



# Meeting **UNCTAD**

**Session: Learning opportunities  
through STI policy networks**

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- **From governmental policies to public policies of STI**
- **The STI advisory organisations**
  - **Learning through networking in LAC**
- **Tensions identified in the STI sector that affect the operation of these advisory organizations**
- **Strategic issues for the advisory organisations to foster learning and interaction with policy-making**
- **The incidence of Globelics, and the Lics, on STI communities**

# From governmental policies to public policies of STI

➔ *Governmental policy: top-down focus*

➔ *Public policy: involvement of communities*



*This process brings institutional, organizational and legal tensions within the STI sector*

## Advisory and consultative organisations on STI policies in LAC

- Consejo Nacional de Innovación para la Competitividad (CNIC), Chile
- Observatorio de Ciencia y Tecnología (OCT), Colombia
- Centro de Gestión y Estudios Estratégicos (CGEE), Brasil
- Foro Consultivo Científico y Tecnológico (FCCyT), México
- Foro Nacional Internacional, Perú
- Fundación Comisión Asesora en Alta Tecnología (CAATEC), Costa Rica
- Consejo Nacional de Innovación, Ciencia y Tecnología (CONICYT)

# The STI advisory organisations: Learning through networking in LAC

## Workshop of advisory organisations on STI policies in LAC: 24-25 October 2013

### Objective:

- exchange of experience between advisory and consultative bodies of STI policy representing communities on the functions performed,
- extract lessons learned,
- make recommendations on how best to represent the voice of communities and help generate public policy CTI .

## **Other participants from countries within an advisory organisation:**

- **Asociación Panameña para el Avance de la Ciencia (APANAC), Panamá**
- **Secretaría de Planeamiento y Políticas, Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva, Argentina**
- **Ministerio de Educación Superior, Cuba**
- **Asociación Salvadoreña de Altos Estudios Estratégicos, El Salvador**
- **Asociación Panameña para el Avance de la Ciencia**
- **Ministerio de Educación Superior, Ciencia y Tecnología, República Dominicana**

## **Internacional organisations:**

- **BID**
- **CEPAL**
- **Mexican representation at the OCDE**

## Relevant roles

- **Consulting organisation of different actors (government, communities of STI)**
- **Articulation between actors**
- **Response to demands of the STI agency**
- ***Think tank* for the STI strategy**
- **Lobbying and persuasion**

## Tensions identified in the STI sector that affect the operation of these advisory and consultative organizations

- **Between the political arena and the STI policies arena**
- **Within the STI sector: between the scientific and entrepreneurial communities**
- **Between:**
  - **The policy makers in STI**
  - **Other ministries involved in STI**
  - **The regional governments**
- **Between the different incentives oriented to mould the behaviour of academic researchers and firms**
- **Between a short term approach oriented to existing demands, and a long term approach required for strategic thinking (i.e. think tank)**



# Strategic issues for the advisory and consultative organizations to foster learning and interaction with policy-making

- **Need to improve the dialogue process in order to truly represent the communities**
  - **Dialogue with all the STI actors**
  - **Build different approaches**
  - **Two-way dialogue with the communities in order to build public policy**
- **Contribute to the coordination/articulation of actors in key issues for the STI sector in the country (private sector, public sector & academia)**
  - **Respect individual agendas of the actors in the STI system while contribute to building a common agenda**

- **Need to be connected with the political agenda**
  - **Innovation and value creation: demonstrate to the Ministry of Finance that STI can contribute to generate value and solve national problems**
  
- **The need to build capacities for strategic thinking and be able to act as a Think Tank on STI policies**
  - **Avoid agency problems in the processes of decision making and implementation**
  - **Separate the process of policy design from the pressures coming from captive actors**
  - **Promote the use of evidence by the policy makers**
  - **Some other issues:**
    - **How to define the focus of the strategy?**
    - **Who define this focus?**

- **Be aware of potential changes in the Governance of the STI system**
- **Broadening international networks with affiliated organizations and international organizations**
  - **Greater interaction with similar organizations to learn from the experiences**

# GLOBALICS: our incidence on STI communities and policy making in STI

**Globelics – [www.globelics.org](http://www.globelics.org)**

- **Global** network on the
- Economics of
- learning,
- innovation and
- competence building
- **Systems**

# The purpose

- **To contribute to academic capacity building in the South linking the fields Innovation studies and Development studies – to each other.**
- **To contribute to knowledge based development strategies and policies linking innovation to economic development.**
- **A platform for South-South collaboration.**

# → from 2001

## Assumptions

- Economic development is seen as an evolving process
  - innovation is one of the key determinants for developed and developing countries
- Global networks are a powerful tool to promote academic work and influence the design of evidence-based policies

# LICs: regional networks

- LIC means:
  - Learning
  - Innovation and
  - Competence building systems
- **Asialics**
- **Lalics** (<http://lalics.org/>)
- **Africalics**
- **Chinalics**
- **Indialics**
- **Metalics**



**LALICS**



**AFRICALICS**

# Mode of operation: networking

- **Low cost and informal structure – a scientific board and a Globelics secretariat in Denmark**
- **Regional chapters with Lalics secretariat in Mexico and the Africalics secretariat in Nairobi.**
- **Big names come as speakers with their own funding for travel to conferences and academies.**
- **Local and regional funding gives commitment!! Support for travel from the South and for activities in Africa from Sida, Sweden and IDRC, Canada.**



# Impact

- **Affecting the research agenda locally**
- **Exploiting synergies globally and regionally**
- **Affecting the policy agenda (President in Senegal and the Vice President in Argentina opened Globelics conferences)**
- **The Scientific board members are active as top level advisors on innovation and development. Several have served as deputy ministers.**



**Our incidence**

**mostly through  
experts who are  
involved in the  
policy-making or in  
advise to the policy-  
making**

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