

Skills and innovation: Links, questions and challenges (Skills for Innovation and Research)

Countries wish to better understand which skills are required for innovative activity. Human capital contributes to innovation in a number of ways, but linking particular skills to innovation raises methodological challenges. This chapter aims to increase understanding of the desired skills base for innovation and its underlying research activities and of the policies that would enhance the development of these skills. It also points out areas in which further analysis would be useful. To begin, this chapter sets the scene by outlining the links between human capital and innovation. It then discusses some of the policy questions of concern to OECD countries, highlighting some of the measurement difficulties that create uncertainties for determining policy. A final section describes the book's approach.

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