India-OECD Workshop on Education and Innovation: summary report

The India-OECD workshop (New Delhi, 9-10 May 2012) started a new conversation on education and innovation in India, with a focus on higher education. Over 160 participants from government, industry, educational institutions, and NGOs, coming from all Indian states, attended. Kaushik Basu (new World Bank Chief Economist), Sam Pitroda, Kiran Karnik, Madhav Chavan and other prominent speakers contributed to a lively exchange of ideas.

Pedagogical and organisational innovations implemented by Indian higher education to better foster the skills of their graduates were discussed: project-based learning, research-based undergraduate studies, design thinking programmes, credit transfer systems, new assessments of learning, university-NGO collaborations, etc. Three conclusions emerged from the discussion:

- India needs to better foster skills for innovation and move away from rote learning and overly traditional ways of teaching;
- In spite of many constraints, numerous innovations are transforming Indian higher education and education: they need to be encouraged and shared more widely;
- More important than the diffusion of specific innovations is the understanding and scaling up of the conditions that made them possible.

The workshop was a joint initiative of the Planning Commission, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and the OECD Centre for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI). Read the summary report on our website, and watch the videos of some presentations.

Please send us your feedback

- Inclusive innovations in education help under-privileged populations access quality education. Please send us interesting examples of inclusive innovation in education in your country.

Other news

- India has joined CERI’s Innovation Strategy for Education and Training.

CERI’s Innovation Strategy for Education and Training

The Innovation Strategy for Education and Training of the OECD Centre of Educational Research and Innovation (CERI) explores new approaches to equip people with innovation skills and to support radical innovation and continuous improvement in education systems. It includes two strands:

- Education and skills for innovation
- Innovation and improvement in education

The project has contributed to the OECD Innovation Strategy (2010), a major policy initiative offering a cross-government approach to help countries capture the economic and social benefits of innovation. It also feeds the OECD Skills Strategy (2012), a peer-learning initiative towards improving the supply of, anticipating the demand for, and optimising the use of skills in the workforce to promote economic growth and social inclusion.