The Role of Universities in Regional Innovation Policies and Practice

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NUMBERS SO FAR



BACKGROUND

Third Mission of Universities

- Engagement in regional development

Knowledge-based Society
- Knowledge as key driver in innovation and
economic growth

Regional Innovation Systems - Universities considered as endogenous to economic development in a territory

- 63 interviews conducted;

~ **30 policy documents**

analysed;

2 articles submitted for
 revision + 1 book chapter;

- 3 more articles in redaction.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

in

capacity-

Mismatches

Local & Regional Government Regional Development & Competitiveness

Universities' Potential as
planning AgentsScientific
knowledgeInformed
Innovation
PoliciesNurturing a
Development
-prone
EnvironmentRelationship influenced by territorial
determinants and policy environment.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

□ To what extent and how do universities affect the process of regional (innovation)

engagement mechanisms

to be overcome;

- Expectation and adoption of
- different roles: universities
- as planners vs universities as
- beneficiaries...;
- Perceived benefit in
- institutional
- building;

Discourse vs Practice

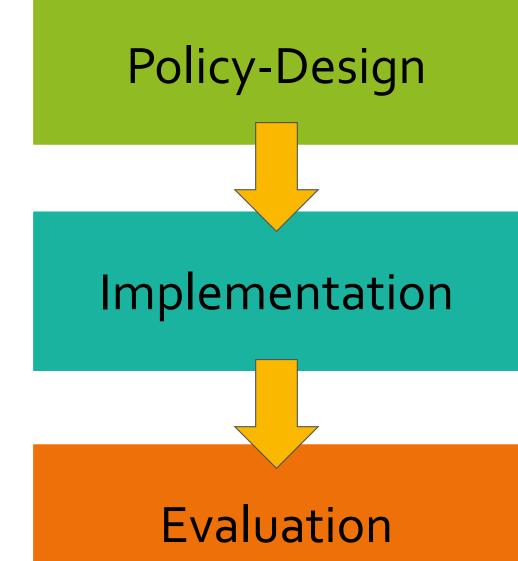
policy design and implementation?

- To what extent and how do universities, through their planning agency, contribute towards the enhancement of regional innovation?
- How do territorial qualities affect universities' agency in regional development?

Oualitative Framework Comparative Multiple Desk-based research

Reports, policies, news Semi-structured interviews University staff at all levels Policymakers & technical staff

Intermediate offices Other relevant stakeholders

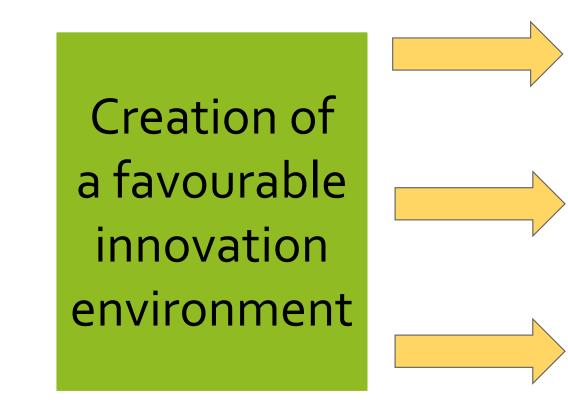


Initial stages vs Later

stages

• Lack of cohesive approach

within the institution.



Case-studies Approach

U.A.

Barcelona

U. Aveiro

U. Twente

RELEVANCE AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Academia

Increased understanding of institutional and organisational adaptation to external needs

Policy-makers Integration of knowledge for a more informed and efficient policy process.

Industry &Improved knowledge for a better adaptationEntrepreneursto innovation challenges







This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 722295

