



Knowledge transfer and IP management at universities and public research organisations in Cyprus

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An event on behalf of the
European Commission





Country Profile Presentation

CYPRUS

1. Research in Cyprus
 - Landmarks in Cyprus Research History
 - Cyprus Performance in Research, Publications & Patents
2. Knowledge Transfer – Tools & Activities
3. IP Management & Exploitation in PROs
4. Knowledge Transfer & IP Management Funding
5. Other Knowledge Transfer Support Activities in Line with Commission Recommendation
6. Challenges & Remedies as Input to National Policy



Landmarks in Cyprus Research History

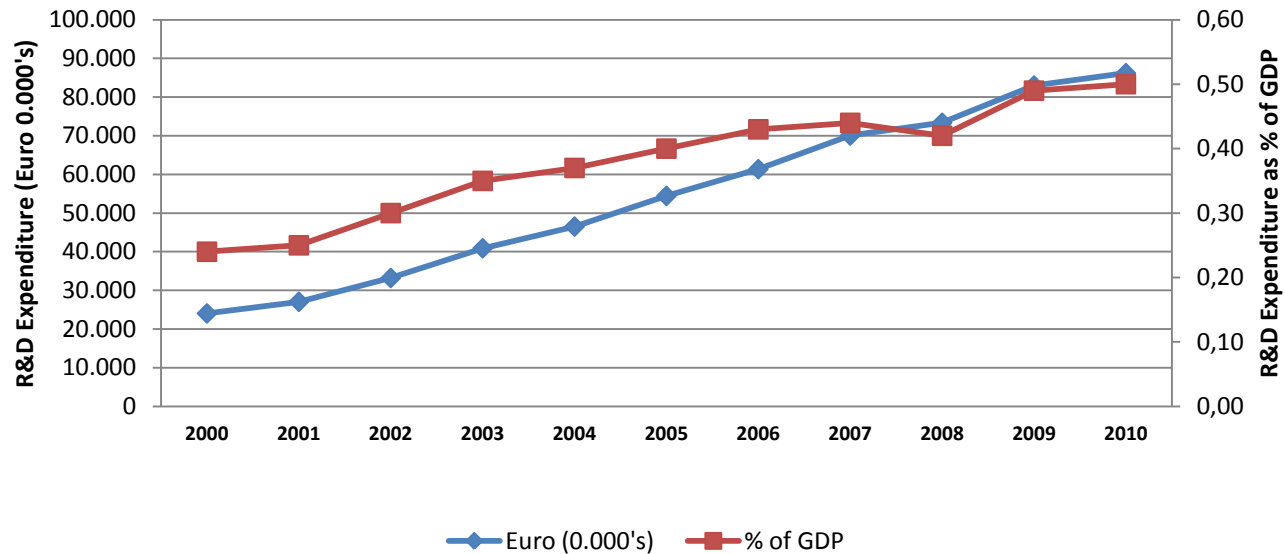
	Policy	Universities / Research Organisations
1989		Establishment of the University of Cyprus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1992: Undergraduate students • 1997: Postgraduate students - Master & PhD (1997)
1990		Cyprus Institute for Neurology & Genetics
1996	Establishment of the Research Promotion Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1998: Announcement of 1st National Research Funding Programme 	
1999	Participation of Cyprus in EU Framework Programmes for R&D & other European and regional research activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1999: COST • 2002+: FP5, ESF, EUREKA, BILATERAL AGREEMENTS, JRC • 2007+: EURAXESS, EUROSTARS, CIP, ERANET, JOINT PROGRAMME INITIATIVES 	
2003	Announcement of 1 st National Framework Programme for R&D	The Open University of Cyprus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2006: Enrolment of postgraduate students
2004		The Cyprus University of Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007: Enrolment of undergraduate students
2005	Private Universities (Establishment, Operation & Control) Law 109(I) of 2005	• 2005 – 2010: Four (4) Private Universities
2006	Announcement of 2 nd National Framework Programme for R&D	
2008	Announcement of 3 rd National Framework Programme for R&D & Innovation - Co-Finance through the ERDF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of Small Research Organisations -2010 > 50 Research Organisations • Gradual Increase in SMEs' Research Capacity



R&D Expenditure

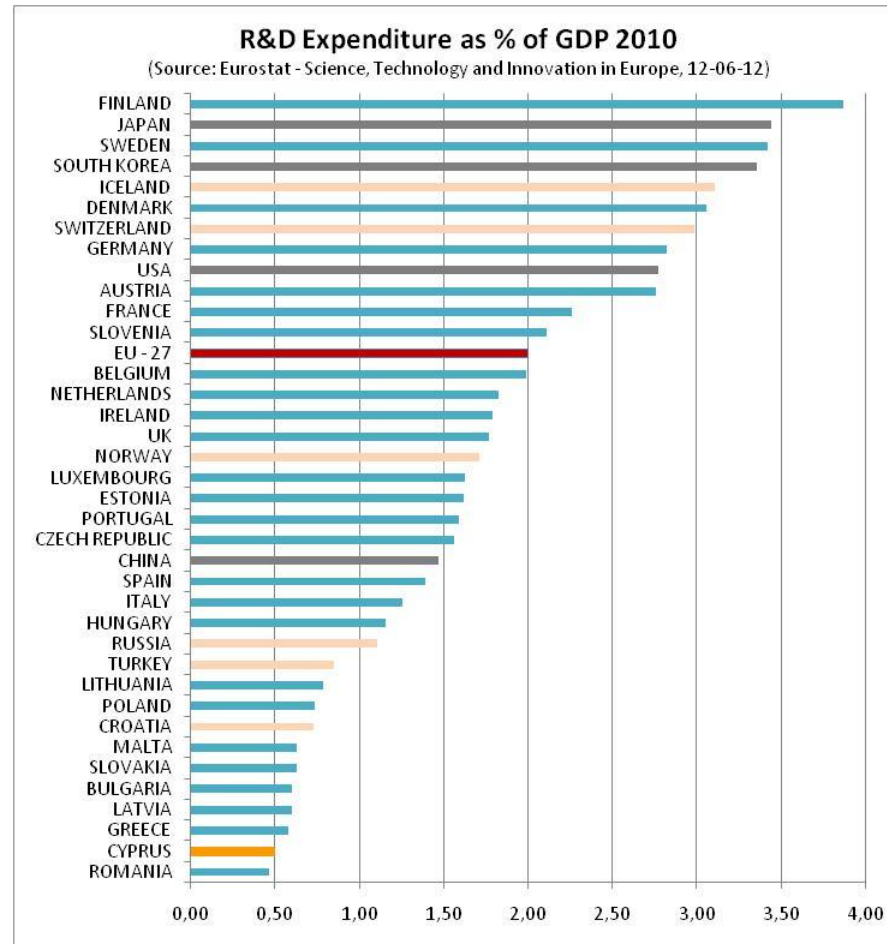
Cyprus Expenditure for R&D

(Source: Cyprus Statistical Service, "Research Activity in Cyprus, 2010")





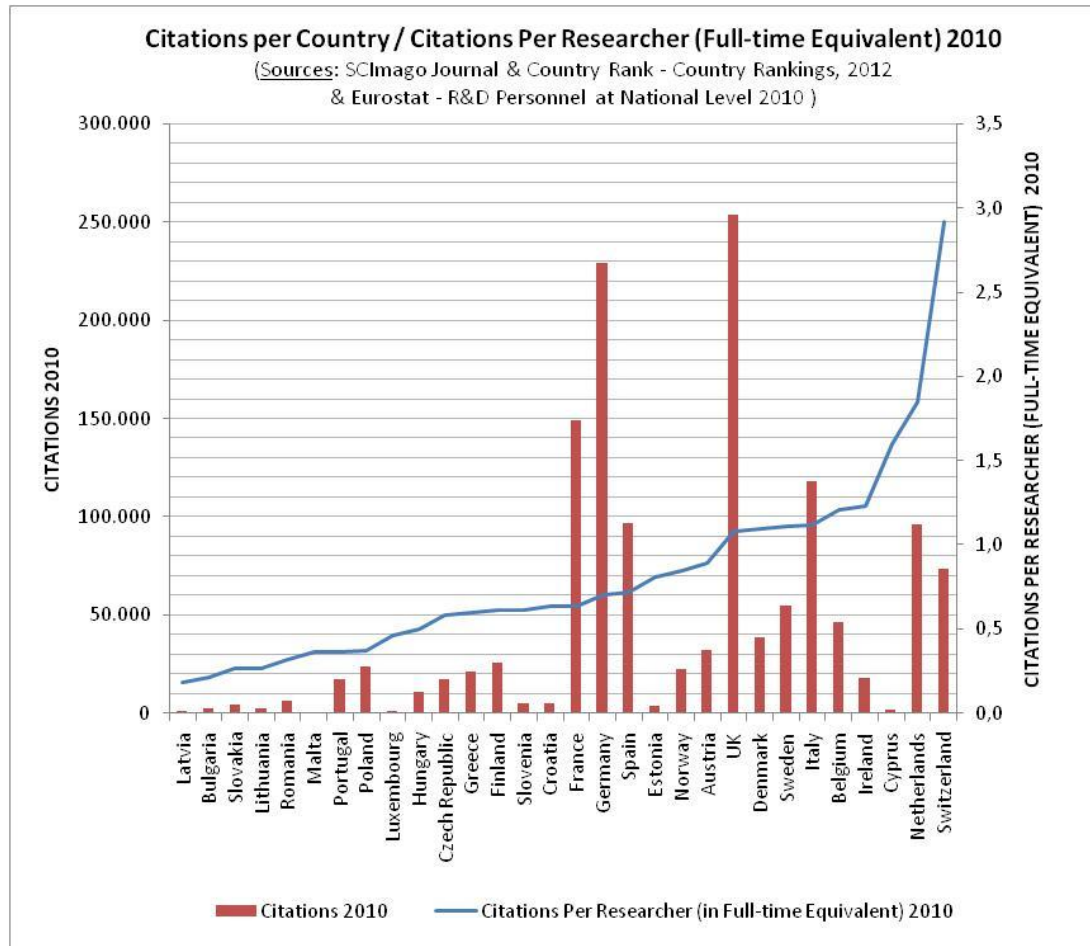
R&D Expenditure as % of GDP





Cypriot Publications

EU Benchmark for Citations





Cyprus EPO Patent Performance (1)

- Patent Figures for 2011

- 21 Patents Granted by EPO
- 51 European* Patent Applications

* European Patent Office Statistics 2011, European patent applications filed with the EPO (Direct European applications filed in 2011 and international applications (PCT) entering the European phase in 2011), <http://www.epo.org/about-us/statistics/patent-applications.html>

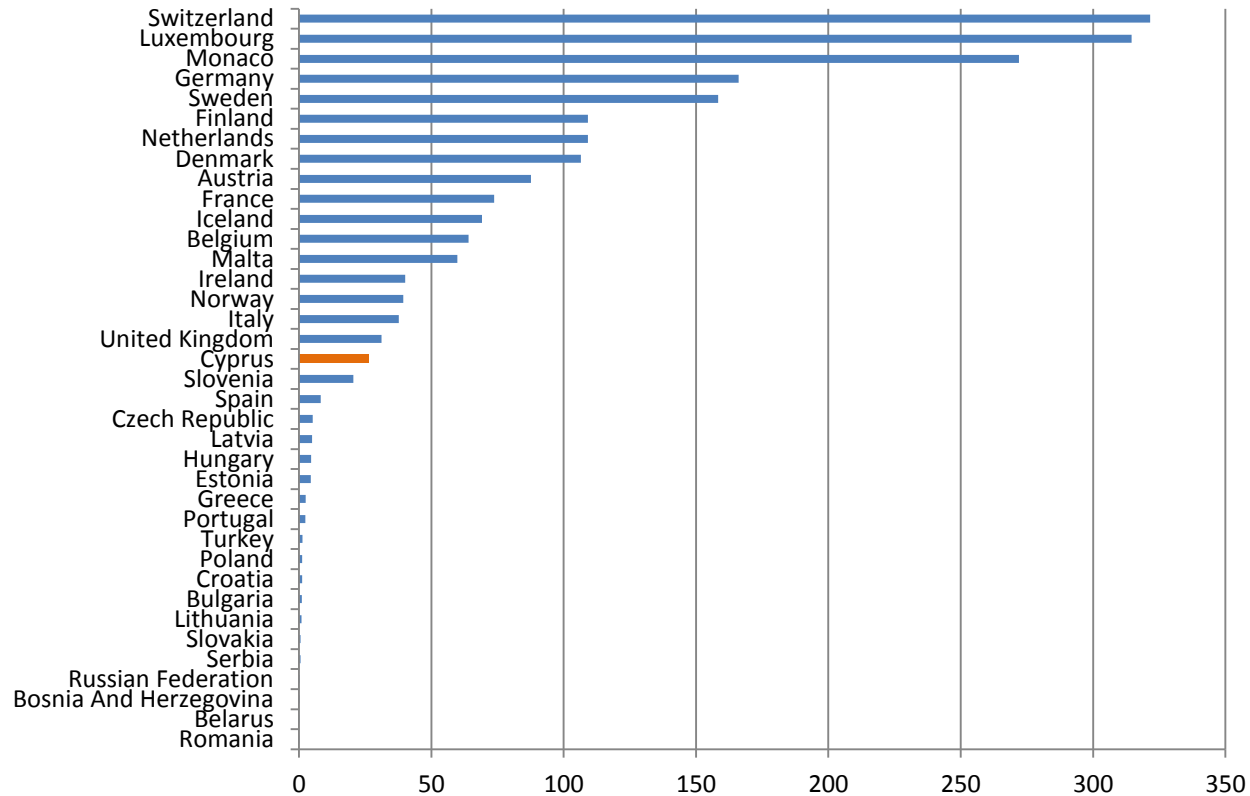


Cyprus EPO Patent Performance (2)

International Benchmark 2011

Granted EPO Patents 2011 per Million Population

Sources: EPO Statistics 2009 (<http://www.epo.org/about-us/statistics/granted-patents.html>) & EUROSTAT Population 2011 Statistics





Knowledge Transfer in Cyprus

Tools & Activities (1)

- **Enterprise Europe Network (CIP Programme)**
 - 2008: Cyprus Business Support Centre (BSC)
 - Cyprus Innovation Relay Centre: 2000-2007
 - E.C. Funding for **Liaison** Activities /
Technology Transfer Activities Cost undertaken by companies
- **Business Incubators (3)**
 - Operating within / Associated with Research Organizations
 - **DIOGENIS** – University of Cyprus
 - **HELIX** – University of Nicosia
 - **ERMIS** – European University Cyprus



Knowledge Transfer in Cyprus

Tools & Activities (2)

- **INDUSTRY LIAISON OFFICES within the 6 UNIVERSITIES**
 - University of Cyprus (Public) – **In operation**
 - Cyprus University of Technology (Public) – **In operation**
 - The Open University of Cyprus (Public)
 - European University Cyprus
 - Frederick University
 - University of Nicosia
- EU Funded Project (European Social Fund)
 - Duration
 - Sep.2008 – Dec.2013 (6-12 months extension)
 - Activities:
 - Preparation & Supporting Actions
 - Implementation of Studies
 - Development of Supportive Tools
 - Staffing and Operation of Liaison Offices



IP Management & Exploitation in PROs

- Exploitation of University IP
 - Liaison Offices Currently in Operation only in 2 PROs
 - No internal IPR Policies / Ad hoc handling of limited individual cases
 - Lack of Internal Know-how and Experienced Staff
 - Lack of IP management Know-how in Cypriot Legal Firms
- Limited Spin-off Companies Established from PROs!



Knowledge Transfer & IP Management Funding (RPF)

■ Technology Transfer

- **“Innovation Vouchers”** Scheme (2008)
 - Small Scale Collaborations between SMEs and Research Organisations (Public & Private)
 - Funding: 5.000 €

■ IP Protection

- Until 2007: Patent Application Costs Incorporated in Funded Research Projects
- **“Patents”** Specific Support Action (2008 – 2011)
 - 35% - 100% funding on preparation, filing and prosecution of patent applications, renewal fees, defense of the right validity during official prosecution or possible opposition proceedings, annual renewal fees for two (2) years
 - Funding: 30.000 – 40.000 €



Technology Transfer & IP Management Funding (RPF) (1)

- **Knowledge Transfer also Encouraged through Other Research Programmes:**
 - **Research for Enterprises**
 - **EUREKA Cyprus**
 - **PENEK & DIDACTOR**
 - **Specific Programmes Promoting International Collaboration of Researchers**



Other Knowledge Transfer Support Activities in Line with Commission Recommendation (RPF)

- **Principles and Guidelines for IP Management in Research Projects**
- **Consortium Agreements as Pre-requisite in Funded Research Projects**
- **Promotion of Dissemination of Knowledge Created by Public Funds**
 - **2% of Funding for Dissemination Activities**
- **Funding of Foreign Partners in National Research Programmes**
 - **up to 30% of Project Budget**
- **Promotion of Research Results through RPF Bi-monthly Magazine "IPSIPETIS" & Enterprise Europe Network**
- **Organisation of IP Workshops**



Knowledge Transfer in Cyprus

Challenges & Remedies as Input to National Policy

Challenges

- Recent History in Research
- Poor Exploitation of Results
- Lack of Experience & Know-how
- Lack of Entrepreneurial Culture
- No supportive legislation for Spin-off by PROs
- Collaboration gap between academia & industry
- Non-availability of Seed / Start-up Funds (VCs & BA)
- Small Internal Market
- Geographical Location (?)



Strengths

- Quality Research
- High Educational Level of Human Resources
- Key Geographical Location /Strategic Collaborations with Specific Countries

Remedies

- ✓ Invest on Research & Innovation as a Fundamental Tool for Development
- ✓ Educate Research Organisations/ TT Professionals and Legal Firms on IP & Exploitation
- ✓ Encourage Entrepreneurship within Research Community
- ✓ Promote Legislation on Research Exploitation from PROs
- ✓ Attract Foreign Investors
- ✓ Build on Strategic Collaborations for TT with Specific Countries





Thank you for your attention!



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