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Entrepreneurship and Innovation: The Practitioners' Perspectives (1)

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ESA BICS: ENABLING SPACE ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN NON-ESA MEMBER STATES

Abstract

In recent years ESA has been requested to support local "ESA" Business Incubation Centers in non-ESA Member States, which would function as a local hub for startups coming from the ESA BICs and at the same time support local start-ups. These centers would and could identify downstream markets

where European companies have open access and where they can establish a competitive advantage over domestic businesses. These centers could serve as a "sales point" for commercial activates. Furthermore, the local centers could identify key technologies and commercial endeavors that could have a meaningful impact in Europe. These centers should be fully funded by the local partners and enable the collaboration

between space entrepreneurs in Europe and in non-ESA Member States. The first pilots of the ESA BICs

in non-ESA member are being under discussion with several non-ESA members states with a strong entrepreneurial community with the potential to take advantage and support the center. In the next 6 months the first pilots will be initiated and with the learned lessons a scalable model will be proposed for other nations to take advantage of the collaboration with ESA. In this paper the main characteristics of

an ESA BICs in non-ESA member states is presented as well as the requirements and conditions necessary to establish such center. The impact to the local and the international partners will also be presented.