Promoting SME Innovation Through Government - University-Industry Partnerships

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(Peer learning of innovation agencies)
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Istanbul Development Agency (ISTKA)

- ISTKA is a public institution planning and supporting Istanbul's sustainable local development with a vision to make Istanbul a globally competitive city
- ISTKA prepares local development plans and strategies, promotes cooperation among local actors, attracts and supports FDI
- ISTKA particularly focuses on improving innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems in Istanbul
- ISTKA has built an extensive network of local stakeholders from various sectors and fields, most prominent ones are also represented in Board of Directors and Advisory Board
- ISTKA delivers grants to local development projects (25 million € on average for more than 100 projects annually)
- ISTKA is a EURADA member and member of Board of Directors. In partnership with EURADA, ISTKA has recently organized a two-day training on EU Project Management for Turkish RDAs
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• ISTKA is an active member of «Government-University-Industry Collaboration Platform (KÜSİ)» established in 2015 in Istanbul and other regions of Turkey to boost global competitiveness of industrial sectors through promoting R&D and innovation, particularly in SMEs.

• The platform is composed of members from universities, chambers of commerce and industry, ministries of industry and commerce, SME development organizations (KOSGEB), technology transfer offices, organized industrial zones, techno parks, local government and municipalities, etc.

• The platform seeks to assess the effectiveness of current tools for supporting SME innovation, to improve them and to identify new mechanisms with a broad perspective and a holistic approach.

• Platform organized visits to SMEs in Istanbul to identify SME innovation levels and activities, to raise SME awareness about available government and university supports mechanisms and to collect feedbacks for their enhancement.

• The project aims at bringing together innovation agencies with special interest & experience in promoting SME innovation through «Government-University-Industry Collaboration» for an international peer learning.
Main activities and results

Activities

• Joint evaluation of government-industry-university collaboration mechanisms in partner regions for promoting SME innovation
• Identification and exchange of ‘good practices’ for mutual policy learning
• Preparation of Design Option Paper
  • to guide local «government-industry-university platforms/partnerships» in their efforts to support SME innovation
  • to establish permanent peer learning mechanisms within local «government-industry-university platforms/partnerships»

Results

• Government-industry-university collaboration mechanisms for SME innovation support in participating regions are investigated and evaluated
• The results of the peer learning are taken up by a broad number of innovation agencies through national and local «government-industry-university collaboration platforms/partnerships»
• Effectiveness of SME innovation support activities & programmes are significantly improved

Partners

• ISTKA and Turkish Ministry of Science, Industry & Technology Istanbul branch are looking for 2 innovation agencies with special interest & experience in promoting SME innovation through «Government-University-Industry Collaboration»
Thank you for your attention!

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