

CONCLUSIONS ICE MEETING FEBRUARY 2007

Some Conclusions from the Meeting

A list of possible entrepreneurship indicators was presented by the OECD Entrepreneurship Indicator Project team. It was suggested that different types of growth should be captured in the indicators such as in industries and employment, etc. ICE members are invited to provide the OECD team with a prioritised list of the 10 most important indicators before the end of this month.

The Dutch Road Mapping was presented. This policy instrument can help structure policy discussions and indicate areas of opportunities. The Dutch will translate the final version of their paper and will make it available at the ICE website. Furthermore, it was suggested to make a catalogue of the policy studies showing the measured effects and which are used as sources in the model. This type of information could be collected on the new ICE website. Members are invited to send policy studies to the ICE Secretariat and we will add them to the ICE website.

It is difficult to access comparable micro data through NSO. The OECD has carried out a feasibility study on micro data. Following this study, the OECD is dedicated to work intensively on resolving the micro data issues and to try and have the NSO to produce more micro data.

The risk capital project was presented. As regards the policy track, the first policy study will be initiated in the Netherlands on 6 March. This pilot study will bring a greater understanding of the investment model and questionnaire and both items will be adapted as the project moves forward. As regards the data track, the OECD has examined definitions of venture capital and private equity. It was decided that both the definition and data parts require further work.

Thanks to the GEM team members for participating at the ICE meeting. We were introduced to the GEM project by the GEM Director, Rebecca Harding. There was an interesting discussion about measuring entrepreneurial activity and start-up rates. As explained by Rebecca Harding, GEM is an international comparative measure of the propensity of a country to be entrepreneurial. It is a social survey of entrepreneurship rather than an actual measure of businesses and hence is measuring the demand side rather than the supply side. The TEA index measure a cultural interest in entrepreneurship throughout countries. Equating TEA with actual registered business potentially leads to confusion. Anders Hoffmann presented some alternative ways of measuring start-up rates for instance by including the private sector as denominator instead of the total number of people in the age 18-65. These new measures show no real differences between the US and most European countries

ICE Project Proposals

Six new ICE project proposals were presented at the meeting. It was decided that the proposals needed further work. We will provide you with a list of proposals later this month, in which they are elaborated further and synergies between projects are identified. Meanwhile, we would like to have your confirmation as regards the 2007 membership fee. It currently seems like that many of the projects could be financed within the 2007 budget.

New ICE Website

FORA has developed a new ICE website, which will provide members with information about the ICE mission and members, meeting documents and presentations and information on ongoing and finished ICE projects. We invite you to send us relevant documents and papers about entrepreneurship, which we can put up on the site. All members will receive a login, which provides access to for instance the Quality Assessment Database.

Our technician is still working on setting up the new site. Until the real website is up, please see ICE text and meeting presentations on the temporary address: dev4.cubizz.com

In the future, the ICE website will be on-line on: www.ice.foranet.dk

We will let you know as soon as it is ready.

Important Deadlines

By 16 March: Please provide your final comments to the Regional Entrepreneurship Infrastructure Report to Niels May, email: nmn@ebst.dk

By 16 March: Please provide comments on the Risk Capital Policy Questionnaire to Glenda Napier, email: gna@ebst.dk

By 23 March: We would appreciate your comments, suggestions and general feedback on the new ICE website, email: gna@ebst.dk

By 28 March: Please send your prioritised list of entrepreneurship indicators to Nadim Ahmad, email: Nadim.AHMAD@oecd.org

New ICE members

The Kauffman Foundation has joined the ICE as full member. However, due to restrictions on payments from the Kauffman Foundation, we have arranged that their membership fee will be paid in-kind in terms of research on entrepreneurship subjects decided upon within the Consortium.

The Swedish Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communication joined us at the meeting. Around end of March 2007, the Ministry will know if they can join the ICE.

Next ICE Meeting

The final date for next ICE meeting will be communicated as soon as possible. However, it is likely to take place back-to-back with the OECD meeting on High-growth firms in Paris September 2007.