Mobilising higher education for regions and city regions
OECD reviews of HE in regional development: Purpose, process and product

Launch workshop for participating regions 2008-2010, Paris, 10 Sep 2008
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Javier.sanchez-reaza@oecd.org

OECD work on higher education and regions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
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<tr>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>IMHE project: The Response of Higher Education Institutions to Regional Development</td>
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<td>2004-2007</td>
<td>IMHE/GOV project: Supporting the Contribution of HEIs to regional Development</td>
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<td>2008-2010</td>
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</table>
• A set of reviews on regions in strategically important target countries (rapidly developing economies and G8 countries) and city regions

• Knowledge-sharing and policy-making meetings, e.g. high level global roundtable on higher education and regions (Kansas City, spring 2009)

• Strengthening the evidence base and international benchmarking: OECD Metropolitan Database and Regional Economic Growth Model

2008-2010

OECD work on territorial development

\[
\frac{1}{T} \ln \left( \frac{GDP_{it}}{GDP} \right) = \alpha + \beta_1 \ln(GDP) + \beta_2 \ln(Inf) + \beta_3 (Pr_{Ed} _att) + \beta_4 \ln(Ti _ Ed _ att) + \\
\beta_5 ER + \beta_6 \ln(Pat) + \beta_7 \ln(GDExp_B) + \beta_8 \ln(GDExp_G) + \\
\beta_9 \ln(Spec _ Ag) + \beta_{10} \ln(Spec _ Fin _ Int)
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Globalisation and the emergence of metroregions

A common OECD Definition for metro-regions based on commuting flows and labour market

78 metro-regions with more than 1.5 millions inhabitants

Urban assets

- Advantages of both diversification and specialisation in high-value added activities
- Strong innovative capacity
  - More than 81% of patents are produced in urban regions
- Lower old-age dependency ratio
- Higher level of skills
- Great endowment of human capital
- Higher stock per capita (physical infrastructure, transport and telecommunications, universities and research institutes, etc.)
Innovation has a spatial dimension

Evidence of spatial dimension:
- (Over)concentration of innovation inputs and outputs in particular places
- Strong clustering and specialisation at regional level

Explained by:
- Innovative milieu-type arguments (knowledge flows)
- Practical preference for working with accessible partners
- Many other things…….

A spatial dimension for policy?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key factor</th>
<th>Spatial variation or strong regional characteristics?</th>
<th>Possibility for regional impact?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory framework</td>
<td>Usually no spatial dimension</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Competition regime</td>
<td>Usually no spatial dimension</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to finance</td>
<td>Some regional variation (linked to market size and demand)</td>
<td>Yes, provision of grants and loans; problem is to stimulate local capital markets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity to absorb and exploit knowledge and technology</td>
<td>Strong regional variation (linked to HR and sector)</td>
<td>Yes, needs-driven training, technology transfer and demonstration projects, etc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sources of new technological knowledge</td>
<td>Some regional variation (linked to quality of HEI and bridging/intermediation institutions)</td>
<td>Yes, knowledge transfer institutions, other bridging mechanisms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Networks, collaboration and social capital</td>
<td>Strongly regional or local</td>
<td>Yes, wide range of actions to support associations/joint projects</td>
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</table>
GOV outputs: cross-country analyses and regional innovation reviews

Relevant ongoing work:
Regional Innovation Reviews series
• Regions at a Glance 2009, with Innovation chapter
• Horizontal synthesis report on Innovation and Regions (December 2008)

Future work on regional innovation…..

Target regions: 2008-2010

• Countries identified for accession to OECD: Russia, Chile, Israel, Estonia, Slovenia
• Key developing economies: Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, South Africa, and countries in South-East Asia
• G8 countries not involved in Phase 1: US, Japan, Germany, France, Italy
• City regions
Review methodology

• Self-evaluation report lead and owned by the regional Steering Committee using OECD guidelines

• Visit by international peer review team

• Peer Review Report tailored for the region

• Analysis and synthesis by OECD

• Dissemination of outcomes

Review focus

• Regional context
• Regional/national higher education system

• Contribution of research to regional innovation
• Contribution of teaching and learning to labour market and skills
• Contribution to social and cultural development and environmental sustainability

• Contribution to regional capacity building
Requirements for regions

- Region/city region with a population of 1-5 mill

- All HEIs within the region participate in the review: the review focus is on HE system, not on a individual institution

- Regional Steering Committee is established involving public and private stakeholders and HEIs.

- Regional Co-ordinator supported by a working group
  - data collection, capacity building meetings, drafting of the self-evaluation report, arranging the peer review visit and the dissemination of results

Outputs and dissemination

- 10 regional review reports (self-evaluation and peer review reports)

- Synthesis report end 2010

- Knowledge sharing and policy-making seminars and meetings on specific themes relating higher education in regional development 2009 and 2010

- Country/region-related dissemination seminars
Benefits for the city/region/HEIs

• Tailored advice and guidance in practice and policy from the OECD peer review team

• Enhanced partnerships

• Identification of new funding sources, co-operation opportunities btw HEIs and industry etc.

• Enhanced visibility and PR for the city, region and its HEIs and the participating country

• Opportunities for international benchmarking and networking

More information at
www.oecd.org/edu/higher/regionaldevelopment

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