



ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑ  
ΚΡΗΤΗΣ

# ***CRETE2020: Development strategy and Smart Specialization***

***George Alexakis  
Regional Counsellor***

# Crete at a glance



- ▶ *The largest Greek island*
- ▶ *Population : ~621000 (2011 census) (5,75% of the population of GR)*
- ▶ *5,3% of the National GDP*
- ▶ *2<sup>nd</sup> most innovative region in Greece (GDP/capita for R&D)*
- ▶ *Strong research infrastructures*
- ▶ *Among the Greek regions with the lowest number of innovative SMEs !!*
- ▶ *Over 75% of the Regional GDP from services*

# ***CRETE: REGIONAL PROFILE***

**Region of Crete: Intermediary  
development stage**

**Regional GDP: 85% EU27**

**Position: 170**

***Fast rate of development for a  
long period.***

***5<sup>TH</sup> position among Greek regions  
regarding GDP/capita.***

***More balanced economic  
activities***

***Very extrovert***

***Very weak industrial base  
Compared with other Greek  
regions: Research &  
Innovation***

***Weak entrepreneurial  
activities***

***Strong comparative  
advantages***

***but***

***Low competitiveness***

# Due to economic recession

- Reduction of regional income
- No Investments
- Less demand
- Limited cash flow (businesses, consumption)
- Brain drain !!!

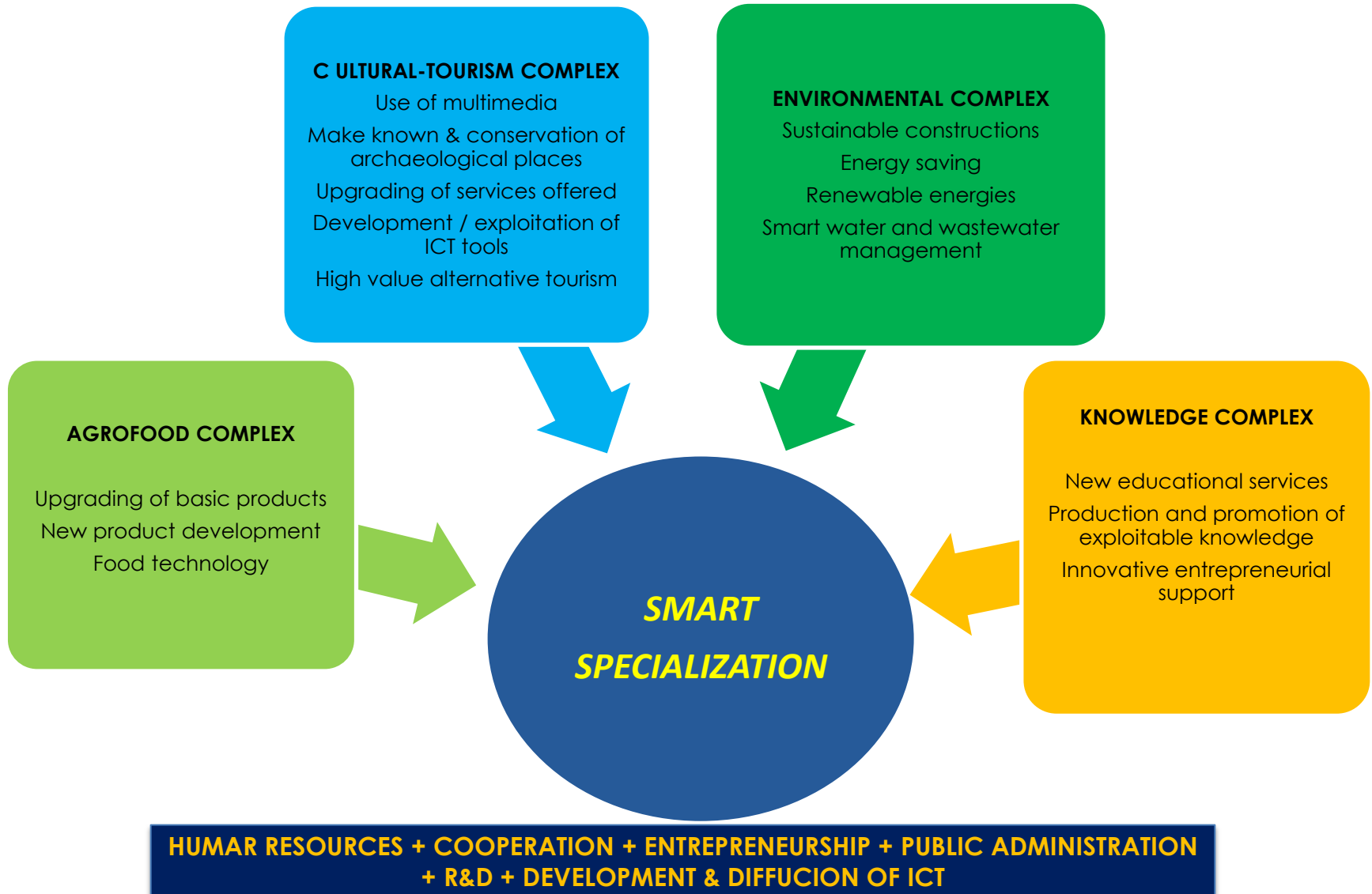
# Challenges

From the planning of this period emerged the prospect of turning the big challenge of 2020 for our region and for our country **in endogenous growth opportunity**, with a mixture of strategy formed by the strategies of "**unique characteristic properties**" of "**political opportunity**" and "**unlimited ideas**" for development, the territorial dimension and regional specialization approach.

# ***CRETE: A DYNAMIC REGION***



# SMART SPECIALIZATION SECTORS



# ***SMART SPECIALIZATION: REGIONAL PRIORITIES***

**2014 - 2020 - 2025**

***REGENERATION OF  
AGROFOOD COMPLEX***

***MAKE OFF  
CULTURAL –  
TOURISM  
COMPLEX AS  
WORLD LEADER***

***SUPPORT OF  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
ACTIVITIES IN THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
COMPLEX***

***NEW ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE FUTURE  
IN THE  
EDUCATIONAL  
COMPLEX***



# ***Barriers to Competitiveness***

***WEAK LINKS BETWEEN  
BUSINESS & RESEARCH***

***WEAK INTERSECTORAL  
COLLABORATIONS***

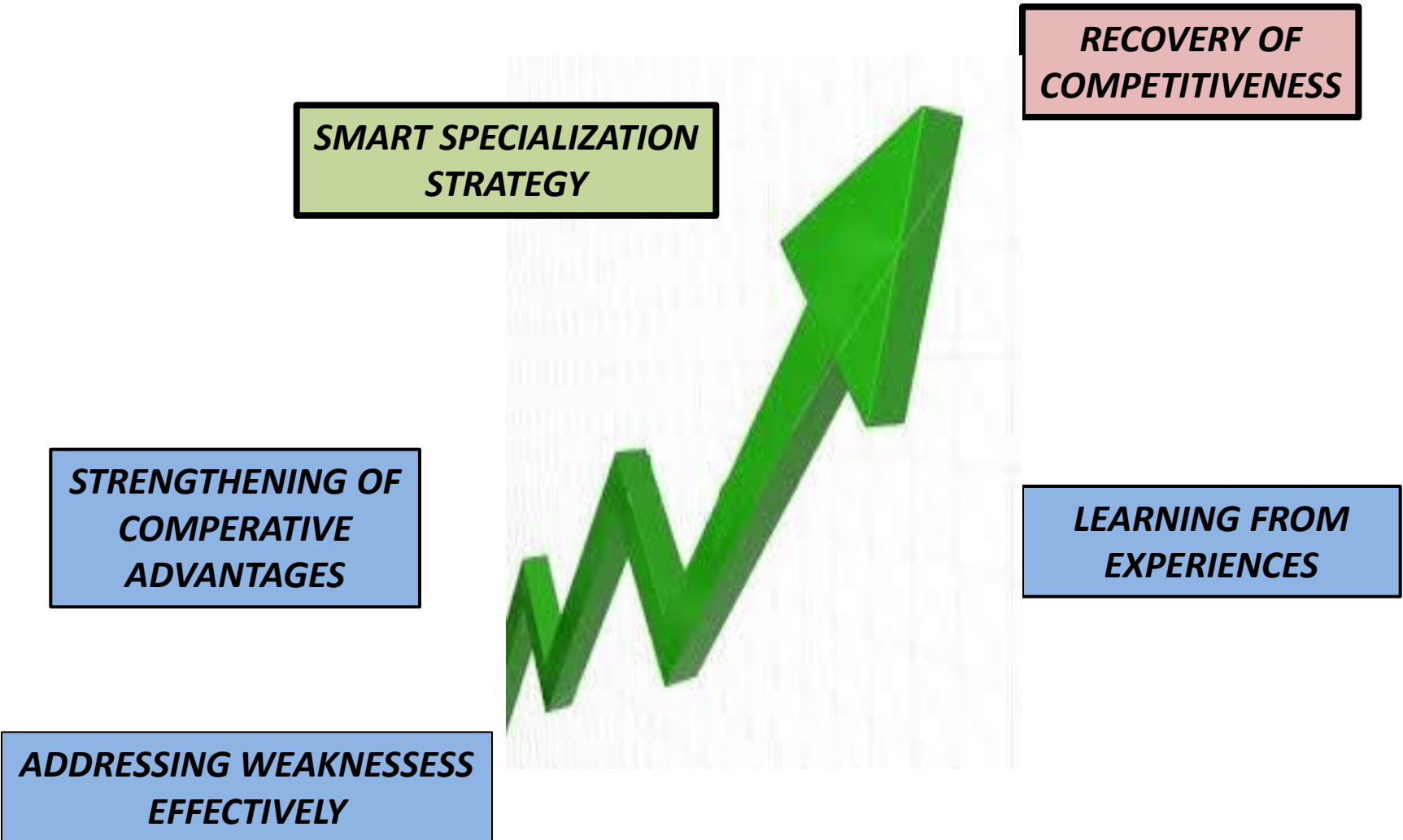
***ENTREPRENEURIAL  
CULTURE***

***FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS –  
BUREAUCRACY***

***LOW COMPETITIVENESS***



# ***Barriers to Competitiveness***



# ***FOCUS ON IMPROVEMENT OF BASIC WEAKNESSES***

## **HORIZONTAL POLICIES**

**SUPPORT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

**ENCOURAGEMENT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

**SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

**DEVELOPMENT & DIFFUSION OF ICT**

**SUPPORT FOR COLLABORATION – CLUSTERS DEVELOPMENT**

**UPGRADE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!***

***INFO: [www.crete-region.gr](http://www.crete-region.gr)***