

Trapasso 220519

Higher education institutions as drivers of economic development

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) can generate knowledge spillovers and positive externalities for SMEs, start-ups, and their regional ecosystems. To benefit from these potentials, however, there is a need for institutions and policies supporting the capacity of universities and colleges to engage with stakeholders, and become drivers of economic development.

There are several examples of this dynamic in OECD countries. Among others, there is the case of Naples “Federico II”, Italy, between the 1990s and early 2000s, where several cohorts of graduating students were offered learning and research opportunities by engaging with regional ecosystems in the Italian Mezzogiorno.

The OECD and the European Commission have developed HEInnovate Guiding Framework. HEInnovate is a research project which aims to help higher education systems and institutions foster entrepreneurship and innovation, to generate economic and societal value. The HEInnovate guiding framework encompasses three components. A diagnostic tool to inform the strategies of HEIs. OECD HEInnovate Reviews that discuss the implementation of the entrepreneurial and innovation agenda in national higher education systems. Finally, a Policy Learning Network in which representatives from countries that hosted a review process can discuss successful practices, and exchange policy information.

Vi piace? Come detto mi permetterebbe di generare un continuum tra Berlino e Bogotà.

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