Monitoring and analysis of R&I policy using STIP Compass, Brussels - 20 September 2018

The workshop, back-to-back with a PSF-MLE seminar in Brussels in September, will be around STIP Compass, an initiative of the European Commission and the OECD to collect together in one place quantitative and qualitative data on national trends in science, technology and innovation (STI) policy. The portal supports the continuous monitoring and analysis of countries' STI policies and aims to become a central platform for policy research and advice supporting government officials, analysts and scholars. After brief presentations, seminar participants will be invited to comment on the tool's data and graphical user interfaces, the possibilities to link to other sources of data, the challenge of raising data quality and the next steps for policy monitoring and analysis.

Agenda

11.00 – 13.00   STIP Compass: Database and interfaces for analysis

The first session will provide a first introduction to STIP Compass, covering how policy data has been collected and how it is accessible in the portal for search and analysis. Discussion will revolve around the two applications that have so far been built on top of the database: i) interactive dashboards that provide a quick overview of the data and facilitate navigation by allowing users to zoom in and out of the data; and ii) the policy explorer that work as a google-like search interface with embedded capabilities for policy filtering and discovery. The session will also discuss STIP Compass's opportunities to link to other databases from the EC, the OECD and other data providers.

13.00 – 14.00   Lunch (on the spot)

14.00 – 15.20   Raising data quality

Regardless of its functionalities, STIP Compass is only as good as the quality of its data. Discussion in this session will focus on several issues around the quality of the policy data. While some aspects are being addressed by the project team, others will require additional input from government officials. This session will discuss current and planned arrangements to update the STIP Compass database, together with possibilities to conduct dedicated sessions in EC and OECD events as opportunities for sharing best practices and conducting peer-review exercises.

15.20 – 15.40   Coffee break

15.40 – 17.00   Future of policy monitoring and comparative analysis

Structuring data collection and analysis in taxonomies and semantic approaches significantly increase comparability. This session will explore the landscape to further systematising policy analysis and methods to be leveraged such as cluster analysis and machine learning. Participants will be invited to discuss how these tools could be geared towards supporting policy analysis and decision-making.