

EURO-COOP

Regional Innovation Policy
Impact Assessment and
Benchmarking Process:
Cooperation for Sustainable
Regional Innovation

EURO-COOP Partners

The Interdisciplinary Centre for
Comparative Research in the Social
Sciences (ICCR), Vienna, Austria

Vienna Science and Technology
Fund (WWTF), Austria

Szechenyi Istvan University, Hungary

West-Transdanubia RDA, Hungary

Slovak Academy of Sciences,
Slovakia

Bratislava Region, Slovakia

Centre Interdisciplinaire de
Recherche Comparative en Sciences
Sociales (CIR), France

Mairie de Paris, France

Foundation for European Scientific
Cooperation (FEWN), Poland

Lublin Region, Poland

The Polish Foundation of
Opportunities Industrialization
Centres, Poland

Institute of Baltic Studies, Estonia

University of Manchester, UK

Technology Foundation Berlin,
Germany

ICCR Foundation, Austria



Objectives

This project is a Specific Support Action of the 6th Framework Programme for Research and Development of the European Commission. It contributes to the 'Research and Innovation' priority, whose aims are to encourage a more innovation-friendly environment throughout the EU, stimulate technological innovation and set up innovative technology businesses.

As regions are at the centre of the EURO-COOP project, the detailed project implementation plan was drawn up in accordance with the needs and challenges in the participating partner regions.

These are mainly interested in the following issues:

- Strengthening the process of sustainable regional innovation;
- Exchange of experiences with other European regions and,
- Development of a comprehensive regional policy impact assessment methodology.

In order to achieve these objectives, the regions will need 'knowledge for action'. This is why it was decided to set up a cooperation between regional authorities or regional innovation institutions and research institutions. The research institutions will provide sound knowledge that can be applied in the partner regions. This will clearly go beyond the standardized approaches which are normally applied. It is clear that the partner regions want to gain from 'knowledge for action' that is based on sound scientific knowledge and can, therefore, be used for long-term and strategic concepts related to regional innovation policies and the development of impact assessment methods.

Regions

There are three types of partner regions in EURO-COOP:

- Metropolitan regions - Vienna, Paris, Berlin, Manchester, Bratislava, Warsaw
- Cross-border regions - CENTROPE (West Transdanubia Region, Bratislava, Vienna)
- Peripheral regions - Lublin, Tartu



EURO-COOP

Regional Innovation Policy
Impact Assessment and
Benchmarking Process:
Cooperation for Sustainable
Regional Innovation

Further Information

Project Co-ordinator

Ronald J. Pohoryles
The Interdisciplinary Centre
for Comparative Research in
the Social Sciences (ICCR)
Schottenfeldgasse 69/1
1070 Vienna, Austria

Phone: +43.1.524 13 93-111
Fax: +43.1.524 13 93-200
E-mail: r.pohoryles@iccr-
international.org

Scientific Officer, European Commission

Jean-Pierre Lentz
European Commission
DG Enterprise and Industry
D2 Support to Innovation
BREY6/33

1049 Brussels, Belgium

Phone: +32.2.29 66592
Fax: +32.2.29 66284
Email: jean-pierre.lentz@
ec.europa.eu



Outputs

EURO-COOP comprises four stages:

Stage 1 - Definition

During the first stage, a management structure for the pilot projects was established in the partner regions, consensus-building among the stakeholders was initiated and the project's objectives were disseminated.

Stage 2 - Methodology

The aim here is to develop a regional innovation policy impact assessment method. This will be based on past experiences and actual regional needs, appropriate methodologies and tools as well as the elaboration of both qualitative and quantitative indicators.

Stage 3 - Implementation and analysis

The methodology developed during stage 2 will be applied in the partner regions and used to analyze the impacts of regional innovation policies on the innovation systems and development pathways.

Stage 4 - Conclusions and policy building

Conclusions will be drawn on the basis of the impact assessment process. Policy recommendations and policy-building measures for innovation strategies at regional level will be the result.

Workshops

Several workshops are being organized during the lifetime of the EURO-COOP project.

Participants include external policy-makers, experts and stakeholders.

- Start-up meeting in Paris, 27-28 June 2005.
- Regional Workshops in Berlin (December 2005), Vienna (May 2006), Győr (October 2006), Warsaw (February 2007) and Bratislava (September 2007).
- Workshop on regional innovation policy impact assessment in Manchester (September 2006).
- Trans-National Project Management Board Meeting in Paris (December 2006).
- Workshop on the practical implications of the regional innovation policy impact assessment scheme in Tartu (June 2007).
- Final Workshop in Vienna (December 2007).

