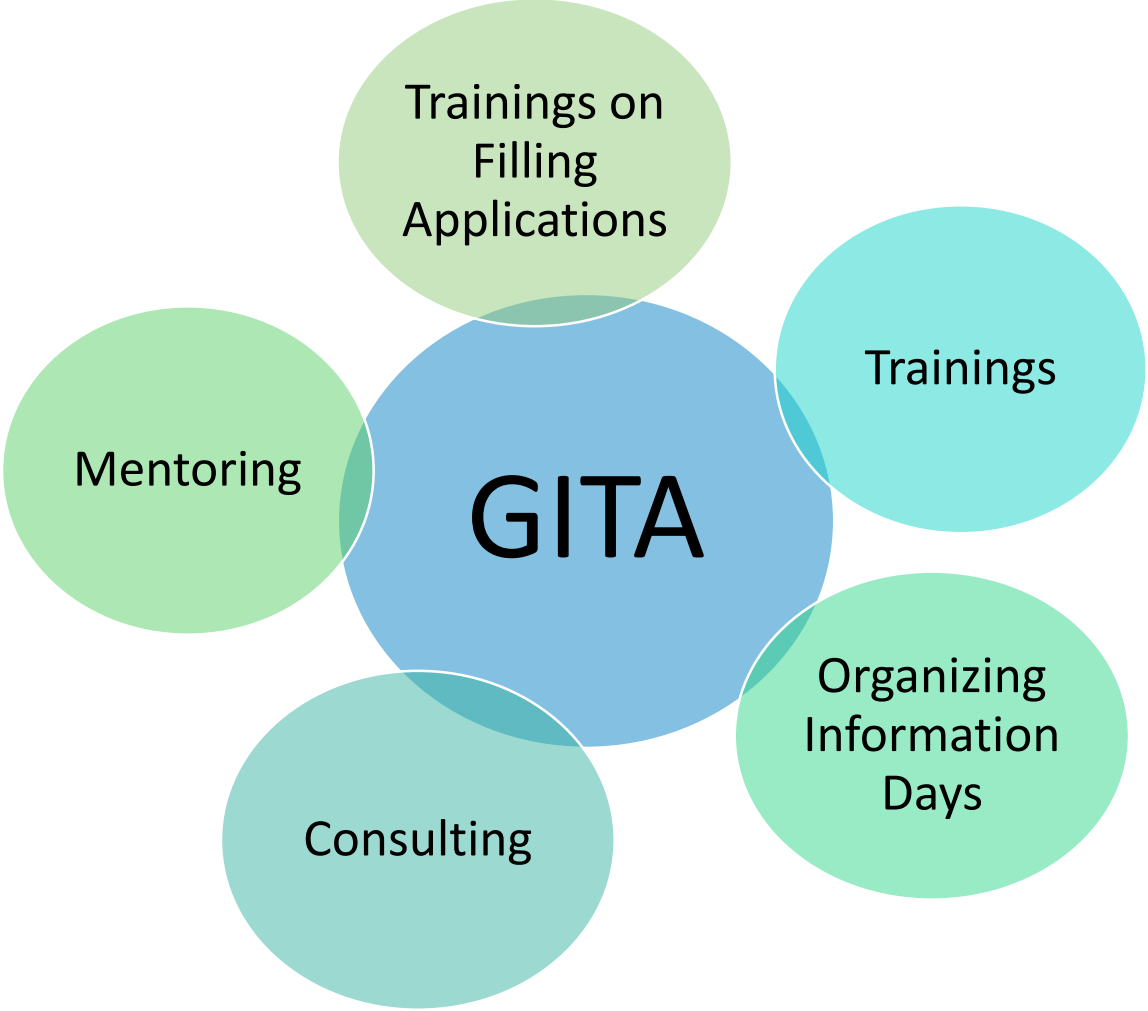
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROCESS



TRANSFERRING TECHNOLOGIES



GITA'S FUTURE STEPS





**MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
OF GEORGIA**



**GEORGIA'S INNOVATION &
TECHNOLOGY AGENCY**



Thanks for Attention

