

## Consultation on the Effectiveness of Innovation Support in Europe

| <b>Meta Informations</b>   |   |
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| <b>Section I: Identification of the stakeholder</b>  |   |
| 1. How did you first hear about the public consultation?   | From EU information sources (e.g. EU web portals)   |
| 2. In which country is the institution / organisation you represent located?   | Other   |
| <p>Please specify the country:<br/>           We represent the Lisbon Regions Network (LRN), a network of 15 regions coming from 15 member states: Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.</p> |   |
| 3. What kind of institution / organisation do you represent?   | Regional government / Ministry / Department   |
| 4. What kinds of activities fall under your institution's / organisation's responsibility? (multiple answers possible)   | Involvement in innovation policy formulation<br>Supervision of funded innovation programmes<br>Implementation / management of funded innovation programmes<br>Conducting policy analysis and evaluation   |
| 5. What type of innovation support is your institution / organisation involved in? (multiple answers possible)   | Support to awareness raising and information on support possibilities<br>Support to networking and cooperation between actors<br>Support to financing innovation projects (including RnD)<br>Support to technology / knowledge transfer<br>Support to innovative start -ups (incubation, access to finance)<br>Support to cluster development |

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| 6. What is the annual budget of the innovation support schemes provided by your institution / organisation? | >5 mio € |
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| If you have any additional comments on the annual budget of the innovation support schemes provided by your institution / organisation please specify: |  |
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| 7. Please specify the source of the budget of the innovation support schemes provided by your institution / organisation: | Own resources plus external funds |
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| 8. Over the last year, how many companies have benefited from innovation support provided by your institution / organisation?<br>Over the last year, around 800 companies have benefited from innovation support funding provided by our regional governments. |
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| 9. Has your institution / organisation recently introduced or is it about to introduce new innovation support measures? | Yes |
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| Please specify what new innovation support measures has your institution / organisation introduced:<br>The LRN is composed by 15 highly performing EU regions, whose regional policies have a strong focus on innovation. Among others, measures implemented at regional level in the innovation field are: - supporting industrial research and pre-competitive research; - development of industrial laboratories; - financial support for the start-up of entrepreneurial initiatives; - supporting the transfer of technological know-how and skills; - development of networks at regional level, such as innovation centres, research and technological transfer laboratories. |  |
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| Please sepecify what you expect from these new measures primarily? (multiple answers possible) | To better promote innovation in general<br>To address new needs of innovative SMEs<br>To support specifically enterprises with high-growth potential<br>To support non-innovative companies (eg. in low tech sector)<br>To increase the gross value added (GVA) in a region |
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| 10. In your opinion, to what extent does the economic downturn affect your innovation support activi ties? (multiple answers possible) | Pressure on budgets has been increased<br>Priorities of projects have been shifting (towards more short term objectives) |
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## Section 2. Concept and Rationale for Public Innovation Support in Europe

### 11. Please rate the rele vance of the following barriers hampering companies bringing innovations to the market.

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| Lack of market information                                   | Low  |
| Lack of demand for new goods and services                    | High |
| Lack of access to finance (to finance innovation and growth) | High |
| Lack of access to international markets                      | High |

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| Lack of appropriate IP protection  | High |
| Lack of information on available innovation support measures   | High |
| 12. If you are aware of other barriers than those mentioned in question 11 please specify them and rate their relevance (high, low).<br>Need for a level plain field in terms of single market regulation. |      |

**13. Please rate the relevance of the following barriers hampering companies to organise innovation processes more effectively.**

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| Lack of cutting -edge knowledge on new technologies and / or business models  | High |
| Lack of access to knowledge (such as research, patents, standards, etc.)  | High |
| Lack of access to networks (cluster initiatives, business networks)   | Low  |
| Lack of access to qualified and creative skills / staff   | High |
| Lack of incentives for cooperation between actors   | High |
| Lack of innovation management skills  | Low  |
| 14. If you are aware of other barriers than those mentioned in question 13 please specify them and rate their relevance (high, low).<br>Short term perspective in credit crisis |      |
| 15. In your opinion, can direct innovation support help to overcome these barriers?   | Yes  |

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| Which direct innovation support measures have the biggest potential to remove existing barriers to innovation (i.e. address the most relevant barriers in an effective manner)? (Please, select the 3 most important ones) | Support to financing innovation projects (including RnD)<br>Support to identify innovation potential (information on market needs, market conditions, new regulations, new technology, etc.)<br>Support to innovative start -ups (incubation, access to finance) |
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**Section 3: Emerging Needs of Enterprises for more Effective Forms of Innovation Support**

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| 16. Is there a need to better customise innovation support? | Yes |
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**Please rate the relevance of the following challenges to better support innovation in SMEs:**

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| Internationalisation of innovative SMEs (outside Europe) | Low |
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| Internationalisation of innovative SMEs (within Europe)  | High |
| Specific needs of innovative enterprises in the service sector   | High |
| Specific needs of innovative enterprises with high growth potential (so -called "gazelles")  | High |
| New forms of innovation (such as user - driven innovation)   | High |
| If you are aware of other challenges than those mentioned in the previous question please specify them and rate their relevance (high, low). |      |

**17. In your opinion, how important are the following measures to support innovation activities outside Europe?**

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| Improve access to knowledge on international market conditions | High |
| Improve networking with companies and research institutes      | High |
| Improve mobility of human resources involved in innovation     | High |
| Improve IP protection  | High |

18. If you are aware of other measures than those mentioned in question 17, please specify them and rate their relevance (high, low).

More and better access to funding schemes to help companies. High

**19. In your opinion, how could public innovation support services be provided more effectively?**

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| By involving private organisations and innovation experts more directly in the service provision | Low  |
| By introducing fast track procedures for administration and evaluation of projects               | High |
| By leaving SMEs more choice on the service provider (e.g. through innovation vouchers)           | High |
| By offering more integrated innovation support services (e.g. one -stop-shop approach)           | High |

20. If you are aware of other measures than those mentioned in question 19, please specify them and rate their relevance (high, low).

More coordination between measures. High

**Section 4: The Role of the Community in Support of Innovation**

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| 21. To what extent are you familiar with EU measures in support of innovation?  | Very familiar |
| 22. In your opinion, are EU support measures easily understandable by the stakeholders?   | No            |
| 23. Do you think that the EU has a role to play in innovation support?  | Yes           |
| <b>Please rate the relevance of the following roles the EU is expected to play in the field of innovation support:</b>                            |               |
| Facilitating cooperation, exchange of information, good practice and policy learning  | High          |
| Facilitating the development of new tools and instruments in support of innovation  | High          |
| Providing European -wide services to enterprises (including funding)  | High          |
| Helping the internationalisation of enterprises   | Low           |
| Access to finance, including leveraging / co-funding of seed and venture capital funds  | High          |
| Fostering the emergence of lead markets with high economic and societal value in the EU   | Low           |
| Providing assistance in the patenting process, licensing and management of IPR portfolios   | High          |
| Promoting excellence in the quality of innovation services through various forms of certification, recognitions ( e.g. awards), competition, etc. | Low           |
| Facilitating the access to skills   | High          |
| Facilitation of technology transfer   | High          |
| Supporting the innovative use of standards  | Low           |
| Should any other innovation support services should be provided at EU level? Please specify:  |               |

**24. Please rate the relevance of current EU innovation support schemes in the following fields:**

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| Facilitating cooperation, exchange of information, good practice and policy | High |
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| learning   |      |
| Facilitating the development of new tools and instruments in support of innovation   | High |
| Providing EU -wide services to enterprises   | High |
| Helping the internationalisation of enterprises  | High |
| Access to finance, including leveraging / co-funding of seed and venture capital funds   | High |
| Facilitate networking and cooperation among actors   | High |
| Fostering the emergence of lead markets with high economic and societal value in the EU  | High |
| Providing assistance in the patenting process, licensing and management of IPR portfolios  | High |
| Promoting excellence in the quality of innovation services through various forms of certification, recognitions (e.g. awards), competition, etc. | High |
| Facilitating access to skills  | High |
| Facilitation of technology transfer  | High |
| Supporting the innovative use of standards   | High |

**25. How would you evaluate the added value of specific EU initiatives in support of innovation?**

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| European Innovation Scoreboard   | High |
| INNO-Policy Trendchart database  | High |
| Facilitation of transnational cooperation through PRO INNO Europe (e.g. INNO - Nets)                 | Low  |
| European innovation platforms of Europe INNOVA   | Low  |
| EU wide provision of innovation support services provided by the Enterprise Europe Network (ex IRCs) | High |
| EU wide provision of IPR support services provided by the IPR Helpdesk                               | Low  |

26. If you are aware of other EU initiatives in support of innovation, please specify them and evaluate their added value (high, low).

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| CIP- High added value but more funding needed; 7FP, EU Gateway programme, Eurostar. Regarding this programmes, access to finance is complicated.   |      |
| 27. Would you be interested in collaborating with other European partners to develop and improve your tools and instruments in support of innovation?  | Yes  |
| 28. Under which tool or instrument would you be interested in collaborating with others at EU level ? Please specify:<br>ETP, Lead Market, Transnational Cooperation programmes, 7FP, CIP.   |      |
| 29. Are you aware of the Community Framework for State Aid for research, development and innovation?   | Yes  |
| 30. In your opinion, would you need further guidance on how to use the Community Framework for State Aid for research and development and innovation to take maximum advantage of it?  | Yes  |
| To address which specific aspect?<br>Aid for research and development projects; Aid for technical feasibility studies; Aid for industrial property rights costs; Aid for the loan of highly qualified personnel; Aid to young innovative enterprises; Aid for innovation clusters.   |      |
| 31. Are you familiar with the Practical guide to EU funding for research and innovation?   | Yes  |
| <b>Please rate the usefulness of this guide:</b>   |      |
| Please rate the usefulness of this guide   | High |
| 32. Would you have any further comments on the issues raised in this consultation?<br>- Need for stronger involvement of regional governments; - more multilevel governance; - simplification, especially for SMEs; - increase the visibility for networks like ours; - higher funding, especially for risk investments; - more funding for research and knowledge capability at regional level. |      |