



Centre for Science, Technology and
Innovation Indicators (CeSTII)

WORKSHOP ON THE REVIEW OF INNOVATION MEASUREMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA
8th – 9th November 2011

Venue: CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria

Programme

Day 1: 8th November

08:30 – 09:00 Arrival and registration

09:00 – 09:45 Welcome and keynote address

Facilitator: Prof Demetre Labadarios

(Executive Director:-Population Health, Health Systems and Innovation; HSRC)

Keynote address:

Dr Phil Mjwara, Director-General, DST

Innovation and its impact on South African Society:

Mr Peter Pedlar, Deputy CEO, HSRC

09:45 – 10:00 TEA

Session 1 (10:00 – 13:30)

Lessons from the South African Innovation Survey

The Centre for Science, technology and innovation indicators (CeSTII) undertakes innovation surveys for DST and has just completed the second such survey, making it the fourth of the innovation surveys series conducted in South Africa. This session will provide a presentation on the key findings from the latest survey, highlighting how innovation takes place in the business sector. A panel discussion will follow to examine the key lessons from the findings, the experiences of users of the survey and the interface between innovation measurement and policy making in South Africa.

South African should take note of, and evaluate if South Africa needs to make any further adaptations of the innovation measurement instrument, and other relevant key considerations.

Key background documents (downloadable from the web links shown):

OECD Science, Technology and Industry Outlook: http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/sti_outlook-2010-en

OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard: www.oecd.org/sti/scoreboard

African Innovation Outlook 2010: www.nepadst.org

Findings from Israel's Business Innovation Survey, 2006-2008

Facilitator: Dr Neo Molotja,

Senior Research Specialist: HSRC-CeSTII

14:30 – 15:15	Innovation survey indicators and their use: the big picture	Prof Fred Gault, Professorial Fellow: UNU –MERIT, Professor Extraordinaire : Tshwane University of Technology
15:15 – 15:45	International benchmarking and experiences with Innovation Surveys	Mr Vladimir López-Bassols, OECD/Science, Technology and Industry
<hr/> 15:45 – 16:00 TEA <hr/>		
16:00 – 16:30	Israel's Innovation Survey 2006 -2008: Methodology and Findings	Mr Evyatar Kirschberg, Director: Science and Technology Sector, Israel
16:30 – 17:15	Experiences on use of innovation survey findings in policy discourse with reference to the German experience	Prof Ulrich Schmoch, Policy Researcher: Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research, Germany
17:15 – 17:50	Open discussion	
17:50 – 18:00	CLOSING – END OF DAY 1	
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Day 2: 9th November

08:30 – 09:00 **Arrival and tea**

09:00 - 09:20 **Recap on day 1: Mr Godfrey Mashamba, Chief Director: Science and Technology Investment, DST**

Session 3 (09:20 – 10:50)

Strengthening the national capacity for data collection and indicators monitoring

The current innovation survey is useful in understanding the phenomenon of innovation in the business sector. It is, however, limited in scope because it does not provide answers to many of the questions concerning the broader conditions for innovation. An understanding of existing gaps can be useful in identifying specific dimensions that can be added to the current instrument; and in finding alternative ways for data collection and analysis to evaluate the environment of innovation in a holistic manner. It will also be useful to subject this instrument to better statistical quality practices.

Key background documents:

South African Science and Technology Indicators 2010

Facilitator: Mr William Blankley,

Director: Research, HSRC-CeSTII

09:20 – 09:50	What indicators should we be monitoring to better inform innovation policy in South Africa	Mr Wilson Manganyi, Researcher: Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflections
09:50 – 10:20	Critical analysis of gaps for monitoring innovation performance in South Africa	Prof Michael Kahn, Ministerial Review Committee of the NSI, South Africa
10:20 – 10:50	Statistical quality considerations and how these can be useful for the production of the innovation survey	Dr Seble Worku, Statistics South Africa

10:50- 11:05 TEA

Session 4 (11:05 – 12:00)

Review of the Innovation Survey Questionnaire

In preparation for the next survey, this session will focus mainly on the different aspects of the questionnaire, how it can be improved in order to capture data that will enable better measurement of business sector innovation in the local context, while adhering to the international requirements. The session will take into account recommendations made in the previous sessions of the workshop.

Key background documents:

South African Innovation Survey 2008: Questionnaire

Facilitator: Prof Fred Gault, Professorial Fellow: UNU –MERIT; Professor Extraordinaire : Tshwane University of Technology

Discussion on:

Key Definitions

Understanding Innovation surveys and their purpose:

a. Survey design

- i. Sectors/industry coverage
- ii. Frame maintenance and Sampling procedures (Firm size, Geography, Employment cut-off)
- iii. Improving survey questions and coverage (including adding new questions; removing or refining specific questions)
- iv. Data collection processes

12:00 – 13:00 LUNCH

- v. Production of comparable data

b. Improving innovation survey methodology and response rates

16:00 – 16:10 CLOSING REMARKS

Mr Imraan Patel: DDG: Socio-Economic Partnerships, DST