



Strengthening Technology Innovation in SMEs



Vision, Mission, Strategic Thrusts and Roles

Vision

Dynamic and innovative Singapore enterprises

Mission

**To enhance the competitiveness of enterprises
for a vibrant Singapore economy**

**Strategic
Thrusts**



**Nurture a
pro-business
environment**



**Champion
industry
development**



**Build
enterprise
capabilities**



**Improve
access to
markets and
business
opportunities**

Roles

**National Body for SME Development
and Standards & Conformance**

3-Pronged Approach to SME Development

- Provide Broad-based Support
 - Access to Information and Services
 - SME Financing
 - Promote Entrepreneurship
- Build Industry Capabilities
 - Strengthen Industry Leadership
 - Set Up Critical Industry Infrastructure
- Develop Enterprise Capabilities
 - Business systems, management, branding, technology innovation, strategic suppliers

The Current State

Demand-side Gaps

KNOWLEDGE

- SMEs don't understand what technologies are available & how they can be applied to their businesses

CAPABILITY

- SMEs have limited internal ability to develop and manage technology

AFFORDABILITY

- SMEs can't afford new technologies and licensing costs

Limited, ad hoc adoption and application of technology by SMEs for product & process innovation

Supply-side Gaps

INFORMATION

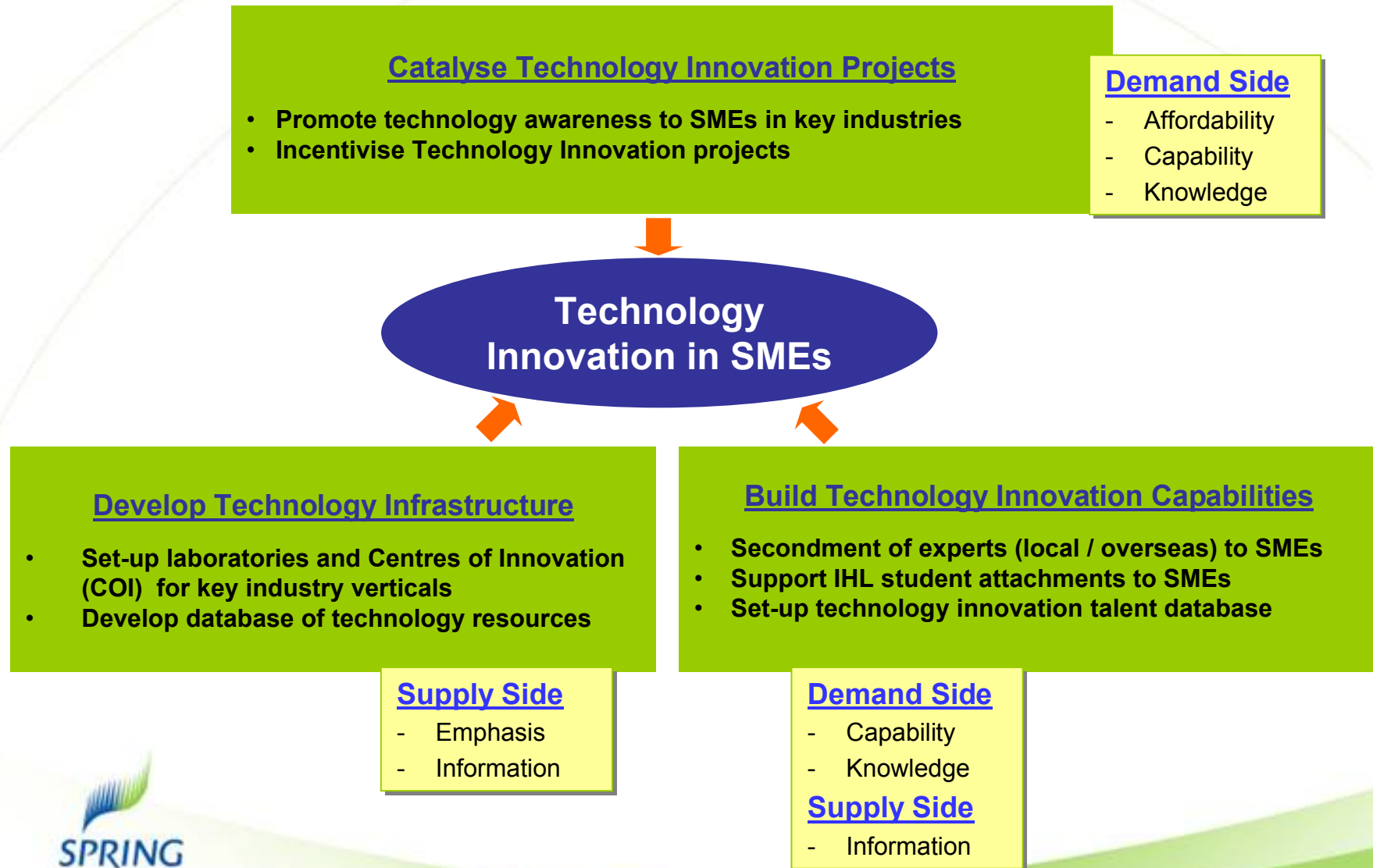
- No consolidated directory of technology support infrastructure and services available

EMPHASIS

- Existing technology support providers do not focus on commercialisation and SME needs

Technology Innovation Programme

5-year plan to increase SME's adoption of technology innovation



COIs Already Announced...



Marine & Offshore Engineering

- Offshore construction & processing
- New processes for inspection & testing
- Component design & analysis

Environment & Water Technology

- Water, waste treatment & remediation technology
- Alternative energy & energy management
- Monitoring & instrumentation control
- Air pollution control



Food Manufacturing

- Proof-of-Concept, Product & Process Development
- Shelf-life extension & packaging
- Food safety and hygiene
- Ready in 2nd Quarter 2007



Precision Engineering

- ultra-precision machining, forming, coating
- technology specific training, pilot manufacturing
- RFID & intelligent systems, Process simulation
- automotive, aerospace & med-tech
- Ready in 4th Quarter 2007

Funding for SMEs to Adopt Technology

❖ Build Capabilities

- Strengthen in-house technology innovation capabilities
- Support secondment of experts from polytechnics, universities and other knowledge institutions, both local & overseas
- Up to 70% of costs for 2 years; salary capped at \$10,000 per month per expert

❖ Catalyse Projects

- Undertake impactful technology innovation projects
- Up to 50% of qualifying costs (Manpower, Equipment & Materials, Professional Services, IPR, Prototyping and Technical Support Services)
- Higher support at 70% for Industry-wide projects
- Maximum grant capped at \$500,000 per SME per project.

TIP Guiding Principles

- ❖ Focus on SMEs that are willing & able to adopt technology
 - SMEs with viable business plans with a strong emphasis on technology innovation
 - Scalable business model, with strong growth potential
- ❖ Market-driven, with co-investment from partners
 - Programme will be driven by business needs of SMEs
 - SMEs expected to co-invest in specific projects
- ❖ Leverage existing infrastructure & programmes
 - Make use of existing facilities and capabilities
 - Minimise duplication of resources across different government agencies

How SMEs can benefit

1. Centres of Innovation

- 4 COIs in already announced, operationally ready by 2nd Quarter 2007
- Technology consultancy and advice for SMEs, including development projects
- More information available in coming months.

2. Expert Help

- SPRING Singapore & partners can help identify and introduce the right expert from A*STAR research institutes, Polytechnics, and Universities
- 70% of costs for 2 years can be funded

3. Project Development

- Defray cost of projects that use technology to develop or improve products, processes or business models new to the SME
- Approved projects can receive up to 50% support for qualifying costs. Industry-wide projects can enjoy up to 70% support

▪Thank you

- For more information, SMEs can call existing SPRING contacts or EnterpriseONE hotline
 - Tel: 6898 1800
 - E-mail: enterpriseone@spring.gov.sg

Thank You

For any enquiries, pls contact SME First Stop

Email: firststop@spring.gov.sg

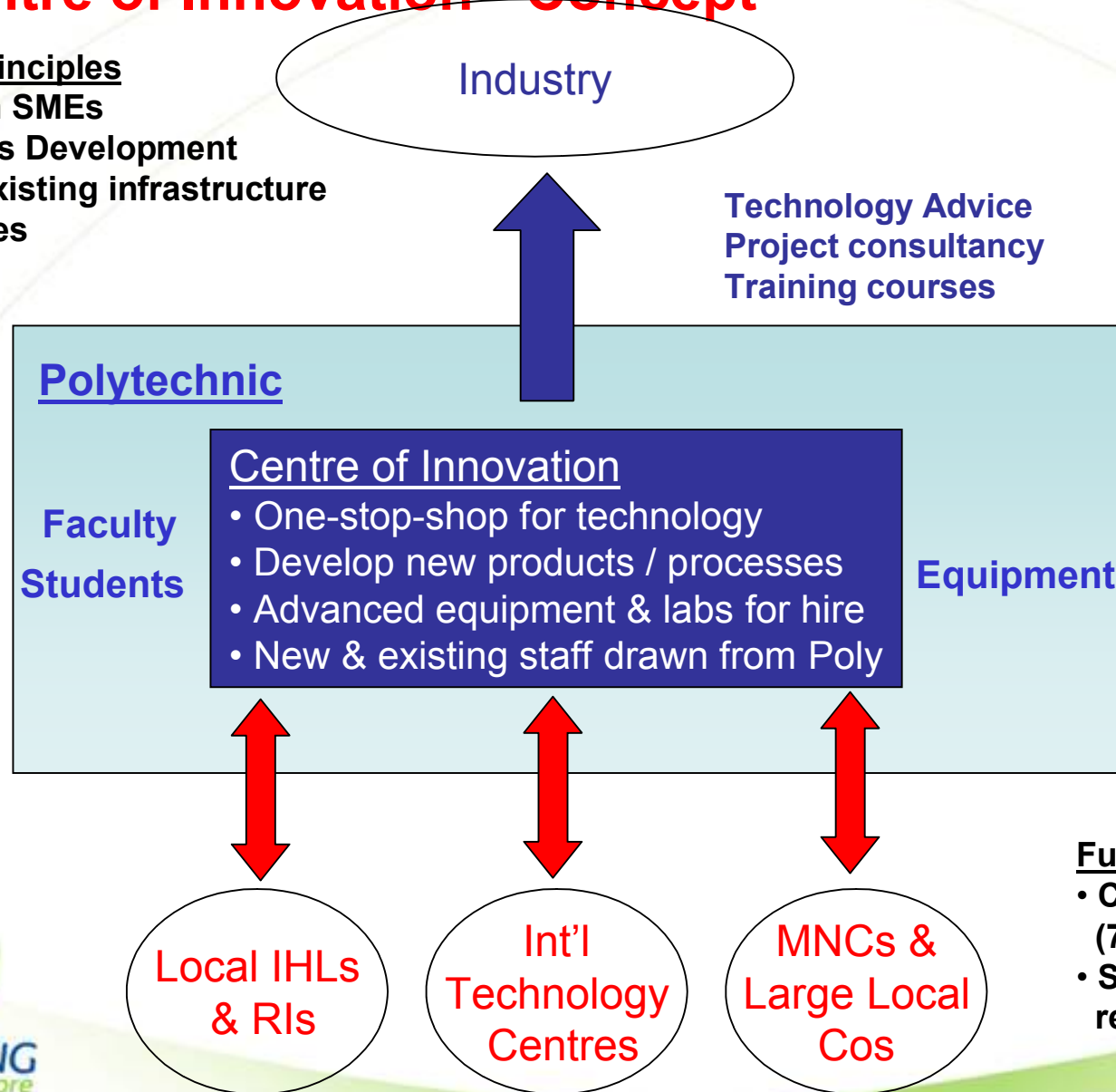
Tel: 6898 1800

Develop Technology Infrastructure

Centre of Innovation - Concept

Operating Principles

- Focused on SMEs
- Applications Development
- Leverage existing infrastructure & capabilities



Technology Advice
Project consultancy
Training courses

Polytechnic

Faculty
Students

Centre of Innovation

- One-stop-shop for technology
- Develop new products / processes
- Advanced equipment & labs for hire
- New & existing staff drawn from Poly

Equipment

Local IHLs
& RIs

Int'l
Technology
Centres

MNCs &
Large Local
Cos

Funding

- Co-funded by SPRING (70%) & MOE (30%)
- Start-up & 3-year recurring costs only