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Innovation Development and International Technology Cooperation in Belarus

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Innovation is defined as the creation of better or more effective products, processes, services, technologies, or ideas that are accepted by markets, governments, and society. Innovation differs from invention in that innovation refers to the use of a new idea or method, whereas invention refers more directly to the creation of the idea or method itself. In business and economics, innovation is the catalyst to growth. Belarus considers innovation development to be the main priority for the next 20 years.

The main innovation applied fields declared at the Programme of Social and Economic Development of the Republic of Belarus for 2011–2015 are:

- 1) energy and energy saving;
- 2) agricultural industry technologies and productions;
- 3) industrial and construction technologies and productions;
- 4) medicine, medical equipment and technologies, pharmaceuticals;
- 5) chemical technologies, nano- and biotechnologies;
- 6) effective nature management, resource saving and protection from emergency;
- 7) defense and national security.

There is no specific policy document on international collaboration in science, technology and innovations in Belarus. However, the key documents and programmes, e.g. the Programme of Social and Economic Development of the Republic of Belarus for 2011–2015 approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus № 136 of 11 April 2011, State Programme of Innovative Development of the Republic of Belarus for 2011–2015 approved by the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus № 669 of 26 May 2011 [1]. These documents emphasise the role our government should play in supporting the implementation of priority projects of public value and promotion of domestic science and technology products in the global market as well as in bringing investments into the national economy and science, including grants and loans. International science and technology cooperation gets 3–4% of budget spending for research and development annually.

According to the national science portal, Belarus has got over 50 bi- and multilateral agreements on the governmental level on cooperation in science and tech-

nology. They cover almost half of the European Union member states (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Romania).

In the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, Belarus has got governmental agreements with Russia, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Tajikistan [2].

Within the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, Belarus is a member of the 2 alliances – Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and European-Asian Economic Cooperation (EurAsEC). At the moment, collaboration seems to be more alive within EurAsEC which managed to launch the first S&T programme «Innovative Biotechnologies» initiated by Belarus.

Belarus should diversify its instruments for promoting the international collaboration beyond the support for joint research. Such instruments could cover international publications and patenting, proposal drafting, project-based mobility, networking, as well as information and consulting services aimed at promotion of international cooperation, and also dedicated structures.

International cooperation in the innovation applied fields stimulates national growth and wealth. Having got such a high educational potential and developed human resources, Belarus has all prospects to become competent and successful at the international science and technology arena.

Литература

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Современные формы оффшорного бизнеса

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Оффшорные компании, без сомнения, следует рассматривать в качестве субъектов МЭО. Деятельность компаний в оффшоре специфична и коренным образом отличается от деятельности оффшорных компаний. Наиболее ярко эти отличия проявляются при характеристике областей применения и функций оффшорных компаний. Среди основных стоит назвать: поставщик при импорте, участник бартерных операций, посредник, подрядчик, владелец имущества (товарного знака), инвестор, залогодатель, судовладелец, кредитор, страховщик.