

SCINNOPOLI

SCANNING INNOVATION POLICY IMPACT



SCINNOPOLI is a Capitalisation Project financed by **INTERREG IVC**, the European programme for interregional cooperation, and supported as Fast Track Project by the **European Commission**.

SCINNOPOLI's overall objective is to continuously improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the regional innovation policy through an effective impact scan system.

www.scinnopoli.eu



European Union
European Regional Development Fund



// Short Description //

SCINNOPOLI is a direct follow-up of the former interregional projects on 'Regional Innovation Policy Impact Assessment and Benchmarking'. 7 **SCINNOPOLI** regions were involved in several of these pilot actions which encouraged European regions to assess in a systematic way the impact of their innovation policies and strategies, and to create methodologies and instruments for benchmarking regional innovation performance. All 9 partner regions are aware that only the existence and regular application of an impact assessment system will allow a continuous improvement of the regional innovation policy with the aim to increase the firms' and regional competitiveness, to create new high quality jobs and thus to increase the regional welfare.

The partner regions will implement or improve their impact scanning activities directly within their Regional Operational Programmes or other mainstream programmes. Therefore, a ready to implement Regional Action Plan will be developed by every partner for its region with the import of Good Practices from partners. The Capitalisation project requires the deep delegation of the relevant Managing Authorities and other stakeholders in the implementation of the Regional Action Plans.

// Capitalisation Projects //

In the context of the **INTERREG IVC** programme, capitalisation is defined as a process of collecting, analysing, disseminating and transferring Good Practices in a certain policy area with the objective of optimising the results achieved in this specific domain of regional policy. In particular, one of the expected results of these activities is the transfer of the Good Practices identified into the mainstream Structural Funds programmes (i.e. 'Convergence', 'Competitiveness and Employment' and other 'European Territorial Cooperation' programmes) in regions wishing to improve their policies.

// Good Practices //

Within the **SCINNOPOLI** project, partners have proposed several Good Practices for potential export to interested partner regions. It is up to the partners to decide which Good Practice(s) they want actually to import and implement as a whole or partially.

The Good Practice Pool consists of:

Good Practice from Lower Austria: I-AM Lower Austria

The Innovation Assessment Methodology Lower Austria (I-AM Lower Austria) is a coherent part of the Continuous Improvement Process of the Regional Innovation System Lower Austria (CIP RIS NÖ). I-AM Lower Austria is a comprehensive system of different monitoring and evaluation tools for Lower Austria's innovation policy to gain deep insight into the results and the impact of state aids and further innovation support services with the aim to improve single innovation policy instruments as well as to coordinate the overall regional innovation system with all involved actors/intermediaries. Furthermore I-AM Lower Austria provides required information for the regional government to justify the public budget spent for regional innovation policy and to promote its success. The comprehensive monitoring system is one of the key success factors which allowed Lower Austria to win the award for the most innovative region in Europe in 2008.

Good Practice from Flanders: IMPACTSCAN

The IMPACTSCAN project provides a method and tool for regional policy-makers to analyse and evaluate the impact of the regional innovation policy. It has been developed and tested by 7 agencies dealing with innovation policy in the following 7 European regions (Flanders, Lower Austria, Brittany, Madrid, Limburg, Lower Silesia, Slovenia) and co-funded by the European Commission.

IMPACTSCAN provides a monitoring and impact assessment system, allowing regional authorities to get a clearer picture of public support to innovation in their region, and to

take decisions to improve the effectiveness of this support system. IMPACTSCAN focuses on the role of intermediaries in charge of innovation.

Through its international dimension, providing analyses for several regions in a standardised way, IMPACTSCAN offers possibilities for comparing across regional systems, and can notably open views to a variety of intermediary models, for those regions that are newcomers in the field. To allow for trans-national comparisons, standardisation of analyses is proposed through the use of common typologies and rules, tested during the pilot phase.

The tool is sufficiently standardised to allow cross-regions comparisons, but it also allows for flexibility in its use, in order to accommodate differences between regional contexts. The full deployment of the tool is to be done by each region, taking into account own constraints (notably budgetary), already available information, and integrating more specific questions of particular importance for its innovation support system. Hence, the present standardised tool provides a common core for regional analyses as well as for inter-regional benchmarking, and allows for more detailed or customised use to respond to specific regional needs.

Good Practice from Schleswig-Holstein: Strategic Controlling

The overall objective of Business Development Corporations is to increase the total production, sales and employment. Key-indicators for the economic success of the supervised firms are the number of created jobs and additional sales. Unfortunately, it is rather difficult to distinguish the direct influence of the support received by a company through business development activities from other economic factors influencing the general development of the company.

Given the lack of known customizable solutions of a controlling system for the systematic assessment of business support services, the WTSW started to develop its own model of performance measurements called „strategic controlling“. Starting point of the impact analysis of strategic controlling are the offered services (inputs) and the intended economic effects (outputs). It identifies the direct influence of business development activities by complex statistical methods.

Good Practice from Nyugat-Dunantul: Euro-COOP – RIPIA

The RIPIA method does not aim at a single fixed answer to the assessment. It aims more to provide a working template and route map for investigation. This should help to explore the regional innovation agenda, the critical paths of causes and effects, the relationships between stakeholders, and the organizational learning capacity as a foundation for the innovation process. The RIPIA method is designed to be run by experts in close consultation with regional stakeholders. It is designed as a flexible set of steps supported by a set of templates and graphic aids. It is compatible with the ‘rational management’ logical frameworks of objectives, inputs and outputs: and it is compatible with economic or other types of modelling where this is available. The use of common templates, where possible, should enable the comparison of policy impacts across different regions and sectors. In the light of the above, the proposed RIPIA method is structured in 4 main stages, each of them articulated in a series of steps:

- Stage 1 is concerned with scoping boundaries, identifying the regional profile and agenda for the RSI, and defining the relevant parts of the RSI.
- Stage 2 applies the ‘logical framework’ management approach across the relevant policies, programmes and projects.
- Stage 3 extends the logical framework approach with network analysis, path analysis and others, with a variety of methods.
- Stage 4 takes on the implications of the assessment, with feedback to policy

The Regional Innovation Strategy, prepared in 2001 is to be revised in 2010-2011, and it is expected that this revision process shall already include elements of RIPIA together with other possible GPs from the SCINNOPOLI partners.

Good Practice from Bretagne:

SIS – In 2007, with the support of Bretagne Innovation, the 3 centres for Innovation and technology transfer and the 11 technical centres of Bretagne agreed upon a shared glossary defining key indicators to report to public financers on their common mission. The major result of this initiative was to come up with a common understanding and exact wording of key activity indicators and to frame potential interpretation of data. All aspects of their public mission are covered: visit to firms, raising-SMEs awareness of innovation, identifying needs and opportunities and helping them into project development, contact with public research centres as well as coordination of collective actions aiming at making public and private stakeholders of their technological domains known each other and work together. The glossary is accompanied by key methodological elements regarding data reporting. This initiative relied on a strong regional and multi-partners consensus building based on a participative process. The project was initiated by the centres themselves. Targeted meetings were organised over more than 12 months. Besides the in-depth work on indicators, the elaboration path enables technology advisers to exchange about their job and the way they understand their mission of public interest. It urged also the regional government to fine-tune description of objectives and tasks in annual conventions signed with the concerned intermediaries.

IMPS - Between 2006 and 2008, in order to implement the benchmarking tool developed within the European project IMPACTSCAN, Bretagne Innovation set up several new-to-the-region data collection and analysis schemes:

- a grid to analyse regional government's innovation budget;
- an intermediary questionnaire analysing service portfolio through full-time equivalent share per type of activities and collecting self-assessment of their impact on SMEs' innovation capacity;
- a SMEs questionnaire on innovation process, use of the support infrastructure, perception of innovation project impact on business performance and assessment of support services impact on their innovation capacity.

Results of the data processing and lessons learnt from the benchmarking activities were major inputs when debating over and writing the diagnosis for the first Regional Innovation Plan for Bretagne adopted in Dec. 2008.

Good Practice from Apulia: IASMINE

The methodology proposed by Apulia region is the outcome of the FP6 project IASMINE and basically consists in two items:

1. Approach to the characterization of the regional innovation policies, in terms of the relative weight of the different policy goals/actions/measures and of their compliance with the EU Lisbon goals. This characterization is performed through qualitative assessment of the policies and through the analysis of budget distribution and can be performed ex-ante (policy planning) or ex-post (policy implementation).
2. Method for selecting the indicators that is worthwhile to monitor in order to assess the impact of a specific policy action/programme on the regional innovation system actors (SMEs, academia, research, intermediaries...). For this, a standard set of indicators has been identified and structured in indicator classes. The actual monitoring of the indicators is mainly performed through direct surveys involving the policy beneficiaries (questionnaires).



Good Practice from Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur: ARISE

The ARISE project developed a methodology and a tool kit allowing to give a picture of the regional profile, to monitor its evolution over time and to make an in-depth analysis of innovation policies, as well as a benchmarking comparison with other partner regions. The flexible approach of ARISE enables policy makers to:

1. get a thorough insight of innovation features in the region,
2. assist them in evaluating the appropriateness of measures implemented in response of internal needs (monitoring impact and results), and
3. identify the possible corrective actions to be undertaken.

The ARISE project provided foundations to establish the diagnosis on the regional innovation system on which is based the Regional Innovation Strategy, approved by the Provence-Alpes and Côte d'Azur Regional Council 2009. It also inspired the creation of the PACA Regional Innovation Observatory, currently under construction.

Good Practice from Navarra: Balanced Score Card (BSC)

The Regional Technology Plan's Balanced Score Card (BSC) is one of the main instruments currently available to the Department of Innovation for the monitoring and impact assessment of the RIS.

The BSC is structured following the four Axis of the Plan, its 14 Action Lines and a total of 41 Actions. Each Action has an allocated budget, is targeted to a certain group/s and monitored by one or more activity/result indicators. These activity/result indicators are evaluated internally on a quarterly basis through the data collected by the Department of Innovation and by its supporting agents (Navarra Innovation Agency, Navarra EU Business and Innovation Centre), which allows for a continuous and real-time monitoring of the RIS Result Indicators.

Contribution from Wielkopolskie:

PSTP (Poznan Science and Technology Park) as a SCINNOPOLI partner would like to contribute with its practical experience on innovation policy cycle programming-implementation-evaluation and learn from other partners' experience. Wielkopolska region has not yet established a coherent system measuring the innovation policy impact but this activity is planned as a mission of the Regional Innovation Observatory which is going to include solutions inspired by Good Practices of SCINNOPOLI Partners.

PSTP was a leader of RIS NAC project working on Regional Innovation Strategy together with Regional Government. PSTP is the leading organization in Wielkopolska in the field of innovation, designated by the regional authorities to be responsible for implementation of Structural Funds for Innovative Actions for the years 2004-2008. PSTP has animated and implemented one of the measures within "Integrated Regional Operational Programme" financed by Structural Funds focused on innovation actions called "Regional Innovation Strategy and transfer of knowledge".

PSTP coordinated the monitoring of implementation of RIS (2005-2008) and was a leader of 6.FP project "5SCHESMES" focused on designing specific schemes for regional innovation policy for 5 regions working on implementation of RIS strategy.



// SCINNOPOLI partners //

Amt der Niederösterreichischen Landesregierung / Lower Austria (AT)
www.noel.gv.at

IWT, Agentschap voor Innovatie door Wetenschap en Technologie / Flanders (BE)
www.iwt.be

WTSH, Wirtschaftsförderung und Technologietransfer Schleswig-Holstein (DE)
www.wtsh.de

WTRDA, Nyugat-dunántúli Regionális Fejlesztési Ügynökség Köshasznú
Nonprofit Kft / West Transdanubia (HU)
www.westpa.hu

BI, Bretagne Innovation / Brittany (FR)
www.bretagne-innovation.fr

ARTI, Agenzia Regionale per la Tecnologia e l'Innovazione / Puglia (IT)
www.arti.puglia.it

MT, Méditerranée Technologies / PACA (FR)
www.mediterranee-technologies.com

Gobierno de Navarra (ES)
www.navarra.es

Fundacja Uniwersytetu im. A. Mickiewicza w Poznaniu / Wielkopolskie (PL)
www.ppnt.poznan.pl

