



Internationale Forschungs-, Technologie- und Innovationspolitik

Info-Service

5. September 2005

Berichterstattung zu strategischen Entwicklungen auf den Politikfeldern des BMBF in führenden Industrieländern

Global

Southern African network for biosciences launched

Efforts to build capacity for biological research in southern Africa were given a boost this month with the creation of the Southern African Network for Biosciences (SANBio). SANBio will bring together researchers and institutions from 12 countries across the region and encourage them to pool their knowledge and resources. It will focus on research relating to agriculture, human and animal health, the environment and industry.

The network was created as part of the African Biosciences Initiative, which aims to build regional networks of 'centres of research excellence'. The network's hub for southern Africa will be in South Africa. Other hubs being developed are Egypt (for north Africa), Kenya (east and central Africa) and Senegal (west Africa).

<http://www.scidev.net/News/index.cfm?fuseaction=readNews&itemid=2303&language=1>

Frankreich

Sechs neue internationale Wettbewerbspole in Zusammenarbeit mit dem CNRS

Frankreich hat seit dem 12. Juli 2005 neue Wettbewerbspole. In ganz Frankreich sind es 67, von denen sechs international tätig sein werden. Das Französische Zentrum für wissenschaftliche Forschung (CNRS)

bringt sich aktiv in diese sechs neuen Zentren ein. Eine Webseite in deutscher Sprache beschreibt die wichtigsten Merkmale dieser Zentren, wobei besonders auf die deutsch-französische Kooperation eingegangen wird.

<http://www.competitivite.gouv.fr/index.php?&lang=de>
Wissenschaft Frankreich Nr. 83 (elektronisches Bulletin der Abteilung für Wissenschaft und Technologie der Französischen Botschaft in Deutschland)

Polen

Recommendations for cluster development

On 26 April 2005, the Polish Lisbon Strategy Forum (PFSL) organised a conference policies of cluster support. The recommendations for Poland were formulated in two groups, at the regional and at the horizontal level. As regards analytical and co-ordination related activities, it was recommended that an Inter-ministerial group responsible for the development of clusters should be established. The next proposal was to analyse mega-clusters, in order to identify priorities for sustainable economic development which should be broad and not just sector specific. At the beginning, three pilot projects were proposed with the budget of about 100,000 euro, in order to prepare regional/local strategy for the development of clusters.

<http://www.pfsl.pl/news.php?id=266>

Schweden

Agreement on Cooperation with Chile on innovation policy issues

The Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems - VINNOVA and its counterpart in Chile, CORFO, signed a letter of intent on cooperation concerning research and innovation issues. The two-year agreement concerns the exchange of experiences, efforts and methods regarding industrially relevant research. Both countries will support strategies that favour learning and growth concerning management, promotion of investments and commercial interchange. The overall aim for the project is to further develop innovation policy in the two countries, focusing on issues such as scientific and technological research, innovation, competitiveness and growth.

http://trendchart.cordis.lu/tc_article.cfm?ID=3044&NEWSID=11

EU / Europa

Bericht liefert umfangreiche Analyse der europäischen Nano-Infrastruktur

Nanoforum, das von der EU unter dem Fünften Rahmenprogramm (RP5) finanzierte thematische Netzwerk, hat einen detaillierten Bericht über die europäische Nanotechnologie-Infrastruktur und -Netzwerke veröffentlicht. Einrichtungen und das Entwicklungsniveau unterscheiden sich von Land zu Land, doch insgesamt zählten die Autoren des Berichts 240 Infrastrukturen in 28 Ländern. Nanoforum definierte den Begriff "Infrastruktur" für diesen Bericht als "Zentren, die externen Nutzern den Zugang zu Produktions- oder analytischen Einrichtungen ermöglichen, und technische Unterstützung bereitstellen". Gut ausgestattete Zentren für die Grundlagenforschung, die offen für eine Zusammenarbeit sind, finden ebenfalls Berücksichtigung.

http://dbs.cordis.lu/cordis-cgi/srchidadb?ACTION=D&SESSION=&DOC=40&TBL=DE_NEWS&RCN=EN_RCN_ID:24246&CALLER=EI_DE_NEWS

Eurobarometer: 57 Prozent der Europäer aufgeschlossen gegenüber Innovation

"Innovation ist ein Meilenstein der Strategie zum Erreichen des vom Europäischen Rat vereinbarten Ziels, [...] dass die Union bis Ende des Jahrzehnts der wettbewerbsfähigste und dynamischste wissensbasierte Wirtschaftsraum wird", heißt es zu Beginn eines Eurobarometer-Berichts zum Thema "Population Innovation Readiness" ("Innovationsbereitschaft der Bevölkerung") in Europa. Die europäischen Bürger scheinen jedoch der Innovation nicht dieselbe Bedeutung beizumessen, denn nur 57 Prozent geben an, an innovativen Produkten oder Dienstleistungen interessiert zu sein.

http://dbs.cordis.lu/cordis-cgi/srchidadb?ACTION=D&SESSION=&DOC=1&TBL=DE_NEWS&RCN=EN_RCN_ID:24310&CALLER=EI_DE_NEWS

USA

NAS Panel Examines International Student Issues

A National Academies panel concerning international student issues encountered a "lack of accurate and timely data" about foreign students and scholars, the national security risks they present compared to domestic students, and what factors influence their decisions to come to the U.S.

The committee's report notes that foreign-born scientists and engineers grew from 12.7 percent of the U.S. S&E labor force in 1980 to 22.7 percent of that labor force in 2000. However, the committee found no indication that temporary residents are displacing U.S. citizens from graduate programs. It also found that temporary residents working as postdocs worked longer hours and earned less than U.S. citizens in similar positions.

To maintain U.S. leadership in S&E, "visa and immigration policies should provide clear procedures that do not unnecessarily hinder the flow of international graduate

students and postdoctoral scholars." The committee recommends extending the duration of Visas Mantis clearances for students and scholars from all countries.

<http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11289.html>
<http://www.aip.org/fyi/2005/124.html>

Science Committee Hearing on "The Innovation Challenge"

As Johns Hopkins University President said on a recent science committee hearing, "it looks as though the innovation pipeline is slowly being squeezed dry... [W]e are losing the skills race" and "are beginning to lose our preeminence in discovery as well." Attention must be focused on two urgent priorities: education and basic research funding. The witnesses of the hearing called for improved K-12 education in math and science, financial incentives to encourage undergraduates to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields, and national policies that would attract and retain the "best and brightest" minds from around the world. The witnesses also concurred on the importance of increasing funding for long-term, high-risk fundamental research. Brody called for a renewed commitment to double the NSF budget over the next five years and for restoring DARPA's long-term focus.

<http://www.aip.org/fyi/2005/122.html>

Still a Long Road to a Hydrogen Economy

Progress toward a hydrogen economy and the challenges ahead were the focus of three hearings in July. The Energy and Research Subcommittees of the House Science Committee held a joint hearing on July 20, while the House Government Reform Subcommittee on Energy and Resources and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy reviewed the subject on July 27.

A five-year, \$1.2 billion Hydrogen Fuel Initiative was announced by President Bush in his 2003 State of the Union address, but numerous witnesses cautioned that the president's vision of a hydrogen economy is far in the future, and that significant basic research is needed to overcome a number of potential technological "showstoppers." Subcommittee members at the July 20 hearing recognized that, hydrogen is not an energy source; it is an energy carrier, and more energy is required to produce hydrogen than can be retrieved from it.

<http://www.aip.org/gov>

NIH Releases Final Ethics Rules

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced final regulations regarding reporting of certain financial interests, stock divestiture, outside activities, and awards. The announcement came following a careful review of all comments about the interim ethics regulation submitted by NIH staff, the public, and scientific organizations.

The major features of the final rules are:

1. The basic prohibition on outside consulting by NIH staff with substantially affected organizations, such as pharmaceutical, biotechnology or medical device manufacturing companies, health care providers or insurers, and supported research institutions remains unchanged.
2. Divestiture of all holdings in substantially affected organizations in excess of \$15,000 per company will be required for all senior NIH employees and their spouses and minor children.
3. The receipt of monetary awards from outside sources will continue to be contingent upon prior approval and be limited to awards that have been determined through a pre-screening process to be bona fide.

http://www.nih.gov/about/ethics_COI.htm

Japan

Innovationsorientierte Technologiepolitik - Untersuchungsbericht des japanischen Wirtschaftsministeriums

Das japanische Wirtschaftsministerium (METI) hat eine interne Kommission mit der Untersuchung der Frage beauftragt, durch welche Strategien neue Wirtschaftszweige in Japan aufgebaut bzw. gefördert werden können.

Ausgangspunkt der Studie ist eine vierfache Problemlage Japans:

- Verschärfung des internationalen Wettbewerbs
- Verschlechterung durch eine sehr hohes Niveau der Staatsverschuldung
- Notwendigkeit der Reduzierung des Ausstoßes von Treibhausgasen
- Schwierigkeiten bei der dauerhaften Sicherung personeller Ressourcen aufgrund der Überalterung der Gesellschaft

Die Kommission schlägt u.a. folgende Maßnahmen vor: strategischer Ausbau und effizientere Strukturierung der staatlichen Technologieförderung, Sicherung einer qualitativ besseren und praxisnahen Ausbildung von naturwissenschaftlich-technischem Personal, größere Transparenz und bessere praktische Umsetzung der Grundlagenforschung, Stärkung der Kooperation von Wirtschaft, Forschung und Verwaltung sowie die Förderung des Verständnisses für Technologie in der allgemeinen Bevölkerung.

<http://www.jetro.de/d/index.php?id=14>

Australien

‘Measure by Measure’ - Australia’s Science Action Agenda

Australian Industry Minister, Ian Macfarlane, launched the Science Industry Action Agenda, ‘Measure by Measure’, which is a blueprint for expansion of an industry made up of 5000 manufacturers, distributors, laboratory services providers

and researchers. “Australia’s science industry is recognised globally for its scientific research, and innovative products and laboratory technical services. Through the Action Agenda the industry has a cohesive plan to capitalise on its good reputation,” Mr Macfarlane said.

Australian-made chromatography components, infrared spectrometers and other specialised equipment are set to become commonplace in international laboratories under a plan to triple exports by the Australian science industry, now worth about \$1 billion, over the next 10 years. “The Science Industry Action Agenda will encourage the science industry and scientific researchers to work more closely. Such collaboration will greatly enhance opportunities for commercialisation in the sector,” Australian Science Minister Dr Nelson said.

<http://minister.industry.gov.au/index.cfm?event=object.showContent&objectID=0A83C6A5-65BF-4956-B69380AF0522AF62>

Impressum

Herausgeber:

VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH
Abteilung Grundsatzfragen von Forschung,
Technologie und Innovation
Graf-Recke-Str. 84, 40239 Düsseldorf

Im Auftrag des Bundesministeriums für Bildung
und Forschung, Referat 111

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Erscheinungsweise: 14-tägig,

online unter  **internationale-
kooperation.de**

Die Informationen werden zur Wahrung der
Aktualität in der Originalsprache wiedergegeben