

Policy instruments for regional innovation (Regions and Innovation Policy)

This chapter reviews seven instruments frequently used in regional innovation policies. The instruments covered are: i) science and technology parks; ii) systemic initiatives: clusters, networks, competitiveness poles and competence centres; iii) innovation advisory services for existing SMEs; iv) support to innovative start-ups; v) innovation vouchers; vi) schemes for talent attraction and retention; and vii) funding for research infrastructure. The description of each instrument addresses its definition, rationale, objective, and the specificities for use at regional level. The description also highlights the adaptation of the instrument over time, including changes in policy concepts or evolving context conditions. Success factors and results from available impact assessments are also discussed.

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