R&D INTENSITY CASE STUDY: FINLAND

Matthias Deschryvere, Kai Husso, Arho Suominen

18 June 2020
Item 4, 55th meeting of the Working Party on Innovation and Technology Policy
• The current Marin government has set the R&D target to 4% of GDP in 2019. The target should be reached by 2030

• The latest available R&D intensity figure for Finland is 2.746% (2018)

• The R&D target policy in Finland has been national only
National R&D performance and targets

Finland’s R&D intensity target changes over the time

Source an details: see Deschryvere, Husso and Suominen (forthcoming)
R&D intensity indicator challenges

- The indicator does not capture start-ups with less than 10 employees
- The indicator does not measure spill-overs nor long-term effects
- It is more important to measure RDI bottlenecks than to measure inputs
- Amount and type of inputs that are needed depends on sector
- Changes content of innovation activities should be measured better
- Innovation in services may also be inadequately identified
- R&D should not reveal info that could harm firm’s competitiveness
1. A systemic and integrated policy approach needs an impactful coordination and governance mechanism or forum

2. A balanced innovation system with well-working joint Public Private Partnership efforts and mechanisms will do better in absorbing shocks

3. A key strategy to be able to absorb shocks to the economy and society is to invest in long-term capabilities