



ABSTRACT WORKING PAPER 4.14

Analysis of knowledge diffusion and EU-Neighbouring Countries research networks based on the outcomes of interviews with INCO projects' consortium members

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Abstract

Strengthening of regional and multilateral co-operation between the European Union (EU) and neighbouring countries (NC) and shaping of a framework for its further development is a core task of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP).

Analysis of knowledge diffusion and EU-NCs research networks helps to find out how the cross-border knowledge transfer activities affect innovation activities and thus regional economic performances, and how they should be improved to develop mutually profitable relationships among EU and neighbouring countries. The analysis of barriers hampering to knowledge spread and research networking allows to formulate policy recommendations for strengthening knowledge flows within EU territories and their wider neighbourhood regions.

A specially designed questionnaire (Annex III) was addressed to consortium members of INCO projects implemented under the EU Framework RTD Programmes. Collected data was analysed and used for development of recommendations for both the EU and the NC policymakers adequately to the SEARCH project's objective of identifying policies that will strengthen the relationship between the EU and the NCs.

The presented report contributes to implementation of Task 4.2 "Descriptive analysis of knowledge diffusion and research network" of SEARCH project and introduces results of the interviews conducted with INCO projects' consortium members. International collaboration networks initiated under EU Framework RTD Programmes ensure knowledge diffusion and research networking between the EU and NCs thus promoting innovation diffusion that is considered as a very complex phenomenon.