

Conference:

SCIENCE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

11.15-12.30 I PANEL: LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR SCIENCE

14.00- 15.15 II PANEL: SCIENCE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Date: 15 JULY 2022 (Friday) Time: 11:15 am - 3:15 pm

Place: International Congress Center

Organizer: Marshal's Office of the Silesian Voivodeship

The conference is organized as part of the project "Network of Regional Specialized Observatories in the Process of Entrepreneurial Discovery in the Silesian Voivodeship"-II edition (SO RIS in PPO - II) cofinanced by the European Union from the European Regional Development Fund within the Regional Operational Program of the Silesian Voivodeship for 2014-2020.

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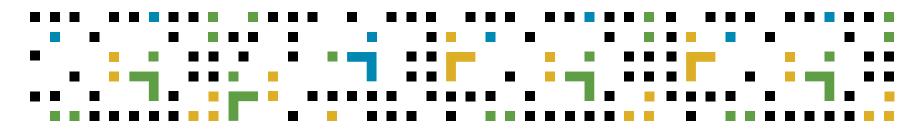




Ricard Esparza Masana, Ph.D. Good Examples from the InnoHEIs project















The InnoHEIs project

InnoHEIs aims at enlarging the role of higher education institutions (HEIs) and their research and innovation infrastructure. How can they act as key stakeholders for regional innovation development?

Fostering entrepreneurship and creativity in regions

Enabler of the entrepreneurship discovery process



Integration of entrepreneurial knowledge

Remove barriers and enhance collaboration



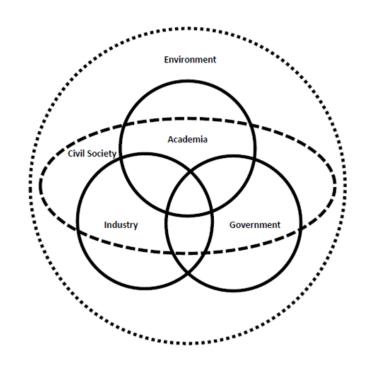


Challenges: Engaging local stakeholders

Territories face challenges, often shared by several stakeholders, which can collaborate to identify and develop potential solutions under R&I projects.

These challenges can be based on a common social problem or just address specific needs of a particular company. The dimension of the R&I project will depend on this variable, as well as its technicalities.

Actions are to be fostered on all sides to identify challenge and collaboration possibilities.





Challenges: Engaging local stakeholders

Best practice from Catalonia

Shared agendas (Bages, Catalunya)

The shared agenda on dependent persons and chronicity tackles two main axes: ageing and its effects on chronical illnesses, and the economic development of the health sector and social assistance. To define and undertake innovation projects around these challenges, agents from the quadruple helix were mobilised, including public administrations, R&I providers, industry, and civil society. They have generated a network including the abovementioned institutions to foster the collaboration under innovation-based projects to tackle common territorial challenges. Under these collaborations, and tackling this challenge, they are developing a health observatory, a cluster around this sector, a network of business angels, or an accelerator platform for projects, among other initiatives.



Challenges: Engaging local stakeholders

Best practice from Sweden

Mid-Sweden University and municipalities

In 2010 the university decided to explore the municipal arena. The two first 'contracts' filling the gaps between academy and municipalities was signed with the two largest towns, Sundsvall and Östersund. Municipal officials were assigned to the task of coordinating internal municipal R&D initiatives. Faculty in the university was informed to adjust planned projects or suggest new ones, thus covering, unknown aspects or needs expressed by the two municipalities. Next step was writing short research proposal and forward them at joint university-municipal evaluation meetings. If approved, early feasibility projects were financed and kick started. A variety of project has been started. The 'Contract model' also generates 'full' research proposals funded by external grants.



HEIs (R&I) infrastructure: A key asset

Universities and research centres throughout the EU have numerous facilities, labs, machines, and other components building relevant infrastructure. Nonetheless, this faces challenges, often linked to a limited use from the private sector (even if not only) to undertake actual R&I projects.

Many things can be done to foster the role and possibilities linked to this infrastructure, from making them more available to companies (including more and better information and communication), to better polies, to use them as one of the best tools to complement applied learning.





HEIs (R&I) infrastructure: A key asset

Best practice from Finland

Virtualisation of Research and Innovation Infrastructures

Virtual RIIs may consists of 3D models with embedded hot spot videos to visualise the equipment and their utilisation. In the framework of and enabled by the InnoHEIs project, videos and 3D models of RII's located in Tampere Region have been produced by Tampere University of Applied Sciences (TAMK) to promote and increase the effective utilisation of the rich research, development, learning and innovation infrastructure in the region through open web-page sharing. The website of the Council of Tampere Region offers a visualization of this RII network.

More info: https://projects.tuni.fi/innoheis/virtuaaliset-tutkimus-ja-innovaatioymparistot/



HEIs (R&I) infrastructure: A key asset

Best practice from Lithuania

Al based tool for HEIs knowledge monitoring and visualization

The Artificial intelligence- based tool for visualization and monitoring of knowledge produced by HEIs provides a possibility by using different filters and selecting the NACE code, get a variety of graphical data on the efficiency of higher education knowledge usage, such as R&D investment and its links to the number of publications or higher education absolvents, etc.

The main beneficiaries of this good practice are innovation policy makers at national level such as the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport and Ministry of Economy and Innovation, but this tool of impact assessment is also relevant for other institutions at various levels involved in promoting science and business cooperation.



Integrating the education and training roles

Universities has a core mission in their roles of providing high quality education and training. Concepts like student-centred education, learning based on challenges, professional competences, etc. are becoming more frequent.

Students can (and probably should) have a key role when developing initiatives with local stakeholders to address local challenges.

Integrating HEIs R&I infrastructure in learning in collaboration with business/institutions could be add much value to the whole educative programme and the learning process.





Integrating the eduaction and training roles

Best practice from Sweden

The SKARPT UPPDRAG[™] model

SKARPT UPPDRAG™ is a model that makes better use of interdisciplinary thinking and fosters more collaboration with surrounding ecosystem. Interdisciplinary student groups and a challenging company meets for one days and the students help the company to create innovative solutions to tricky problems. The results is evaluated by experts and the process is facilitated by university staff. The main stakeholders and beneficiaries of the practice are the innovative ecosystem and the young professionals studying in Sweden and Europe. The implementation of this model has broadened an interest among students to contribute with an innovative mindset that promotes awareness of the challenges of global sustainability. Students are also inspired to initiate their own innovation processes to verify and develop ideas during their studies.



Integrating the eduaction and training roles

Best practice from the Netherlands

The Digital Society Hub at Hanze Univ. of Appl. Sciences

The DSH contributes to the social and economic development of Groningen and the Northern Netherlands region by identifying, denoting and applying relevant innovations in information and communication technology in the most important social issues in the field of care, energy, mobility, liveability and agriculture. For companies and social institutions, the DSH is the facility to realize innovations that they do not achieve on their own and with their own facilities. The DSH develops relevant useful digital solutions. Among other things, it supports innovation in the bio based economy, building, health, energy, agriculture and mobility fields. The DSH operates on the basis of its own innovation programme and innovation programmes that are being implemented in collaboration with other hubs.



The role of public policies as central enablers

The InnoHEIs project puts special attention to the role of the public policy instruments when it comes to addressing the project challenge. Sound and well-designed instruments can contribute to enlarge the role and efficiency of HEIs infrastructure in their use, especially under R&I projects with local stakeholders.

These instruments can be diverse, from the socalled soft ones (advisory support, dissemination, etc.) to those based on specific funding for R&I projects involving infrastructure.





The role of public policies as central enablers

Best practice from Lithuania

Promotion of activities of centres for innovation and tech transfer

The Knowledge and technology transfer activities performed by research and higher education institutions were lacking efficiency and effectiveness. Initiated project grants in two calls. The first of which was for strengthening units for targeted staff: promotion of cooperation between science and business, organisation of open access to R&D infrastructure services, for consultancy and services, the organisation of the process of inventions disclosure, intellectual property, commercialisation, search for markets and funding sources. The next call was dedicated to Entrepreneurship activities, including traineeships, entrepreneurship skills for knowledge/tech transfer, R&D product development for public presentation, demonstration spaces, including the development of models, art objects and demonstration of prototypes, entrepreneurial events.



The role of public policies as central enablers

Best practice from France

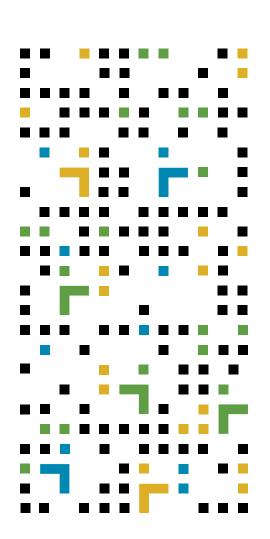
Promotion of activities of centres for innovation and tech transfer

In Centre-Val de Loire, a Call for Expressions of Interest "Ambition Research Development 2020" was launched in May 2012, with a maximum of € 10 million per project over 4 to 5 years. 5 RDI programs were funded and showed some evidence of success. A new phase was launched: ARD CVL (2020-2023). New requirements for each ARD program to improve:

- Partnerships: the ARD programme should propose a strategy and a roadmap for national and European partnerships (based on laboratory level identification of opportunities + global analysis)
- Higher Education: there must be a cooperation between HEIs and companies to define business-oriented Master curricula for 2023-2027



Key conclusion:



In most EU states, HEIs-based infrastructure can improve its use and efficiency. The combination of different elements (local stakeholders involvement, internal mechanisms in HEIs, student participation, and public policies, among other possible ones) is needed to provide an effective framework to address this challenge.



Thank you!

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