ABSTRACT WORKING PAPER 4.7

Design and construction of a set of indicators for innovation production and adoption in EU countries

January 2013

Abstract

Based on the Community Innovation Survey, this paper suggests new indicators of innovation adoption. The magnitude of innovation adoption is assessed for 22 EU countries and different industries (none of the ENCs are present in the CIS). The most striking feature is the correlation between the innovation activities and the adoption rate. Countries with strong R&D and human resources and high innovation output exhibit the highest adoption rates. This supports the idea that innovation adoption requires an absorption capability. In addition, the specificities of each country regarding the prevailing types of innovation and adoption (product or process, cooperation-based adoption or internal adoption) allow us to draw a typology of the EU countries, for which a specific geographical pattern is observed. Finally, based on our experience working with CIS, we offer some recommendations for improvements in the design of the questionnaire that would allow better coping with the construction of innovation adoption rates for a bigger group of countries.