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Trend Chart on Innovation in Europe

UK 37

General presentation of the measure/scheme/action/regulation

Country

United Kingdom

Geographical coverage, national or regional (state region)

(National)

Title of the measure

The Biotechnology Exploitation Platform Challenge (BEP Challenge)

Information Source/Reference

<http://www.dti.gov.uk/beps/index.htm>

Overview (nature, main goals)

Encourages syndicates of bioscience research organizations and technology transfer units to work together and build portfolios of intellectual property. Will help academic bioscience departments to audit their existing intellectual property and identify commercial opportunities.

Action Plan objective addressed by measure

I.6 Promotion of clustering and co-operation for innovation

II.2. Protection of IPR

III.1. Strategic Vision of R&D

III.4. Co-operation Research/Universities/Companies

III.5. Absorption of Technologies by SMEs

Administering agency

[DTI - Department of Trade and Industry](#)

151 Buckingham Palace Road, United Kingdom

Web Site: www.dti.gov.uk

Biotechnology Directorate

BEP Programme Manager, United Kingdom

Name of the manager(s) responsible for the implementation of this measure with address, fax, phone

[Kate Allan](#)

DTI - Department of Trade and Industry

151 Buckingham Palace Road, United Kingdom

Description of Scheme

General Information

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

None

Does the measure receive central funding or regional funding?

Central

Start date

1999

Expected date of completion

indefinite

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

Builds on a successful pilot programme .

Reasons for launching/modifying the new measure

:Perception that Biotechnology products and processes have an increasingly important role to play in ensuring that the UK enhances its industrial competitiveness and is a leader in the race for world markets.

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

No

What is the predominant role of the government?

Funding and administration

Organisation and Implementation

Organisation and Structure

Provision of 50% funds to successful applicants – who must match funds. (essentially pump priming for organisations providing information and advice in biotech exploitation.

What are the criteria for eligibility?

Proposals will be assessed by an ad hoc Advisory Panel which will include experts from the science base and industry, and technology transfer intermediaries. The ad hoc Advisory Panel will make recommendations to the DTI whose decision will be final. The DTI retains the right not to make an award if no suitable proposals are received. In evaluating the entries, key criteria will include: - The credibility of the Business Plan and the ability of BEPs to become self-sustaining after 4 years - The quality and experience the BEP team in technology exploitation - The commercial potential of the technology - The extent to which Government support will encourage new collaborations, create new intellectual property portfolios and will leverage new private sector finance - Potential benefit for UK companies

What is the mode of delivery of the measure?

Successful proposals will receive up to 50% of eligible costs for projects of up to four years. BEPs will be expected to become self-sustaining and continue without further DT support after the project has ended.

Financing : Overall budget allocated to the measure

DTI support of up to £6.45 million (□10.2m) (builds on a successful £2.34M pilot programme).

Financing : expenditure per year

Not relevant

Financing : other budgetary sources (additional financing)

The maximum award is £250,000 (□400k). Participants must match this.

Results

Result Measurement

What are the main indicators for the measurement of the results ?

None

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

Not relevant

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

Not known

Observations

Which mechanisms seem to function well in the measure?

Not known

Which mechanisms seem to be less successful in the measure?

Not known

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

Not known

