

A project we are all building

The promotion of knowledge-based development is the result of team work. This is how we, residents of Nuevo Leon, have understood this Alliance; this is why we work together, government, universities, businesses and citizens' organizations.



EDUCATION

The promotion of a new agenda for the academic curricula of High School and College institutions, with emphasis on the following areas: mechatronics, biotechnology, nanotechnology, information and communications technology and health sciences.

The organization of a countless number of international congresses and seminars on Knowledge Economy, Technopolis, Intellectual Property and the Transfer of Technology, as well as Biotechnology, Information Technology, Software, and Mechatronics, among other themes.

Nuevo Leon has opened a national vindication front supporting technological development at CONAGO, where it presides the Knowledge Decentralization Commission. Within the Federal Congress, Nuevo Leon has pushed for more resources in the public budget and for new laws, such as the Promotion of Innovation and Development of Technology-based Businesses and Activities Act.

MONTERREY, INTERNATIONAL CITY OF KNOWLEDGE PROGRAM

The Promotion of Knowledge-based Development Act was published at State level on March 19, 2004, which gave birth to the Monterrey, International City of Knowledge program. With this legal support, on November 19, 2004, the Alliance was created as a collaboration agreement signed with the Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon (UANL), the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education (ITESM), the Universidad de Monterrey (UEM) and the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT). The Universidad Regiomontana (UR) will become part of this initiative on September 2006.

In 2005, and through an amendment to the Promotion of Knowledge-based Development Act, the Innovation and Technology Transfer Institute (I2T2) was created, which, since that date, manages the Monterrey, International City of Knowledge program. The program's primary function is to link research, development, and innovation efforts carried out by the state government, universities and businesses.

The 6 basic strategies of the City of Knowledge are:

1. To redesign the agenda for the Nuevo Leon educational system.
2. To attract research centers and innovation and technological development businesses.
3. To promote innovation in existing businesses
4. To create new innovative businesses
5. Urban and Cultural equipping that brings about Knowledge Parks and promotes creativity.
6. To spread the new culture.

Some of the specific actions associated with these strategies are:

MIXED FUNDS FOR THE FINANCING OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

Five hundred forty five (545) million pesos have been designated for the establishment of a mixed fund to promote innovation and technological development.

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION PARK (PIIT)

The purpose of this park, located in Apodaca, is to integrate research and innovation development by linking universities, businesses, and research and development centers.

The launching of PIIT was formalized on June 20, 2005, through the signing of an agreement between the Innovation and Technology Transfer Institute, UANL, ITESM, UDEM and CONACYT.

PIIT's initial stage consists of the establishment of the following centers:

- UANL: Center for Innovation, Research and Development in Engineering and Technology (CIIDIT).
- CONACYT: Engineering and Industrial Development Center (CIDESI) and Center for Research on Advanced Materials (CIMAV)
- ITESM: Center for Research and Strategic Design of Products (CIDEPE).
- UDEM: Center of Advanced Packing Technology
- Research and Advanced Studies Center (Cinvestav).
- Cluster of 42 software development businesses (Monterrey Software Technology Park).
- IDZ: Private corporation specializing in research and development of Radio Frequency ID (RFID).
- Association of Furniture Manufacturers of Nuevo Leon (AFAMNL): Integral Center for Technological Development of Furniture (CIDETEM).
- Water Institute of Nuevo Leon.

REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE CLUSTERS

The State Government, through the Office of the Secretary of Economic Development of Nuevo Leon, and within the framework of Monterrey, International City of Knowledge, has promoted regional knowledge clusters in the following areas: advanced technology, software development, aero-space industry, automotive industry, and specialized medical services, with the purpose of giving scientific research a practical meaning and accelerate the transfer of technology to the business market.

TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH CENTERS

These centers have been conceived having the strategic lines of the "Monterrey, International City of Knowledge" program as a foundation.

ITESM

- Biotechnology Center
- Center for Innovation and Transfer in Health
- Center for Innovation and Technology Transfer
- Technology Transfer Center (CT2)
- Accelerator of Technology-based Businesses from the Graduate School of Business Administration and Management (EGADE) in coordination with CONACYT

UEM

- Center of Legal Studies on Industrial Property
- Center for Business Innovation, Leadership and Development

UANL

- Center for Research and Technological Development in Mechatronics
- Center for Research on Industrial Design
- Nanotechnology and Nanoscience Laboratory
- Center for Research and Production in Audiovisual Communication
- Center for Research and Certification on Foreign Languages
- Center for Research on Nutrition and Public Health *

* soon to be inaugurated

PRIVATE SECTOR

- Whirlpool: Center for Development and Technological Research in Home Appliances
- FICOSA North America-Mexico Engineering Center (auto parts business from Catalonia)
- Center for Research in Biotechnology and Genetics (Stockbreeding Association)

BUSINESS INCUBATORS

In Nuevo Leon, there are eight Intermediate Technology incubators and three High Technology incubators.

- High Technology Incubator of Campus Monterrey - ITESM
- Business Incubation and Technology Transfer Center of UANL
- Incubation and Business Development Center of UDEM