ARANGUREN QUEREJETA, M.ª José; MAGRO MONTERO, Edurne and VALDALISO, Jesús M.ª

Intelligent specialisation strategies: case study of the Basque Country

Abstract: Today's literature stresses the need to develop regional innovation strategies to acquire competitive advantage. The meaning of the term strategy is unclear when applied to place, however. This paper analyses a specific type of regional strategy: intelligent specialisation strategies. More specifically, it looks into matters presently under debate and in need of further precision. The discussion addresses two dimensions of strategy: content and process. The analysis of the evolution of such strategies in the Basque Country since the early nineteen eighties reveals both the wisdom of adopting a non-restrictive view thereof and the differences in the government's role depending on regional capacities.

Keywords: strategy, region, intelligent specialisation, diversification, innovation.

JEL classification: O21, O38, R11, R58.

BUESA, Mikel

Spain's national innovation system: an overview

Abstract: This article discusses recent trends in Spain's innovation system, with reference to general questions concerning resource allocation to this chapter over the period 2000-2010. The review conducted of research activity contains information on scientific performance and results. The technological output of innovative companies is shown to be insufficient to meet the country's needs. The role of science and technological policy is also studied. The conclusion drawn is that although Spain has been converging on the model in place in European Union countries in the aggregate, the innovative company segment continues to be one of its economy's major weaknesses.

Keywords: national system of innovation, technological innovation, scientific research, science policy, technology policy, Spain 2000-2010.

JEL classification: O31, O32, O34, O38.

CHAMINADE, Cristina

Competitive regions in a global economy: analysis of the relationship between regional variety and involvement in global innovation networking

Abstract: Despite the increasing globalisation of economic activity in general, innovation processes continue to be highly localised in certain regions of the world. Recent studies suggest that regions' institutional and organisational density is directly related to participation in global innovation networks. This article analyses the relationship between regional

variety and involvement in global innovation networking in a series of European countries and emerging economies. The results suggest that the lower a region's institutional and organisational density, the greater is its need to participate in global innovation networks.

Keywords: regional innovation, global innovation networks, Europe, Brazil, India, China, South Africa

JEL classification: O19, P52, R11.

Abstract: A qualitative approach is adopted in the present paper to identify and analyse the problems that cause the Spanish innovation system to malfunction. The system's strong and weak points are discussed against the backdrop of innovation system, and more specifically "systemic" failure, theory. The author contends that such failure prevents R&D policy from exerting a satisfactory impact, and the growing financial effort invested in R&D+I policy from translating into a pathway to excellence and to the significance of these systems in and their use by the nation's productive fabric. Although many of these failures were identified many decades ago, neither politicians nor managers have taken drastic measures to correct the shortcomings detected.

Keywords: national innovation system, systemic failures, SWOT analysis, public R&D sector.

JEL classification: O31, O32, O34, O38.

Abstract: This premise underlying this study is that innovation is a regional process reinforced by the existence of specific and scantly transferable resources. The presence of such resources implies regional differences in technological capacity and efficiency that prompt uneven results in response to innovation policy. The article analyses the effect of the additionality afforded by public R&D funding on innovation in companies located in regions with weak innovation systems compared to firms in areas with more advanced conditions. The findings show that the effect of such funding varies in the two types of regions and that therefore a company's location largely determines how it will be affected by such policies.

Keywords: public funding for R&D, R&D, innovative process, innovation policies, central and peripheral regions in the innovation system.

JEL classification: O3, O31, O38.

this linearity, suggesting that the relationship is described by an upside-down U curve. The linear and non-linear econometric models developed for the present study verify that the relationship adopts an inverted V shape in both countries.

Keywords: technological innovation, export likelihood, Spain, Mexico.

JEL classification: D2I, FI0.

VÁSQUEZ-URRIAGO, Ángela Rocío; BARGE-GIL, Andrés and MODREGO RICO, Aurelia

Spanish science and technology parks, drivers of innovation-related cooperation

Abstract: The primary purpose of this study is to measure the effect of Spanish science and technology parks (Spanish acronym, PCYTEs) on the likelihood of inter-company cooperation in innovation and the characteristics of such cooperation. The source used is the National Statistics Institute's 2007 Survey on Technological Innovation in Companies. The findings show that PCYTEs drive innovation-related cooperation among companies, raising the likelihood of the establishment of cooperative working relations and enhancing the variety and stability or durability of such relations.

Keywords: science and technology parks, innovation-related cooperation, external sources of expertise, proximity.

JEL classification: L1, M2.