



# Innovation, Energy Transition & Sustainability to foster SEZ development in Africa

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AFRICA  
ECONOMIC  
ZONES  
ORGANIZATION

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**BURO HAPPOLD**

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# Our SEZ Business operates at three levels – Strategy and enabling environment, New Greenfield Zone Development, Repositioning zones

## Strategy Support

Creating the planning and institutional tools to establish and guide the growth of zones.

- Strategy and regional planning
- Programme development and site selection.
- International partnerships
- Investor services

## Supporting Government

## Green Field Development

Market, Feasibility, Planning & Business case

- Market Study
- Feasibility Planning
- Engineering
- Eco-design
- Transaction advisory
- Investor attraction.

**Outcome to support investment decision and finance raising.**

## Repositioning of Zones

Unlocking stalled zones

- New markets, value chains/business lines
- Investor attraction
- Campus strategies, infrastructure commercialisation and digital services.
- ESG and investor sustainability requirements.

**Call down support for ongoing advice.**

**Key Question: What role(s) can SEZs in Africa play to Commercialize Local Research, Science and Technology to improve the Export Competitiveness of the Continent.**

# Advanced Manufacturing

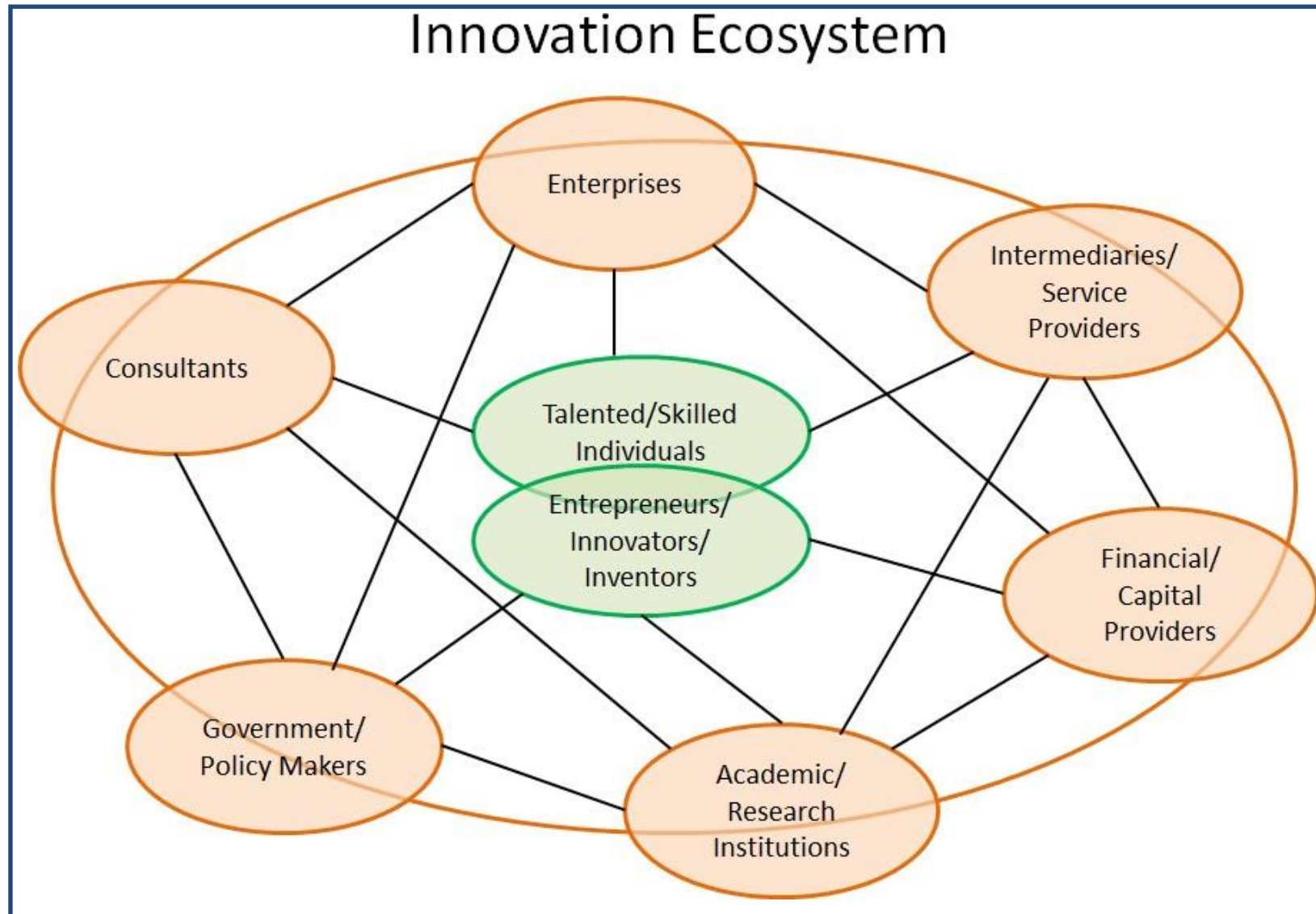
Advanced manufacturing “improves existing or creates entirely new materials, products, and processes via the use of science, engineering, and information technologies; high-precision tools and methods; a high-performance workforce; and innovative business or organisational models”

- ✓ Advanced products
- ✓ Advanced processes and technologies
- ✓ Smart manufacturing and enterprise concepts
- ✓ Advances in science and technology and the convergence of these technologies

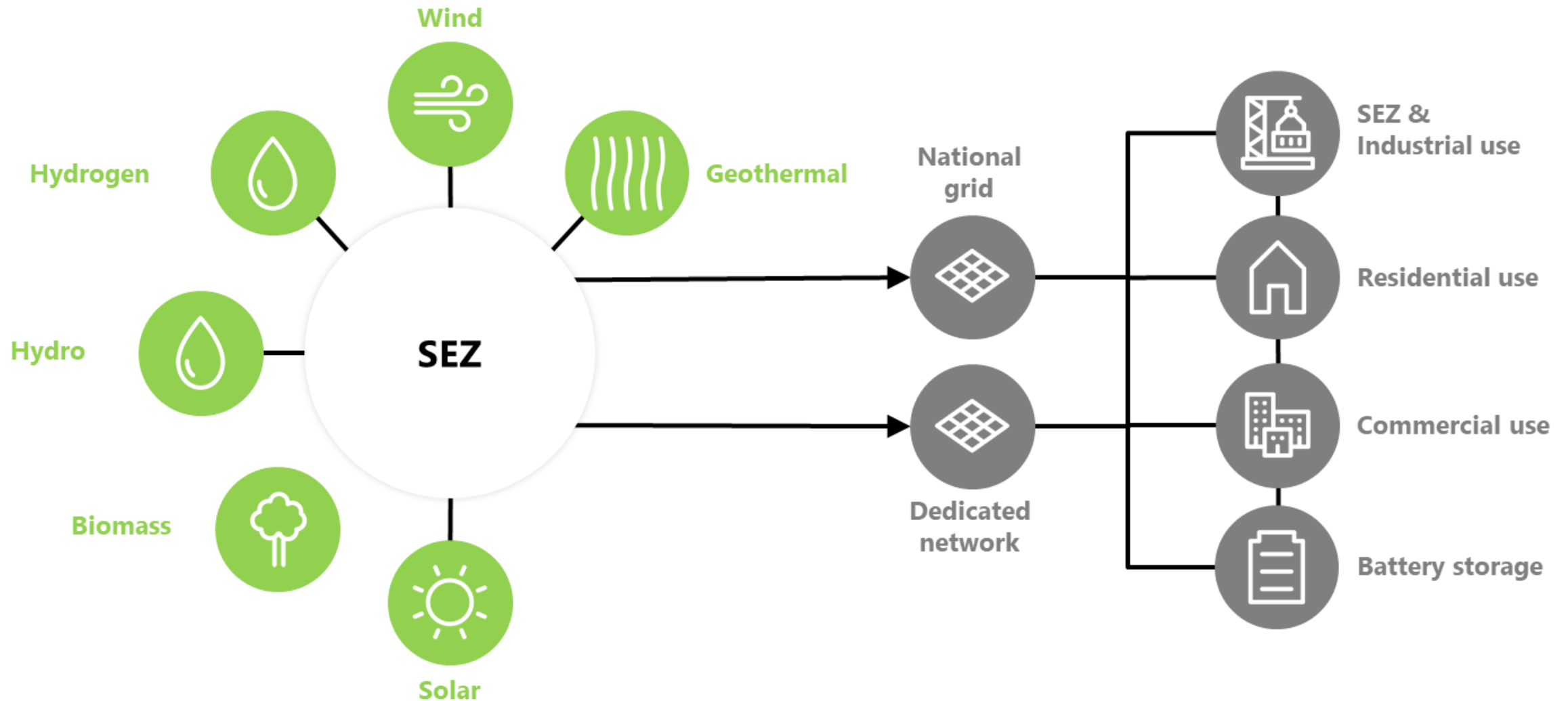
## SEZ Opportunities include:

- ✓ Additive Manufacturing
- ✓ Bio-manufacturing
- ✓ Synthetic Biology & Chemistry
- ✓ Nano-technology applications
- ✓ Digitisation & Automation
- ✓ Robotics & AI applications

# The Industrial Innovation Ecosystem



# SEZs as Vehicles for Energy Transition – Decentralized Energy Solutions



**Case Study:** Science Technology & Innovation Precinct – Gauteng Science  
High-Technology and Innovation SEZ – South Africa



# Example: Science and High-Tech SEZ – Ecosystem and Enabling Environment/ Developing this ecosystem is essential for developing this type of SEZ

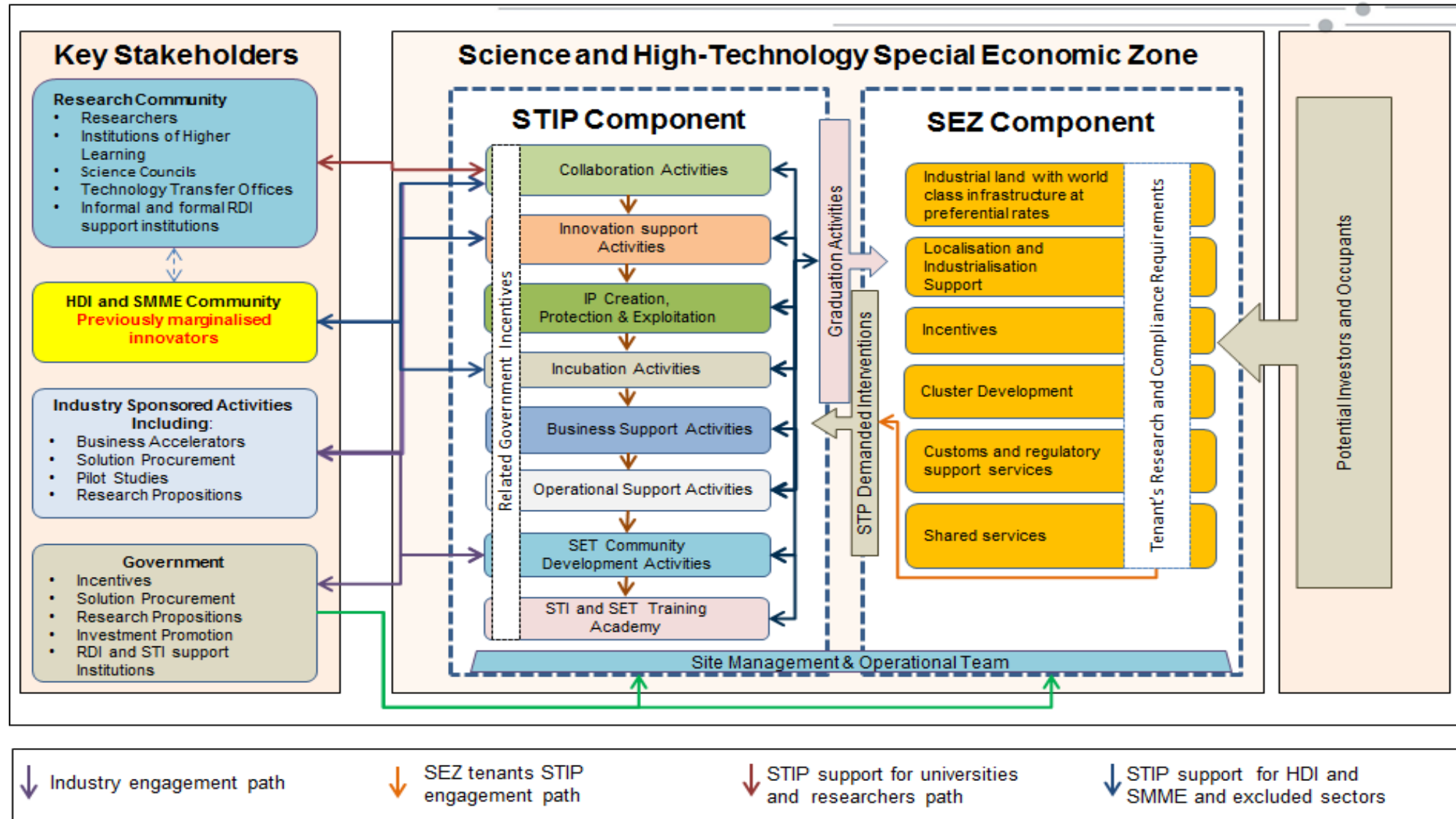
According to the CSIR, the Gauteng S&HT SEZ is “a strategically planned, purpose-built working environment that seeks to create an **innovation enabling ecosystem** and a **strong community of science, technology, research, innovation and manufacturing businesses** seeking enhanced economic performance through greater **cooperation and integration of support activities**. Here the focus is on increased cooperation between the different stakeholders in a **specific geographic area** for the purpose of **optimising research, innovation and technology commercialisation for industrial development.**”

## Terms of Reference - Focus Sectors/Industries:

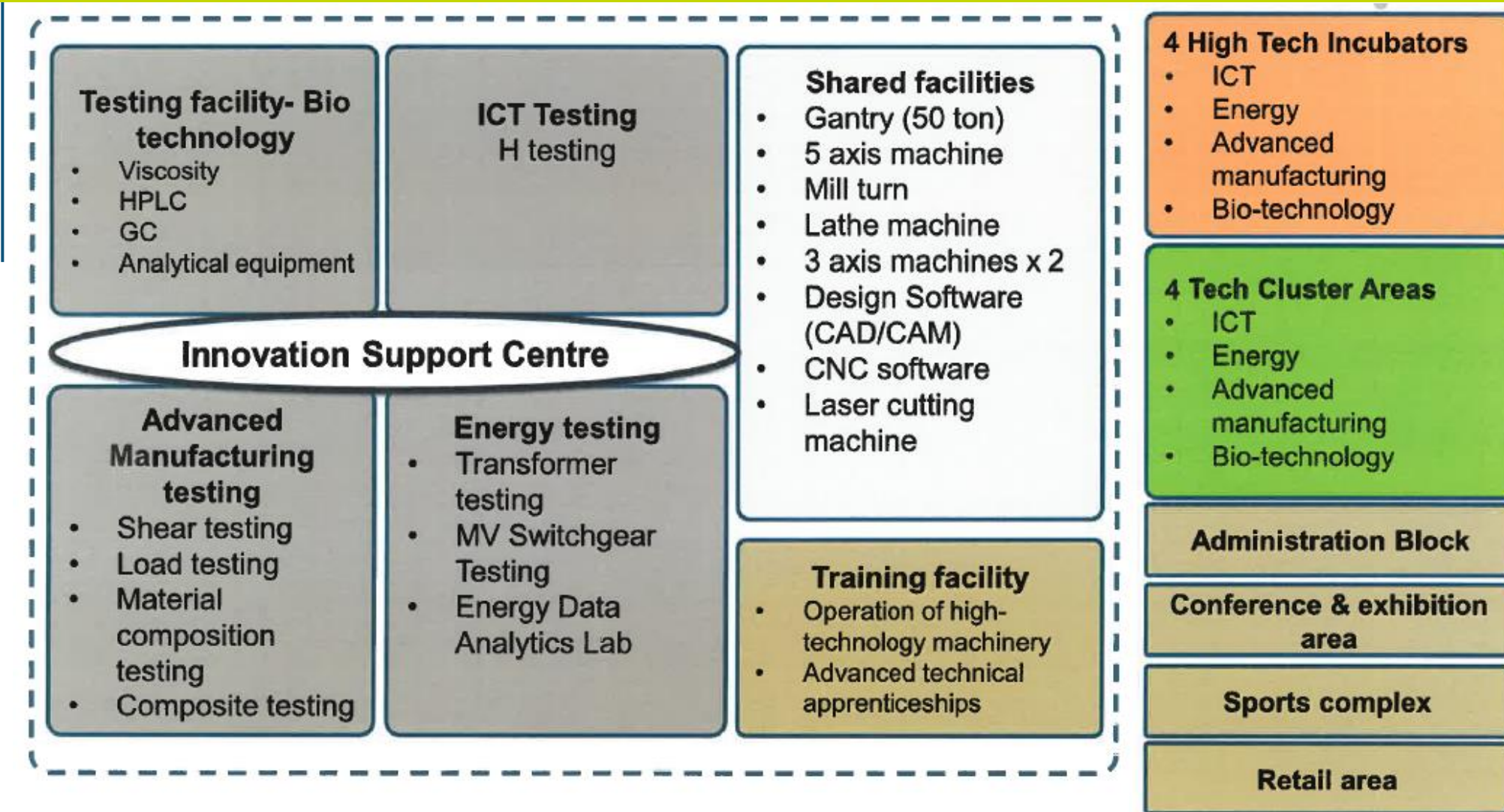
1. Advanced Manufacturing.
2. Biotechnology, including pharmaceuticals.
3. Alternative Energy.
4. Information and Communication Technology.
5. Bio-based economic sub-sector (materials, compositions, chemicals, etc.)
6. Knowledge based industries and related sub-sectors.



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# Example: Technology Commercialization & Innovation Driven Advanced Manufacturing SEZ – Conceptual Layout



# Why should SEZs be the focus of Innovation and Technology Commercialization

- Increased investments: **FDI & DDI**
- Increased **value-added exports**
- Increased **job creation**
- Increased **technology development** and **skills transfer**
- Development of **targeted industrial capabilities** and **investment attraction**.
- Creation of **new Industrial Clusters** through value chain development.
- Development of **world-class infrastructure (hard and soft)** facilitative of investment and industrial **localisation**.
- Promote **beneficiation** and **value addition** of the country's resources.
- Contribute to the **acceleration of economic growth** and **job creation**.

**Key Question: What role(s) can SEZs in Africa play to Commercialize Local Research, Science and Technology to improve the Export Competitiveness of the Continent.**



# Panel Discussion

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