European Commission

Diagnostic and Benchmarking Study on Technology Transfer in EU neighbouring countries

UNECE IPO Policy Dialogue

From science to innovation – nurturing science-business linkages to try out new ideas

Eva Baltar, Policy Officer, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

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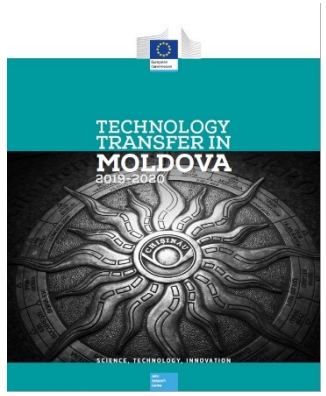
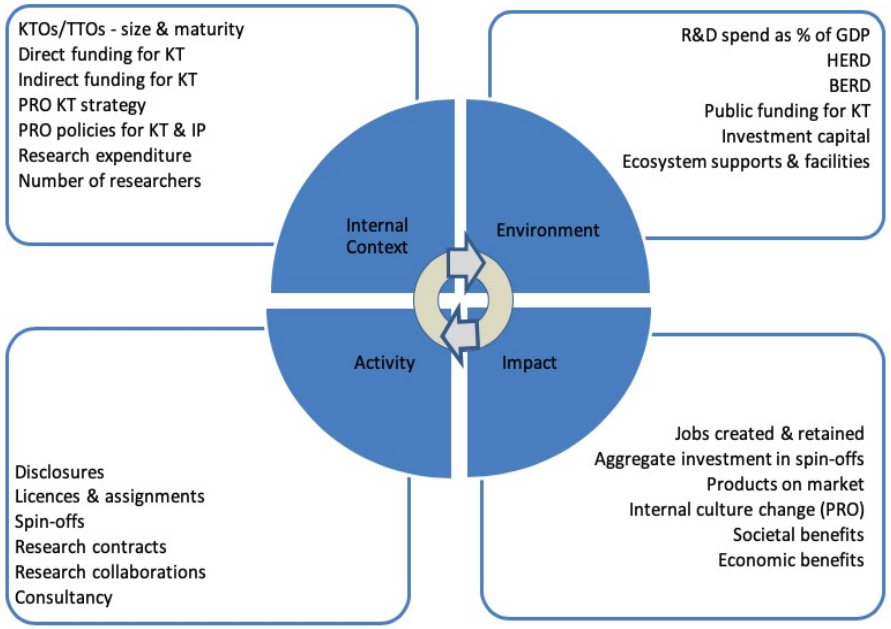
Joint Research Centre

TT in Eastern and Southern neighbourhood

- Diagnostic and benchmark analysis of the **state of Technology Transfer** in the **Eastern** (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine) and **Southern** neighbouring countries (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia)
    - Describe the main characteristics of the landscape, including relevant stakeholders, players and TT model
    - Identify strengths and weaknesses of each ecosystem
    - Provide a comparative overview of TT in the twelve countries
- The ultimate objective is to **inform policy-making in TT**

Progress of the TT study in the EaP





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Gaps in TT ecosystems

- Lack of Intellectual Property **policies** and **legislation** that promote TT
- Low **R&D budget** and lack of **financial instruments** and **incentives**
- Young **TT infrastructure** with not enough resources: TTOs are understaffed and underfunded
- Lack of academic **entrepreneurship**: it does not happen or is not fully regulated
- Weak **linkages between academia and industry**: TT from PROs to the private sector is low

Recommendations (macro level)

- Connect **smart specialisation** with **technology transfer**
- **Legislative reform**: simplified legislation, enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights, allowing equity ownership by PROs and academia in spin-offs
- Promote **coordination between relevant Ministries** (i.e. Ministry of Education and Research and Ministry of Industry). Possible role for intergovernmental committee on innovation chaired by PM addressing Smart Specialisation and Technology Transfer
- Early and late stage financial instruments: **Proof of Concept funding**, early stage risk capital funds, funding for scale-ups

Recommendations (micro level)

- Increase the number of **qualified IP and TT managers**: capacity building with hands-on mentoring/coaching, international twinning of TTOs
- **Increased funding for TTOs**: international patenting, commercialisation activities, permanent staff
- **Incentives for researchers**: rewards, revenue sharing, TT included in academic career progression
- **Incentives for industry**: innovation vouchers, tax reliefs
- **Linkages with the Diaspora**: to support technology commercialisation and internationalisation

What's next: TT in EaP post-2020 targets

- Definition and implementation of **national TT roadmaps**

Legal framework and law enforcement

- Simplified legislation
- Unified IP policies, enforcement of IP rights
- Allowing equity ownership by PROs and academia in spin-offs

Creation/improvement of efficiency of TT offices

- Internationalisation: patenting and commercialisation activities
- Permanent/stable skilled staff
- TT metrics
- Network of TT offices

Financial and support instruments for TT

- Proof of Concept, seed funding, angel investment, venture capital, crowdfunding
- Incubators, accelerators

Collaboration relationships academia-industry

- Incentives for researchers: rewards, revenue sharing, TT included in academic career progression
- Incentives for industry: innovation vouchers, tax reliefs
- Linkages with the Diaspora: support technology commercialisation and internationalisation

Capacity building for researchers, students and TT staff

- Increase the number of qualified IP and TT managers
- Training with hands-on mentoring/coaching
- International twinning of TT offices

Thank you

Eva Baltar
eva.baltar@ec.europa.eu
Policy Officer
JRC, European Commission

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