



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.

Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Ukraine advance on innovation policy for sustainable development



Innovation will be key to aligning economic progress with ecological sustainability and social inclusion and to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. Policy makers from Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine gathered in Minsk on 17-18

November 2015 to reflect on the results of their [Innovation Performance Reviews](#), five years since the inception of UNECE's programme, and to discuss recent progress on innovation policy and options for further improving innovation capabilities.. [\[Read more\]](#)

UNECE initiates second Innovation Performance Review of Belarus



The Government of Belarus has invited UNECE to review its national innovation policies and innovation performance. Initial consultations on the project were held in Minsk from 18 to 24

November. The 2030 UN Sustainable Development Agenda recognizes that innovation has great potential to accelerate human progress. However, many countries struggle to fully realize this potential because of shortcomings in their innovation support institutions and policies. Belarus has a highly educated labor force and pockets of excellence of innovative enterprises that compete successfully in global markets.. [\[Read more\]](#)

Issue No. 5
November 2015

UNECE Economic Cooperation and Trade Week



During its first Economic Cooperation and Trade Week (31 August- 4 September 2015), UNECE looked, from different perspectives and through three separate events, at how trade, innovation and public-private partnerships (PPP) can be used by governments to support sustainable development. A High-Level Conference on Unlocking the Economic Potential for Sustainable Development - The Role of Trade, Innovation and Public Private Partnerships, looked at these issues from a policy and strategic perspective. Achieving the new United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will require levels of investment in basic services that are beyond the financial reach of both donors and the majority of governments. At this event, participants looked at how this challenge can be met through new means of implementation based on partnerships, innovation, greater efficiency, trade-based economic growth and increased local expertise. [\[Read more\]](#)

UNECE Ideas for Change Award



2015, the year of the 70th anniversary of the UN, is key milestone for the world. UN Member States will adopt an ambitious and action-oriented Post-2015 Development Agenda with sustainable development goals, in New York in September. The United Nations Economic Commission for

Europe (UNECE) is on the front line to give its contribution. On 14 April 2015, UNECE hosted the first time ever startups' event at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. The event show-cased how innovative entrepreneurial talent can contribute to address today's social and environmental challenges, through new groundbreaking ideas that can become successful business. The competition featured the participation of 150 ideas from 25 countries of the UNECE region. Among these, six were selected as finalists. They were invited to Geneva to pitch their projects in front of a Jury of international experts representing the world of business, policy making and academia.

. [\[Read more\]](#)

UP NEXT

8th Annual Session of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies, Geneva, 16-17 December 2015, Palais des Nations, room VII. The applied policy seminar held as part of the session will be on the topic "The Innovation Adoption Gap – Strategies and Policy Options to Accelerate the Adoption and Diffusion of Innovations". [\[read more\]](#)