



Promoting collaboration through STI Parks, innovation hubs and incubators

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Outline


- The role of collaboration in promoting innovation
- STI parks as tools for collaboration
- Evaluating STI park effectiveness
- Issues for discussion





Collaboration key for learning and innovation

- No innovation happens in isolation, but within a system, and through collaboration
- Collaboration among actors in innovation systems is critical for knowledge and technology diffusion and technological learning
- Collaboration may be among firms, or between firms, research organizations and government (the "triple helix")

The background of the slide features a close-up of a microscope lens on the left and several interlocking blue gears on the right, set against a light beige gradient.

STI parks, a common tool for promoting collaboration

- Establishing STI parks, other clusters, innovation hubs and incubators are all tools for promoting collaboration
- STI parks co-locate knowledge sources (universities, public research organizations) with firms in order to promote knowledge and technology flows as a basis for innovation collaboration
- Most developed countries and 36 developing countries have established STI parks



Common objectives of STI parks

- Attracting R&D-intensive activities within the park
- Facilitating knowledge and technology transfers within the park
- Fostering start-up firms in the park and incubating them
- Contributing to economic development in the region of the park



What about STI parks' effectiveness?

- Evaluations of STI parks are often based on commercial feasibility, not collaboration and innovation outcomes
- Evaluation can be difficult, as objectives may be diverse, or may be unclear
- Measuring collaboration, and flows of knowledge and technology, require special metrics be developed
- Evaluating outcomes should address the issue of "additionality"



Some issues for discussion

- How should STI park tenants be selected? How should STI parks be managed?
- What sectors should a park target for development?
- What are the most successful models for STI parks?
- How should their performance be measured and what indicators are best suited for this purpose?

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