

Foreword

The OECD Review of Lithuania's Innovation Policy 2016 is part of a series of OECD country reviews of innovation policy.* It was requested by the Lithuanian authorities, represented by the Ministry of Economy and was carried out by the OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation (DSTI) under the auspices of the Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy (CSTP).

The purpose of this review is to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the key elements, relationships and dynamics that drive the Lithuanian innovation system and the opportunities to enhance it through government policy. More specifically, the review:

- provides an independent and comparative assessment of the overall performance of the Lithuanian innovation system
- recommends where improvements can be made within the system
- formulates recommendations on how government policies can contribute to such improvements, drawing on the experience of other OECD countries and evidence on innovation processes, systems and policies.

The review is intended to be relevant to a wide range of stakeholders in Lithuania, including government officials, entrepreneurs and researchers, as well as the general public. It also aims to use the OECD communication channels to provide an accessible and comprehensive presentation of the Lithuanian innovation system and policy to a global audience.

A draft version of the Overall Assessment and Recommendations was presented for a peer review to the Working Party for Innovation and Technology Policy (TIP) of the CSTP in December 2015, with the participation and contribution of Marius Skarupskas (Vice Minister of Economy of the Republic of Lithuania).

The review was led by Gernot Hutschenreiter, Head, Country Innovation Policy Reviews Unit, (Science and Technology Policy Division [STP], DSTI, OECD). The review report was drafted by Giulia Ajmone Marsan, Alistair Nolan and (from January 2016) Pluvia Zuniga (all Science and Technology Policy Division [STP], DSTI, OECD) with contributions from Patries Boekholt (consultant to the OECD; Technopolis, the Netherlands) and Jari Romanainen (consultant to the OECD; Technopolis, Estonia) under the supervision of and with contributions from Gernot Hutschenreiter (STP, DSTI, OECD). Yana Vaziakova (STP, DSTI, OECD) provided statistical support and web-based research.

The review draws on the results of a series of interviews with a wide range of major stakeholders of the Lithuanian innovation system during a fact-finding mission in September 2015. The preparation of the fact-finding mission by the OECD team was supported by a background report which was commissioned for this review by the

* www.oecd.org/sti/innovation/reviews.

Lithuanian authorities. This report– entitled *Initial Assessment of Lithuanian Innovation Policy* – was prepared by a team of Lithuanian experts of the association “Knowledge Economy Forum”: Edgaras Leichteris, Mantas Jonauskis, Monika Petraitė, Mantas Vilys, Arturas Jakubavičius and Giedrė Stumbrytė. The background report contains a broad range of valuable information that is widely drawn upon in this report.

The review has benefited from comments and additional information received from stakeholders in Lithuania, the TIP peer review – in particular Lucie Núñez Tayupanta (Department of Research and Development, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Czech Republic) and Kirsti Vilén (Enterprise and Innovation Department, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Finland) who contributed by acting as peer reviewers at the TIP meeting – and distinguished experts in the field.

The review owes much to the support and co-operation of the Lithuanian government officials, in particular Dimitrijus Kucevičius (Director, Innovation Department, Ministry of Economy and delegate to the CSTP and TIP), Aurelija Kazlauskienė (Head, Innovation Policy Division, Innovation Department, Ministry of Economy) and Donata Gustaite (Chief Official, Innovation Policy Division, Innovation Department, Ministry of Economy) who provided background information and organisational support throughout the review, including for the fact-finding mission of the OECD team to Lithuania. Together with officials from the Business and Science Co-operation Division, Innovation Department of the Ministry of Economy and from the Department of Studies, Science and Technologies of the Ministry of Education and Science they also provided valuable comments on drafts of this report.



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