

## Conclusions and policy advice (Regions and Innovation Policy)

Several key issues arise from the previous chapters that frame the role for regions and innovation policy. Among the most prominent are: i) the diversity of innovation strategies; ii) the fact that innovation goes beyond R&D; iii) the mismatch between functional regions and administrative borders; and iv) the generally shared governance for innovation policy across levels of government. Advice for policy makers encourages regions to be agents of change that develop a clear vision and strategic framework for innovation-driven regional development. To do so, regions should design a smart policy mix that builds on regional assets and brings together a portfolio from different policy areas. To implement this vision, more flexible governance mechanisms are required, supported by policy learning, better metrics and evidence-based experimentation.

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