



# Meeting **UNCTAD**

Session: Learning opportunities through STI policy networks

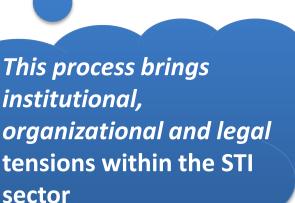
Casa abierta al tiempo

**Dr Gabriela Dutrénit** 19th March, 2014

- 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



## 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

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

### Globelics – 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 countr
- 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





### **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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