



Knowledge - Based Development Newsletter

Entrepreneurship - Financing - Innovation - Intellectual property

The UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration promotes the knowledge-based economy and innovation. This newsletter provides a platform for disseminating its results and dialogue within its stakeholder community.

In this Issue:

Smart specialization at the regional level – The Tyrolean path



Technological progress is changing the way we live and work. At the same time, we are facing big challenges, such as climate change, globalisation, or 'rural exodus 2.0'. **Harald Gohm**, Managing Director of the Tyrolean Agency for innovation and Technology, discusses how smart specialization can respond to these challenges. Tyrol is known as a tourist destination. But it is also a centre of business and research. In order to meet future challenges, Tyrol had to bring its two "identities" together: tourist destination and centre of business and research united under one brand. [\[Read more\]](#)

How UNECE contributes to the global effort to harness science, technology and innovation for promoting the post-2015 development agenda



As a major source of innovation, the UNECE region is uniquely placed to help transfer knowledge and experience to developing and transition economies. At the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) [Annual Ministerial Review](#), H.E. **Rashid Meredov**, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Turkmenistan, explained how UNECE contributes to the global effort to harness science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 development agenda. [\[Read more\]](#)

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Government financing for innovative enterprises - policy mix and changes over time



Finland routinely ranks close to the top in the various benchmarking exercises comparing the innovation performance of countries. **Pertti Valtonen**, counselor in the Finish Ministry of Employment and the Economy, discusses how government financing for innovative enterprises has contributed to this favorable outcome.

He argues that Finland has responded to economic crises by expanding fiscal support for innovation and shows how the policy mix has been adapted over time in light of lessons learned from experience. [\[Read more\]](#)

How can policy support sustainable social innovation through entrepreneurship?



With the recent "hype" around Social Entrepreneurship, policy makers often wonder why to support social entrepreneurship in a unique way. **Virginie Vinel**, Director of Strategy, YTKO Ltd, UK, offers a practitioner's viewpoint of how policy can support social innovation through entrepreneurship. She argues that social values are important in order to deliver social innovation but social businesses first need to achieve economically sustainable enterprises. What they do with their profit sets them apart from purely profit-driven enterprises. [\[Read more\]](#)

- Workshop on "Developing the regional dimension of innovation policies", [Minsk, Belarus, 30 May 2013](#) and [Astana, Kazakhstan, 19 April 2013](#)
- [International Conference Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Making Things Work Better](#), Dubrovnik, Croatia, 23 - 24 May 2013
- [National Seminar and Stakeholder Meeting on the Promotion and Financing of Innovative Green Technologies](#), Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 15 - 17 May 2013
- High-level Panel on "[Economic developments and challenges in the ECE region: the role of innovation in creating a dynamic and competitive economy](#)" at the 65th Session of the UN Economic Commission for Europe, Geneva, 10 April 2013

- 6th Annual session of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies, Geneva, Switzerland, 10-11 October 2013 [\[read more\]](#)

- Joint National Seminar and Stakeholder Meeting on the Promotion and Financing of Innovative Green Technologies, Astana, Kazakhstan, 23-25 October 2013 [\[read more\]](#)

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