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SWITCH4FOOD

“Services for Water and InTegrated teCHniques for FOODindustry”

Ecoforum: « Επιχειρηματικές ευκαιρίες μέσω πράσινων παρεμβάσεων »
Έκθεση ECOTEC

8 Απριλίου 2011



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Switch4Food



Aims to identify and analyze best practices and knowledge (technologies/methodologies) of SMEs in the food industry for water use and wastewater to allow their exchange and transfer among the involved countries

The water management and waste water treatment and discharge cannot be considered separately by the topics waste management and energy recovery.

EKT

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cip competitiveness and innovation
framework programme
2007-2013



Consortium: 9 partners, all members of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), operating in 8 Countries, 6 from the European Union Italy, Spain, **Greece (EKT/NHRF)**, Germany, Bulgaria, and two further partners located in key Mediterranean regions, Turkey and Israel.





One of the **largest industry sectors** (second, after the metal industry) in the European Union / the **most high-growth manufacturing sector in Greece**

Water Management Problems in Food Industry:

Strict **EU, national & regional legislations** to ensure **quantity** but mostly **quality** of the water supply

- The need to use high quality water to guarantee **public health** (Food Safety),
- IPPC (Integrated Prevention and Pollution Control) Directive imposes the **reduction and minimization of natural resources**



SMEs require heavy investment & support services to ensure quantity & quality of water supply





Project Objectives



Support **Food industry SMEs** to identify & manage **environmental problems & solutions related to water management**

- Identify **best common practices** related to water management in the food industry
- Creation of **Food SMEs Environmental Clubs** to define common technological needs, share experiences, boost networking activities among food SMEs
- Facilitate the **interaction among environmental consultants** (Environmental Services Providers-ESPs), & **SMEs of the Food industry** in order to filter and tailor the technical offers to SMEs' needs
- Create fruitful synergy among the different actors: SMEs, EEN Network, Environment Services Providers and Local Authorities.
- Identify **new business opportunities** starting from environmental problems



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LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES (LEVEL 3)

- water preservation for human use and natural water bodies and wetlands
- mitigation of draughts and water

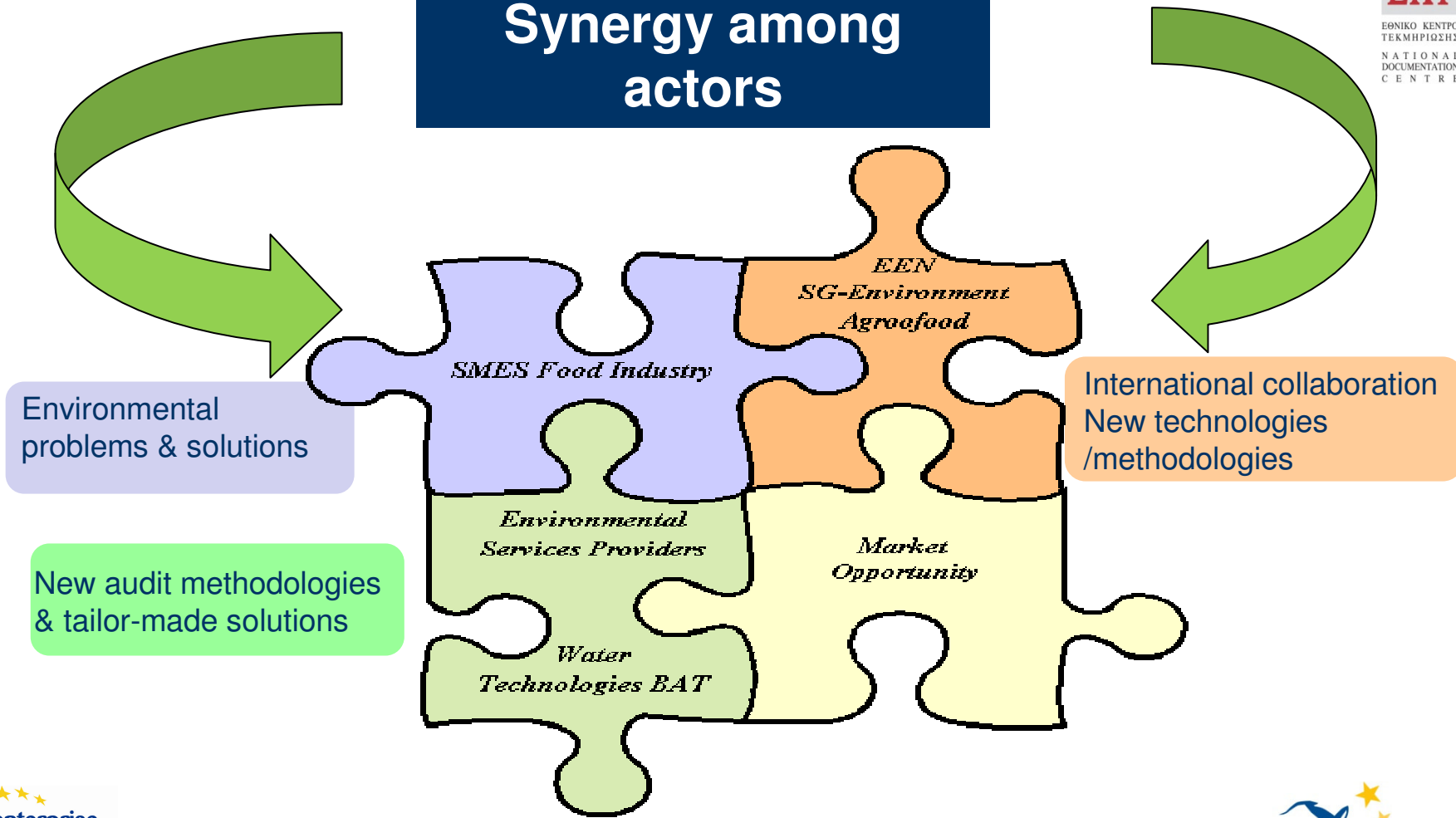
MID-TERM OBJECTIVES (LEVEL 2)

- reduction of fresh water consumption
- reduction of the environmental impacts of water and waste treatments
- waste and wastewater reduction, including sludge from wastewater treatment

DIRECT OBJECTIVES (LEVEL 1)

- Situation of the food sector in Europe is analysed (WP 1)
- SMEs are made aware of the beneficial effects of environmental measures (WP 2, 6)
- SMEs are advised on environmental measures (all WP)
- SMEs participate in national and transnational networking activities (WP 2, 3)

Synergy among actors





Food SMEs Environmental Clubs (FSEC)



WHAT? Small Clubs (at the beginning 10 SMEs)
Periodically meetings
Supported by Environmental Services Providers
EEN Services

WHY? Define common technological needs, share experiences, build common facilities & create new business starting from environmental and energy problems



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Food SMEs Environmental Clubs (FSEC)

Goals:

- To change the approach towards environmental problems
- To boost SMEs networking & internationalisation activities

Advantages

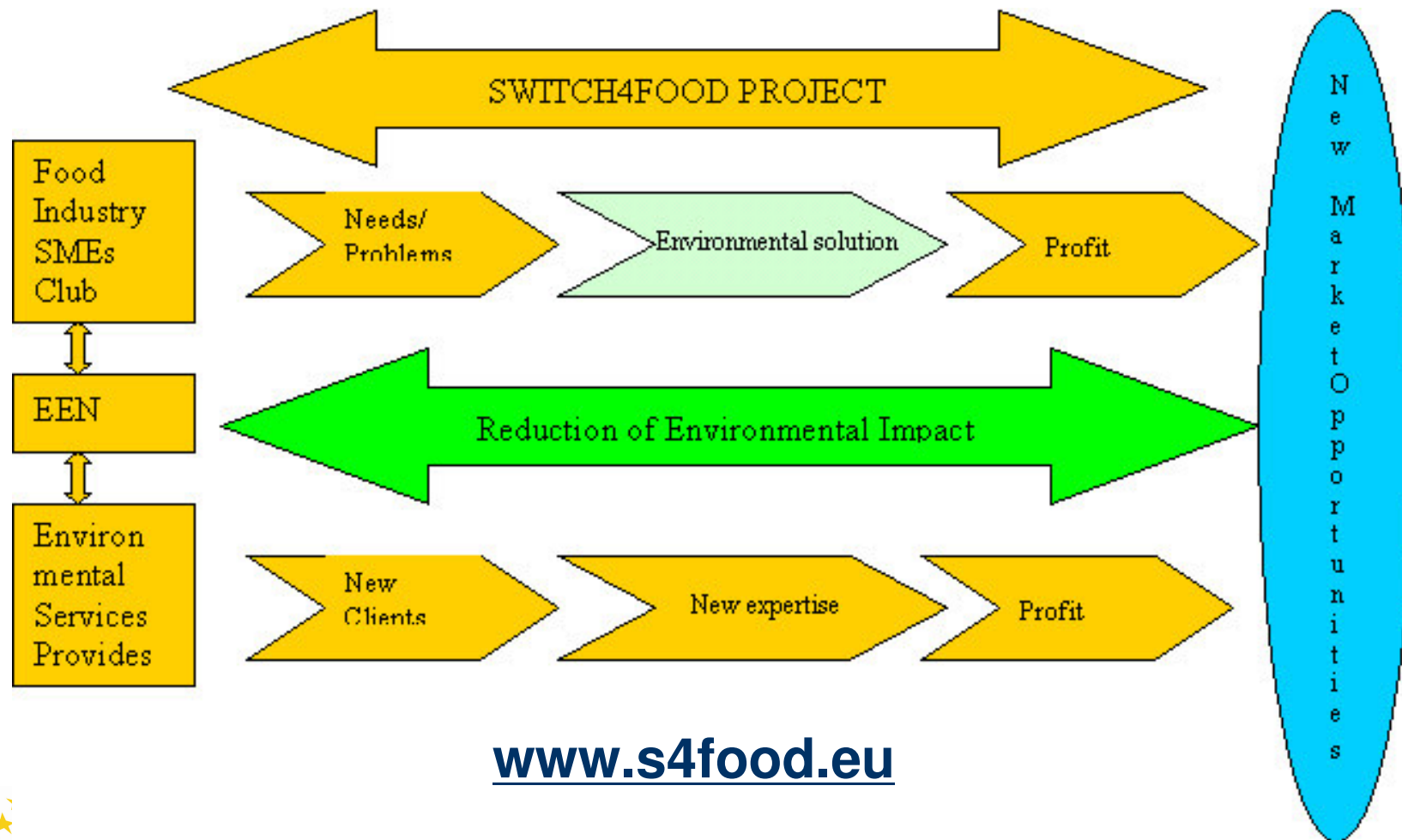
- Discover **how to reduce environmental costs**
- Creation of **new business partnerships** starting from environment aspects
- **Creation of lobbies** for representing their common interests;
- **Building of common facilities** for water & energy supply, waste and wastewater treatment;
- **Joint participation in funded projects.**

Environmental Services Providers- ESPs

Partners will identify Environmental Services Providers that will support members of the clubs in the mentioned activities.

Benefits for ESPs

- Participation in **Transnational networking activities**
- **Knowledge acquisition**: integrate their experiences with methodologies developed & best practices identified by the project
- **Interaction with SMEs of the Food industry** in order to identify their problems and offered customised technological solutions to their needs.



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