

Innovative Cities

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What is Innovation?

“Change Which Adds Value”

“Innovation is the creation and progression of new products, services, processes and business models that provide economic or social value”.

Innovation Theory

Traditional innovation theory - linear 'pipeline' model beginning with R&D support and moving along a conveyor belt of product and technology development.

New model based on the 'ecology' of innovation. Innovation is not restricted in terms of where or how it develops, and in many respects it is attitudinal in nature.



City Region Innovation

The creation of new paths for technological development within a city-region depends critically on that region's previous history. The City's past development determines three things:

- Types of occupation/skills available to support different sectors.
- Knowledge assets and infrastructure from private and collective investment.
- Individual and collective capacities available to exploit learning and knowledge.



City Region Innovation

New economic pathways can also be opened by diversifying into new industries closely related to existing ones, a phenomenon known as ‘clustered diversity’.

Innovation is the process of turning knowledge and ideas into value. An “urban innovation engine” is a system which can trigger, generate, foster and catalyze innovation in the city.

In the research of knowledge development the role of the city acts as a hub for intensive flows and exchanges of knowledge among its habitants and additional stakeholders.

City Region Innovation

Why not weave the learning from the business and urban worlds by attempting to apply the dimensions of innovation ecology models to knowledge cities

Innovation engines create the notion of “urban innovation engines”. Based on this concept, provides a set of guidelines for creating a knowledge city using innovation engines as its building blocks, and innovation ecology elements as an important part of its operating system.

City Region Innovation

Embedding a culture of Innovation and Opportunity capture is not difficult, the basic needs are simply:

- Management commitment
- KPI's
- Tools for thinking and evaluation
- Innovation Circles' to fuel the 'culture'
- Success stories to fuel enthusiasm

Once these are in place the outcome of ever improved prosperity is inevitable.



City Region Innovation

Clearly cities matter to innovation. They are centres of connectivity and diversity.

The ability to generate new ideas and to turn those ideas into reality is a critical source of competitive advantage not just for businesses but also for cities.

But it's not just about planning. Local innovation systems will vary according to the assets they have and also of the interactions between them.

City Region Innovation

Innovation performance is dependent on organisations' and individuals' capacity to draw on a variety of sources and exploit knowledge created elsewhere, as well as capacity to create new knowledge, ideas and innovations.

To be a world-class hub in the modern global knowledge economy you need to tap into its ideas, its creativity and inventiveness to drive innovation and growth.



North Down Innovation

- Embedding innovation in businesses as part of their business processes, through mentoring and experiential learning.
- Engaging in partnership with the University of Ulster, Queens University and the local College.
- Leading on incubation and innovation, encouraging micro enterprise to innovate and grow.
- Engage in encouraging creativity in business via workshops and programmes.

North Down Innovation

- Working with Young Enterprise to identify and nurture young innovators and entrepreneurs.
- Working with the local College on pre incubation for spin out companies in computing, software engineering, creative industries, ICT and environmental software through projects as part of their taught modules.
- Working with Queens University on innovation product/process development.
- Working with University of Ulster on Innovation and entrepreneurship developing new models (Matrix thinking - La Salle).



One last thought!!



Here is Edward Bear, coming downstairs now, bump, bump, bump, on the back of his head, behind Christopher Robin. It is, as far as he knows, the only way of coming downstairs, but sometimes he feels that there really is another way, if only he could stop bumping for a moment and think of it.

Winnie The Pooh, A.A. Milne



Thank You

