



Trend Chart on Innovation in Europe

DE 24

General presentation of the measure/scheme/action/regulation

Country

Germany

Geographical coverage, national or regional (state region)

(National)

Title of the measure

INSTI - Network (INnovation STImulation)

Information Source/Reference

www.insti.de

Overview (nature, main goals)

The programme aims to stimulate innovation in Germany by contributing to an innovative friendly environment as a base for increased innovation activities. The nation-wide network consists of mainly private INSTI-partners from the field of innovation and patent consultancy. Within the network, several initiatives are organised (see DE_08, DE_39, DE_40, DE_44, DE_48, DE_49, DE_62, DE_63). In 2001, the network established an independent organisation, Innovation e.V.

Action Plan objective addressed by measure

I.4. Innovation & Management
II.2. Protection of IPR

Administering agency

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Description of Scheme General Information

Reference to legal basis (e.g. act, public document, ...)

Directive on the the INSTI-programme, issued of the BMBF

Does the measure receive central funding or regional funding?

Central

Start date

1994

Expected date of completion

2000, extended until 2002

Previous measure (name, date, links with the current measure)

no

Reasons for launching/modifying the new measure

Stimulating innovation is seen as a major factor for improving technological performance and thus productivity, growth, and wealth. The use of IPR is perceived as a major element in innovation activities, and many SMEs lack in appropriate knowledge and capabilities in this area. Furthermore, innovation and patent related subjects are often missing in high engineering education.

Have any of the main features of the measure/scheme/action/regulation changed during its implementation

In December 2000, the INSTI-Network was prolonged by establishing an independent association, the INSTI-Innovation e.V. Within the network, a new initiative v started (see DE_63) which provides support (a) for firms who want to use innovation services in order to improve their innovation management and (b) for universities and public research organisations who want to improve their use of patents as a mode of commercialising their research results.

What is the predominant role of the government?

Funding source, regulator

Target Group

Who are the target groups of the measure?

Research Institutes

Researchers

SMEs/Industrial SMEs

Universities

Individuals

Organisation and Implementation

Organisation and Structure

The INSTI-Network is now organised as an independent association (Verein) consisting of patent agents, regional patent-information agencies, information brokers, regional invention agencies, management consultants, agencies for technology, transfer offices at higher education and research institutions. The network partners offer various types of support in the field of innovation management and the use of IPR, public money for use of these services is available to SMEs and public science institutions via the measure "Innovation Action" (DE_63). Within the INSTI-Network, the following initiatives are carried out: - INSTI - Innovation Market (DE_40): commercialisation of high-valuable inventions - INSTI SME Patent Initiative (DE_08): supporting patent applications by SMEs - INSTI Inventors Clubs (DE_47): promoting creativity of individuals and realisation and commercialisation of new ideas - INPAT (DE_49): Integrating patenting into teaching activities at universities and technical colleges, especially in natural sciences (ended in 2000) - INTRA (DE_48): innovation training consisting of various modules which cover the whole range of innovation activities. - INSTI Tour d'Innovation (DE_39): Raising awareness among students with respect to innovation - INSTI AKPat (DE_62): introducing an internet-based information tool for researchers at higher education institutions - INSTI Innovation Action (DE_63): promoting the use of innovation and patent related services offered by the INSTI network in order to establish continuous innovation processes in SMEs.

What are the criteria for eligibility?

Financial support for innovation consulting is provided for SMEs (with respect to EU competition law), start-ups and universities and non-university research organisations. At least two INSTI-partners must be involved in a service used.

What is the mode of delivery of the measure?

providing a network of experts and consultants in the field of innovation and patenting (infrastructure approach).

Financing : Overall budget allocated to the measure

15.3 mill. Euro for the period 1994 to 2000.

Financing : expenditure per year

1998 and 1999: 2.53 mill.Euro each.

Financing : other budgetary sources (additional financing)

no

Results**Result Measurement****What are the main indicators for the measurement of the results ?**

Creation of a nation-wide Network of up to 40 INSTI-Partners, improving the environment for innovation activities, increasing the use of IPR by SMEs and universities/public research labs, improving innovation management at SMEs.

Where an evaluation has taken place, what were the main results achieved?

no evaluation so far

If no official evaluation has been undertaken, have there been any indicators of success?

The network is well known among the target group as well as in the general public.

Observations**Which mechanisms seem to function well in the measure?**

Innovation services seem to be well demanded by firms.

Which mechanisms seem to be less successful in the measure?

not available yet

Are there any other measures planned or in operation as a follow up to this measure? Direction of the planned measures? Objectives? Target groups?

see l.c.1

