Knowledge Economy Indicators: Are we measuring what we need to measure?

Overview:

The purpose of this workshop is to provide a forum for critical evaluations of the future challenges for developing indicators to policy, given the challenges facing local and globally-integrated knowledge economies.

Workshop Programme

Maastricht, 6 - 7 October 2005

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For registration, please send an e-mail to: indebraek@intech.unu.edu

http://kei.publicstatistics.net
Welcome address by the Keynote presentation

Sectoral approaches to knowledge indicators

Technology approaches: Biotechnology

Chair:
Learning jobs and innovation modes
Indicators and issues for brain circulation
Universities and the KBE

Chair:
The green economy / weightless economy

Chair:

Policy community perspectives on indicator needs and An academic’s perspective on policy challenges

Indicators for public sector innovation

The JRC / OECD handbook on indicators
Preliminary results from simulation approaches

Chair:
Publin - public sector innovation results
Globalisation of R&D and the role of MNEs
Emerging knowledge economies
Job off-shoring potential for developed economies

10.30-11.30 Session 1: Sectoral and technology based approaches to indicators for the knowledge economy

Chair: Anthony Arundel, MERIT (NL)

Good indicators on how knowledge is developed and applied within sectors or specific technologies are vital to the development of innovation policy and to maximize the economic and social benefits of knowledge. This session gives examples of both approaches.

Sectoral approaches to knowledge indicators
Svein Nas, STEP (NO)
Technology approaches: Biotechnology
Pari Patel, SPRU (UK)

11.30-13.00 Session 2: The challenge for human resources and knowledge production

Chair: Louise Earl, STATS CANADA (CDN)

This session covers some of the main challenges for key knowledge inputs, such as demographic change in developed countries that has led to a decline in the supply of new science and engineering graduates, and an emphasis on ‘brain circulation’, or on immigration of the highly skilled to meet this deficit. These challenges will require new indicators. Some work on this is underway at the OECD. Other relevant areas include the socio-cultural foundations of knowledge production, including the role of social capital such as trust, learning, and the role of universities in the production of knowledge.

Indicators and issues for brain circulation
Wendy Hansen, MERIT (NL)
Learning jobs and innovation modes
Edward Lorenz, IDEFI-CNRS (FR)
Universities and the KBE
Andrea Bonaccorsi, SSSUP (IT)

14.00 - 16.00 Session 3:
What do we want from a knowledge economy?

Chair: Keith Smith, UTAS
For over a decade interest in the knowledge economy has been driven by the belief that the development, use and manipulation of knowledge are key factors in economic growth and competitiveness. Social and environmental benefits, such as the quality of life, have attracted less attention, but are equally if not more important as measures of the success of a knowledge economy. Another goal is to encourage greater innovation in the public sector. This session explores indicators for measuring these benefits.

The green economy / weightless economy
René Kemp, MERIT (NL)
Measuring what matters: assessing people’s quality of life and well-being across Europe
Nic Marks, NEF (UK)
Indicators for public sector innovation
Louise Earl, STATS CANADA (CDN)
Publin - public sector innovation results
Rifka Weehuizen, MERIT (NL)

16.15 - 17.45 Session 4:
Integrating the local with the global

Chair: Asterios Chatziparadeis, Ministry of Development (GR)

New global developments will create challenges for developed countries to compete on the basis of innovation. In order to develop appropriate policy responses, there is a crucial need for better indicators on global developments in the knowledge economy, such as the internationalization of R&D and innovation and the development of innovation centres of excellence and capabilities in several developing countries, including China, India, and Brazil.

Globalisation of R&D and the role of MNEs
Mikael Åkerblom, Statistics Finland (FI)
Emerging knowledge economies
Martin Schaaper, OECD
Job off-shoring potential for developed economies
Desirée Van Welsum, OECD

19.30h Conference dinner

Day 1: Thursday 6 October 2005

Day 2: Friday 7 October 2005

09.00 - 10.30 Session 5: Composite indicator approaches to measuring the knowledge economy

Chair: Ralf Münnich, University of Tübingen (DE)
The ability of policy makers to respond effectively to the challenges of a knowledge economy depends on the availability and interpretation of timely indicators. Composite indicators can play a role in aiding interpretation. This session gives examples of current research to synthesize disparate indicators for a knowledge economy.

Composite indicators for a KBE
Mika Naumanen, VTT (FI)
The JRC / OECD handbook on indicators
Andrea Saltelli, JRC (IT)
Preliminary results from simulation approaches
Tom Van Puyenbroeck, KUL (BE)
Michaela Saisana, JRC (IT)

10.45 - 12.15 Session 6:
Concluding session: Policy challenges

Chair: Claire Nauwelaers, MERIT (NL)
The last session provides an informal forum for different perspectives on the challenges for European policy and the types of indicators that will be required over the next decade.

An academic’s perspective on policy challenges
Stephane Lhuillery, EP (CH)
Policy community perspectives on indicator needs and challenges (I)
Alex Glabowitz, IPTS (ES)
Policy community perspectives on indicator needs and challenges (II)
Brian Sloan, DG RTD

12.15-12.30 FP7 and Concluding comments

Ian Perry, DG RTD