

Innovation Performance Review of Ukraine
Major recommendations and policy options

- A recommendation to consider and regularly evaluate the National Innovation System (NIS) as an integrated whole. An emphasis should be placed on the importance of the linkages between the different components and subsystems of the NIS and the “weak links” should become policy targets. In addition, the notion of innovation should be broadened, recognizing that technology is only one dimension of the innovation process and the NIS.
- As part of a holistic, consistent approach to policy prioritization, the authorities could consider the development of a single, comprehensive National Innovation Strategy for Ukraine that would integrate and replace many existing policy measures. The creation of a National Innovation Council could contribute to improve the governance of the national innovation system.
- Ukraine has adopted many innovation initiatives in the past. However, implementation has been uneven, due to the lack of necessary follow-up steps to give concrete expression to high-level objectives, including the provision of financial resources. Given the multiple government actors involved and the difficulties in tracking effective implementation, there is a need to improve policymaking processes.
- The possibility, in the future, to link Ukraine’s promotion policy to the promotion of innovation. This has been created by the establishment of the State Agency for Investment and National Projects which could ensure that sector-specific FDI promotion is integrated into sector- or technology-specific R&D and innovation support programmes.
- An emphasis on the important role of industry-science linkages (ISL) in the National Innovation System. Given the limited innovation budgets of research organizations, public funding of technology transfer and commercialization initiatives is needed, as significant time is required before these activities can generate a profit.
- Public resources are necessary to address the financing problems of innovative companies. Engagement of the private sector in public technology programmes through close consultation or public-private partnerships would ensure that venture capitalists have better information on potential opportunities.