



# The international ZIM cooperation network FOresight

ZENIT GmbH

Linda Claßen

04.04.2019, European Innovators Lounge

# Agenda

- ZENIT GmbH
- FOresight-Network
- Cooperation between the international network management institutions
- Creation of R&D projects
- What are the key learnings and pitfalls?

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# What is ZENIT?

Centre for Innovation and Technology in North Rhine-Westphalia GmbH

## Mandate

Promotion of innovation and technology,  
especially for SMEs in North Rhine-  
Westphalia (NRW)

## Management

Dr. Herbert Rath  
(CEO)

Dr. Karsten Lemke, Bernd Meyer  
(Authorized officers)

## Facts and Figures

4,6 Mio. € turnover (2017)

Non-profit, project business

Clients from NRW, the federal government  
and the EU,  
Founded 1984

## Team

54 Employees

Interdisciplinary Teams



# Areas of consulting

## Focal points and competencies

### Europe

EU information  
Internationalization consulting  
Search for cooperation partners

### ZIM Cooperation Networks

Management of ZIM cooperation networks  
Marketing/ Market reports



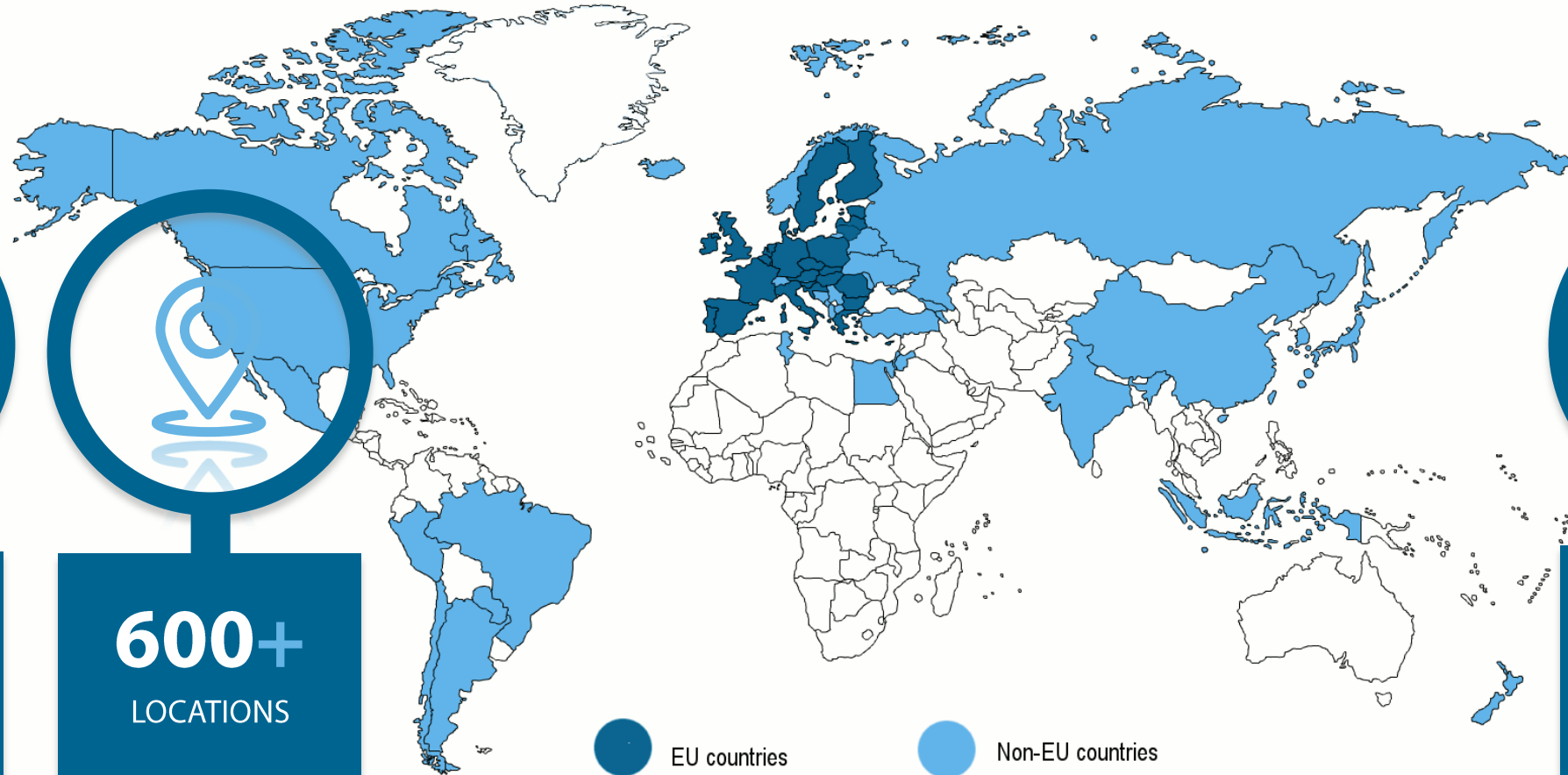
### Public Funding

Funding information  
Evaluation of project ideas  
Program selection  
Application support  
R&D projects

### Innovation Management

International technology transfer,  
Innovation management,  
Technology research,  
and expert reports

# ZENIT is part of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)



**3000**  
LOCAL  
EXPERTS



**600+**  
LOCATIONS

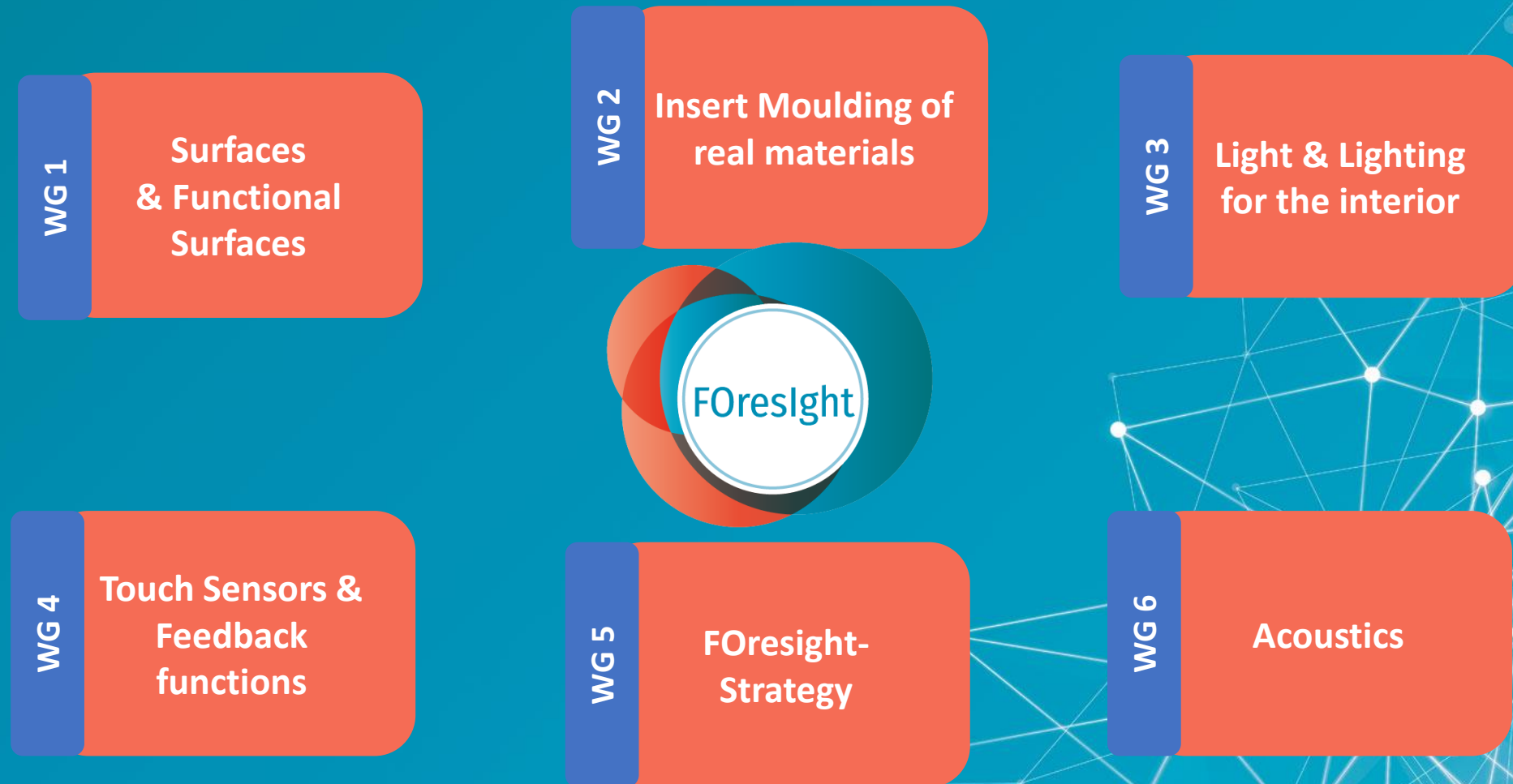


**60+**  
COUNTRIES  
WORLDWIDE

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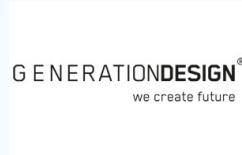
# FOreslght: Functional Integration and new Surfaces for the automotive interior of the Future



# Network Partner – Phase 2 (1.11.2018-31.10.2021)

**SME (8)**

**Int. SME (6)**



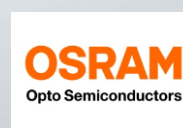
**R&D**

**Institutes (10)**

**Int. (1)**



**Associated (12)**



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# International ZIM Network



## Network Management Switzerland



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Innosuisse – Schweizerische Agentur  
für Innovationsförderung

## Network Management UK



UNIVERSITY of  
GREENWICH

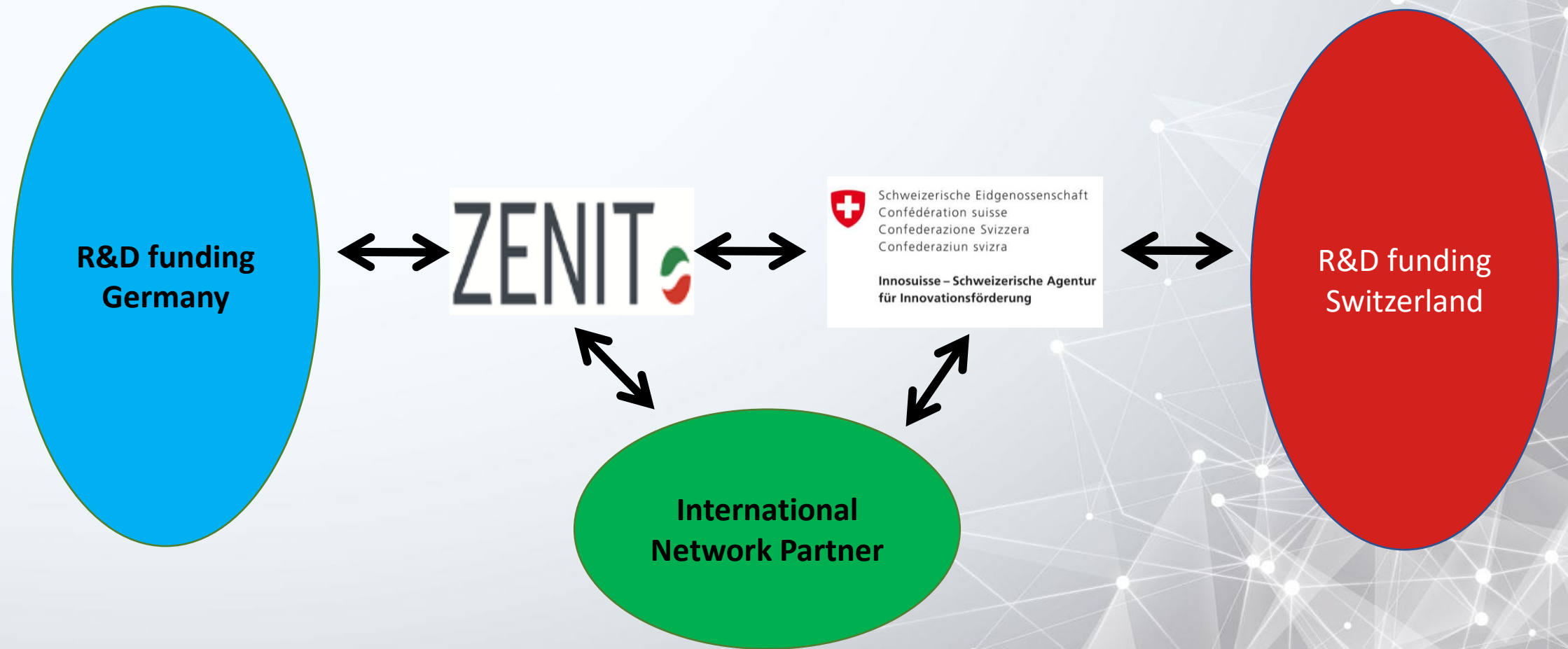
## Network Management Netherlands



Netherlands Enterprise Agency



## How do we cooperate with InnoSuisse?

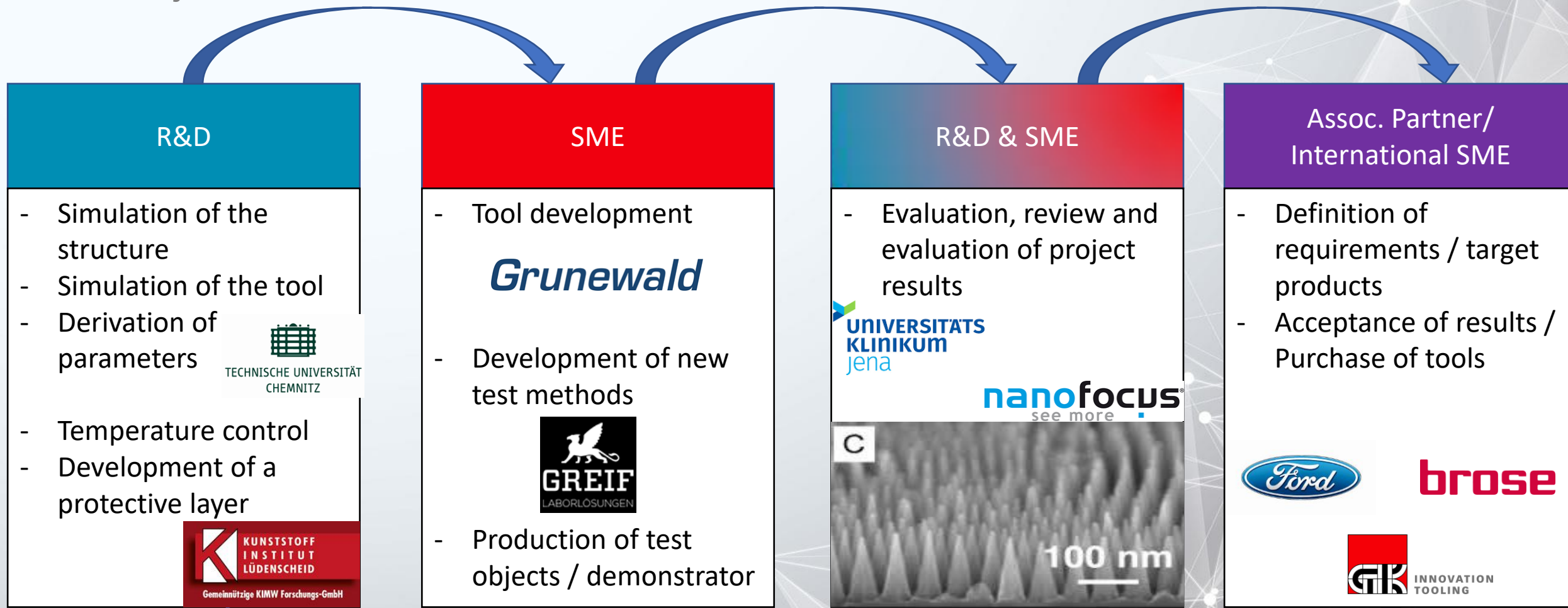


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# Example of a project creation with an international partner (Switzerland)

## • Project CleanSurface



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# What are the key learnings and pitfalls?

- Large spatial separation  
-> use of web tools
- Higher translation costs (contracts, marketing etc.)  
-> main language is English
- Cultural differences (commitment, speed)
- International partners less willing to pay contribution for network
- Funding for international partners can mostly be found in EU projects
- International partners are often “associated partners” in German R&D projects (no funding)

# Contact details



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