

Method of the measurement of innovation

ZSUZSANNA SZUNYOGH (*Hungarian Central Statistical Office, Hungary, Zsuzsanna.Szunyogh@ksh.hu*)

Lately, the importance of innovation statistics has significantly increased. Today, innovation is undoubtedly a major driver of the economy. Consequently, it is of significance to acquire all related information. The first innovation survey, named CIS1 (Community Innovation Survey1) and carried out in 1993, was a pilot survey aiming to test the methodology of measuring innovation activities. The results of the second data collection (CIS2) in 1999 were already EU level comparable. All definitions used in CIS type surveys are based on the Oslo Manual published first time in 1992, and the third revised version in 2005. The main changes were that the measurement of innovation was extended on organisational and marketing innovation and became more appropriate for the measurement of the service sector as well. The basis of innovation statistics is an EU legislation entering force in 2004 determining when and what kind of indicators have to be provided by countries and how the surveys including proposed questionnaire have to be organised. CIS type surveys are used outside Europe as well and the related experience helps to improve the methodology. The strengths and weaknesses of the survey methodology are known and its development is continuous. One of the main tasks of the NESTI is to improve innovation statistics. Several task forces and experts groups are engaged in this activity. Different streamlines are forming to define the approaches and indicators needed by policymakers, scientists and other users to choose the methods and to produce them without increasing the burden of data providers and data producers. At present, simple and composite indicators are commonly used and some of the proposals are under revision, which aim to link different data sources to analyse the impact of innovation. There is a necessity to assess current lists and to suggest new ones. In Hungary the first innovation pilot survey which used the Oslo definitions was organised by Annamária Inzelt and was carried out in 1994 on a small sample. In 2000, the first CIS was organised by Hungarian Central Statistical Office to test definitions and methods. From 2002 on every other year CIS are being carried out, 6th time this year.

Keywords: CIS, innovation statistics, Oslo Manual