

WAYS TO IMPROVE INNOVATIVE POLICY IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

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The issues related to innovation and the implementation of state innovation policy are extremely relevant in the conditions of the modern Republic of Belarus. Innovation plays an extremely important role in ensuring the economic development of the state. Currently, it is an effective innovation policy that determines the level of competitiveness of national goods and the entire economy of the country as a whole in a globalizing world system.

The current stage of development of the theory of innovation involves focusing the attention of researchers on innovation, the innovation process, and innovation policy of the state.

Innovation policy is an integral part of socio-economic policy aimed at developing and stimulating innovation. Innovation policy involves the creation of new or improved products, new or improved technological processes, implemented in the economic turnover using scientific research, development, experimental design work or other scientific and technological achievements [1].

Consider the main factors affecting the development of innovation policy.

1. A clear definition of the needs of innovation and the definition of a strategy for the release of new products.
2. Determining the potential usefulness of discoveries and its implementation.
3. Cooperation and communication as a formal project selection system, allowing to evaluate the proposals put forward from the position of specific financial and organizational goals.
4. Adequate resources and periodic evaluation of innovations to determine when the original organizational objectives will be achieved.

The goal of the state innovation policy in the Republic of Belarus is to create favorable socio-economic, organizational and legal conditions for innovative development and increasing the competitiveness of the national economy [2].

The most important role in stimulating innovation by the state is assigned to:

- a) the formation of a favorable innovation climate in the economy and the infrastructure for research and development;
- b) the creation of analytical centers for studying foreign experience;
- c) preparation of forecasts of scientific and technological development;
- d) assessment of the possible negative effects of innovation.

The priority direction of stimulating and supporting innovation is to provide grants to small, medium and large companies on a competitive basis in the priority areas of their innovation.

Table 1 contains some ways to stimulate innovation by the state. [4].

The most widely used on a global scale are economic instruments of direct incentives and instruments of the indirect method of tax incentives (Table 2) [3].

Table 1. – Ways to stimulate innovation

Way	Characteristic
Direct government incentive	Distribution of state resources (orders, grants, loans) between various fields of research and development, depending on the structure of state research priorities, research in state research centers
Indirect government incentives	Developing the achievements of science in the public and private sectors of the economy through tax, depreciation, antitrust, patent, foreign trade policies, and especially by supporting small businesses

Table 2. – Tools for stimulating innovation in foreign countries

Tools for stimulating innovation	Countries
State program of financial support for innovative enterprises performing research and development work on topics of government organizations	Great Britain, China, USA, Japan
Grants, including those which compensate 50% of the costs of creating new products and technologies; subventions	Belgium, France, USA, Germany, Sweden, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Japan
Loans	Belgium, France, USA, Germany, Brazil, Austria, Japan, Sweden
Reduction / delay / exemption from state duties for individual inventors	Austria, USA, Japan, Germany, Netherlands, India
Preferential taxation (exemption from taxation of research and development (R&D) costs, preferential taxation of universities and research institutes, tax deductions for the implementation of R&D expenses)	Netherlands, Germany, Japan, India
Government risk reduction and risk compensation programs	USA, UK, India, China, Japan, Austria, Germany, Norway, Ireland, France, Brazil
State procurements	USA, Japan
Use of "innovative vouchers"	USA
R&D Grants	Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany, Austria, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Greece, Ireland, Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Switzerland, Finland, Ukraine

The state innovation policy of the Republic of Belarus should be aimed at ensuring that the tax system of Belarus is comprehensively focused on stimulating the innovative activity of individuals and legal entities.

Tax incentives for innovation should be a set of individual approaches to organizing the collection of each specific tax in the territory of the Belarusian state stipulated by domestic legislation, a common feature of which is their clear orientation towards all kinds of support and stimulation of any manifestation of innovative activity of individuals and legal entities [5].

We highlight the key areas of intensification of innovative development of the Republic of Belarus:

1. Quantitative and absolute increase in the scientific and technical potential of the country;
2. The current priority areas of scientific and technological activity need to be clarified and ranked according to the degree of strategic importance for further concentration of resources on those for which maximum effects can be achieved.

3. For the growth of knowledge-intensiveness, it is important to increase the research component in the expenditure of innovative funds, to use the mechanisms of public-private partnership in the innovation sphere, including through the creation of mixed innovation-active organizations with the state and business participation;

4. To create and expand channels for promoting scientific and technical products in the manufacturing sector, it is important to intensify the creation of innovative infrastructure entities, with a view to their further integration into the National Science and Technology Park and its branch network;

5. The main vector of activity of industry science organizations should be the solution of problems of subject selection, adaptation and implementation of advanced achievements of fundamental and applied science in production, taking into account the specific conditions and specific features of each enterprise.

The global practice necessary for adaptation in Belarus is the development of a universal basic economic and entrepreneurial education.

This approach assumes the existence of a well-developed system of entrepreneurial education, both as part of the traditional education system, and within the framework of various types of adult education, including traditional formal education, distance education and modern ways of mastering new knowledge, skills and abilities using the possibilities of information and communication technologies.

The combined implementation of measures to develop the legislative framework in the Republic of Belarus, improving tax support for innovation and stimulating innovative activity in the country, further development of the national innovation infrastructure, and the formation of a fully-functioning venture financing mechanism

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in the republic is designed to improve the quality and effectiveness of the innovation policy of the Belarusian state. This will contribute to the growth of innovation activity in all spheres and areas of life of the Belarusian society.

Thus, the innovation system of Belarus works in a mode of dynamic improvement. The formation of an effective national innovation system in Belarus is based on established scientific schools and existing world-class backlogs, backed up by the creative adaptation of new development mechanisms that have proved their worth.

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