

Utilisation of Research Findings: Selected International Perspectives

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Motivation for this Overview

- NACI study:
 - An attempt to describe the extent of self-reported utilisation, dynamics and formulation of preliminary strategies
 - Inductive approach
- International context:
 - Scan of extent to which utilisation is on the policy agenda of countries and how it is approached
- Selective, if not anecdotal; not a comparative study

Approach

- Information sources
 - International network - personal communication
 - Internet scan
 - Literature
- Framework
 - Policy, strategy, instruments
 - Level: national, institutional, project
 - Detail

Generalisations (1)

- Common policy objective across many countries
 - Use of science for national development
 - Emerging trend: Link public funding of R&D to the addressing of national priorities
 - Linked to national priorities, e.g. job creation, international competitiveness
 - Many countries have broadened S&T policy to innovation policy
- Applies to developed and developing world
- Range across levels: Condition for project funding to new institutional missions

Generalisations (2)

- Range of terms to denote \pm same thing: Tech transfer, innovation, utilisation, implementation, commercialisation, etc.
- Not either utilisation or, e.g., basic research
- In fact, also linked to basic research
- Quality of research a given and in addition a base for QoL, etc.
- Specific outcomes, e.g. SMMEs, high tech companies
- General realisation: Complex issue with own dynamics

Generalisations (3)

- Range of instruments: Increased funding – tax incentives
- Cooperation between producers and users a common theme
- Increased activity over past 10 years
- Funding agencies also interested in extent and dynamics
- Many empirical studies

Conclusions

- Utilisation of research findings is a policy objective across countries and it seems to be growing in salience
- Specific forms and articulation varies

Thank you