

Foreword

This report presents the main outcomes from the project titled *Assessing the Impacts of the Policy Mix for Knowledge Transfer*, conducted in 2017-18 by the OECD Working Party on Innovation and Technology Policy (TIP). The main goals of the project were to analyse the impacts of public research institutions on innovation performance, as well as to explore the policy instruments and mixes implemented across countries to support science-industry knowledge transfer. The project builds on the expertise of the Working Party in knowledge transfer and public research policy domains, and is the follow-up to a previous project on *Assessing the Impacts of Public Research Systems* (2015-16). This strand of work will continue in 2019-20, with a focus on knowledge co-creation.

New empirical evidence provided in this report is the result of efforts to develop two new databases. The first covers 21 619 public research institutions matched to data on 2.5 million patent applications to the European Patent Office (EPO) in 36 countries (35 OECD countries and China), over the period 1992-2014, and is used to explore the patenting activities of universities and their impacts on local business inventions. The second is a database with indicators on the governance of public research, based on a new survey conducted in 2017-18 across 35 OECD countries. This database was obtained following a three-year process that involved the development of an ontology of the governance of public research policy, as well as data collection and validation by national authorities.

The key contribution of the project, as illustrated in this report, includes the implementation of a novel approach to exploring science-industry knowledge transfer using labour force survey data. Such data are examined to provide new evidence of the contributions of graduates in social sciences to different economic sectors of activity. In addition, the report develops a new framework for analysing policy mixes for knowledge transfer – including a detailed taxonomy of financial, regulatory and soft policy instruments – and a new taxonomy of types of positive and negative interactions among policy instruments.



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