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socio-economic impact of public research organizations in slovenia

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R&D, science, technology and innovation activities comprise important drivers of economic growth, increase of productivity and enhancement of international competitiveness. Perception of a gap between a relatively high performance in science and deteriorating industrial competitiveness labelled as European paradox is valid also for Slovenia. Public research organizations including 4 universities and 20 research institutes play an important role in innovation processes driven either by market pull demand or by technology push system. We are facing - besides scientific excellency in several research organizations and research groups - low level of collaboration and flexibility of public RO in relations to the private business sector on one side and insufficient demand in industry for the research results offered by public research organizations, on the other side. One of the main disadvantages of the national innovation system is the disproportion between the innovation potentials (number of researchers/developers in the business enterprise sector) and the capabilities and R&D personnel in public research organizations. The existing schemes for fostering interactive collaboration between these two poles should be changed in order to improve the impact of science on creation of value added and social welfare.

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