

The role of government (OECD Reviews of Innovation Policy: Croatia 2013)

The first section outlines the evolution of Croatia's post-independence innovation policy, from the transition period, the period of building infrastructure and initial transfer of approaches and solutions from more advanced countries, the 2000s up to the crisis which saw a move towards an articulated innovation policy and attempts to strategic planning, and the following phase lasting up to the present which was strongly shaped by preparations for EU accession. The second section describes the overall configuration and main actors of the STI governance system -primarily ministries, councils and agencies- with their respective roles. The next section discusses the innovation policy mix currently in place in Croatia, dealing with resource transfers in the form of direct public support and tax incentives for R and D and innovation, and the transfer of authority and institutional reconfigurations associated with an ongoing process of delegation of tasks and competences. The potential role of regulation and public procurement is also discussed. The fourth section focuses on international sources of funding for innovation which has played an important role in the past decade and is set to increase further in the wake of Croatia's recent accession to the EU, with full access to Structural Funds in addition to the already established full participation in the Framework Programmes. The final section summarises some major results of the review by discussing strategic tasks of Croatia's innovation policy from a functional assessment perspective.

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