

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC (IN ENGLISH)

Objective of the project

The first aim of a project is to describe types of innovation activities undertaken by innovative enterprises in the Polish regions. Enterprises can implement innovations in many ways, for example: by themselves, on way of in-house R&D activity; on way of cooperation with other enterprises, clients, research institutions, suppliers etc.; on way of acquisition of machinery, equipment, software etc.; on way of acquisition of existing knowledge.

The second aim is attempt to analyse if a particular type of innovation activity is related to economic and social features in a particular region. There is assumption that choice of the type of innovation activity can be related to following economic and social features in a region, among others: number of people with tertiary education in different fields, level of social trust, tendency to cooperate in a society, wealth of a region, type of dominating industrial sectors.

Research realisation

Conducted research will be based on statistical data analysis, primarily on data from Community Innovation Survey, which covers enterprises introducing new products and processes. Data from that research allow us to investigate innovation activity of Polish enterprises in more details. Rest of data will be obtained from public databases as Central Statistical Office of Poland, Eurostat, OECD, European Social Survey.

Firstly statistical analysis will be based on description and graphical presentation of data. In the next step Polish regions will be clustered in groups of regions with similar features (similar type of innovation activity, similar features of economic and social environment) based on adequate statistical methods (cluster analysis).

In the last stage will be verified if there is relation between type of innovation activity undertaken by enterprises, and economic and social features in the region. This stage will be fulfilled by building of econometric models for panel data.

Motives of research topic undertaking

Innovation activity is seen as potential source of differences in economic development of regions. Innovation is seen as a motor of economic development. Therefore it is important to undertake research on different types of innovation activity and to analyse a relations between existence of particular type of innovation activity in regions of different level economic and social features. Different types of innovation activity undertaken in regions which differ in terms of economic and social environment need different supporting instruments. Therefore conducted nowadays regional policy, which is focused on strengthening the innovation, needs an appropriate diagnostic tools, that will allow for even better planning of actions to support entrepreneurs. Also important is to inform other researchers, policymakers and wider society, that the innovation activity is something more than R&D expenditures and patenting. It is more variety of activities leading to introduction of new products and processes.