In this Issue:

**The “Grand Challenges” of the Triple Helix**

Marina Ranga, Senior Researcher at Stanford University and a member of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies, discusses options for national and regional innovation policies to better accommodate smart regional specialization and collaboration, open innovation, multi-disciplinary approaches, and bottom-up strategies. [Read more]

**Intellectual Property and Competition Policy**

The 6th annual session of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Intellectual Property discussed in its substantive segment the topic “Intellectual Property and Competition Policy”. One of the speakers was Nikolaus Thumm, the chief economist of the European Patent Office. In this interview, he gives us his take on how recent developments in strategic patenting may affect competition and innovation in high-technology industries. [Read more]

**OECD project: Smart specialization for innovation-driven growth 2011-12**

“Smart specialization” is an entrepreneurial process of discovery where a region can benefit from specializing in a particular area of science and technology. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development has launched an international project on smart specialization for innovation-driven growth and on drafting a new set of smart regional strategies. [Read more]

**Regions as well as small countries need a smart specialisation strategy**

Smart specialisation helps regions as well as small states to get more bang for their buck in the current times of crisis and budget prioritisation, says Dominique Foray, Professor at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne and Vice-chair of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies. [Read more]

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**Recent Events**

- Joint UNECE-USPTO conference on selected aspects of intellectual property – Valuation, Competition, Anti-trust, Skopje, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 25-26 September 2012 [Read more]
- Joint UNECE-WIPO conference on economic aspects of intellectual property, Jerusalem, Israel, 11-12 September 2012 [Read more]
- Innovation Performance Review Ukraine – fact finding mission, Kiev, Ukraine 9-16 September 2012 [Read more]
- Joint National Seminar and Stakeholder Meeting on Promoting and Financing of Innovative Green Technologies, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, 7-9 November 2012 [Read more]

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**Upcoming Events**

- 7th Annual Session of the UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration, Geneva, 5-7 December 2012 [Read more]
- The 9th INSME Annual Meeting on “The governance of innovation: building an innovative eco-system for SMEs, Izmir, Turkey, 21 – 24 May 2013 [Read more]