

The Entrepreneurial Discovery Process

The case of United Kingdom: Science and Innovation Audits (SIA) for evidence-based discovery processes

The Science and Innovation Audit (SIA) explores the areas of potential globally competitive advantage across the UK, supporting smart specialisation and entrepreneurial discovery processes in the UK regions.

By providing **data and analytical support**, the SIA system helps the UK regions to examine their key science and innovation strengths and provides **evidence of regional potentials** to build and develop world leading products, services and technologies.

SIA will also help to boost the work of the new **UK Smart Specialisation Hub**, which has been tasked with building the evidence base and developing a community of best practice around smart specialisation in England. The SIAs will also help the UK Government and local organisations **examine how investment in science and innovation leads to local productivity**.

The SIA brings together businesses, universities and Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) in the UK regions. In the spirit of smart specialisation and entrepreneurial discovery process, the SIA evidence is based not on a single point of view, but is the result of **a shared endeavour by people and organisations involved in the frontline of research, innovation and business**. It brings together national and international perspectives with the expertise of those working in the knowledge intensive areas upon which we will build the future economic success.

SIA is aiming to pilot the fuller use of datasets to:

- Identify and validate areas of potential global competitive advantage across the UK;
- Increase access to and use of these datasets with the long-term objective of developing a tool to inform the UK's future science and innovation strategies;
- Provide an evidence base for strategic decision making on local innovation priorities;
- Strengthen future bids for local investment, e.g. science capital bids, private sector, and EU smart specialisation funding;
- Foster collaboration between universities and local businesses, local authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) or their equivalents.

The SIA will focus on examining smart specialisation potential in the following sectors: life Sciences, Agri-Tech, ICT, and Advanced Materials & Engineering (including Aerospace & Defence/Composites; Offshore Renewable Energy / Renewable Materials, and Structural Integrity). Cleantech is also included as a cross-cutting theme.

Read more:

Smart Specialisation Hub for England: <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/smart-specialisation-hub-for-england?inheritRedirect=true>

UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy: Science and Innovation Audits:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/565261/science-innovation-audits-wave-1-summary-report.pdf

HIGHER Good Practice Collection of Smart Specialisation Practices

