

The Impact of Research
on EU Agriculture
impresa

The Impresa project: results from the Eastern
European Union



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Outline

- Context
- Impresa results for Eastern EU countries
- Implications of overall results for these MSs
- Conclusions for policy development

Is there an Eastern EU problem...?

- Of 11 Eastern EU MS
 - Labour force in agriculture: 51%
 - Utilised Agricultural Area: 29%
 - Agricultural GVA: 14%
 - Budget Allocations for Public Agricultural Research: 6%

Impresa activities

- Survey of trends, sources and objectives of agricultural research
- Regional case studies investigating causal framework individual research-based innovations
- Different modelling approaches to assess aggregate effect of research on farming productivity, social, cultural and environmental policy goals
- Conclusions for policy (at different spatial levels) and research practice

EEU results: survey

- Data on overall agricultural science expenditure currently has significant gaps
- 7 EEU MSs covered: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Slovenia
 - Generally, serious declines in research expenditures by government and higher education, with partial compensation from business
 - Qualitative interviews:
 - Progress in surmounting the legacy of central planning
 - Substantial pessimism about prospects for enhanced future funding

EEU results: case studies

- One case study carried out in Bulgaria
- Privately-funded research-based innovation for treating Varroaosis
 - definition and validation of innovation pathway:
 - close involvement of beekeepers
 - actors had already worked together
 - negative role of institutional framework
 - a business environment in which corruption and bribery were widespread

Quantitative results*

- Data problems (see slide 5)
- (1) Panel data analysis shows IRR of 7% to 10%
- (2) Structural equation model focus on environmental protection and amenity:
 - private research expenditures mainly contribute to improved and consolidated output
 - public research expenditures have more complex causal pathway, responsible for improved competitiveness, quality of life

* (not EEU specific)

Overall recommendations

- Measurement and monitoring
- Recognition of role of science
- Importance of understanding complex innovation pathways
- Need to establish ‘culture of impact’
- Appreciation of balance required in public-private partnerships

EEU specific recommendations

In EEU: agri-food chain economically more important; conditions for agriculture quite different from rest of EU; legacy of central planning still evident

- 11 MMs should prioritise of agricultural science:
 - Coordinated, tailored activities
 - Political collaboration

Impresa: the final Act

- Project final conference
 - <http://www.impresa-project.eu/conference-registration.html> (register by deadline 14 October 2016)
- Short film
- Research Briefs
- Policy Briefs

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The logo for the IMPRESA project, featuring the word "impresa" in a lowercase, orange, serif font. A small green leaf icon is positioned above the letter 'i'.

Thanks for your interest.
For project publications, see
<http://impresa-project.eu>