

MINI-REPORT

This **OVERVIEW** includes the main points of the **activities done from January till November 2019** for the preparation of the third benchmark report of Taftie's structural network on benchmarking in 2020 (**SNB 2020**).

Croatian Agency for SMEs, Innovations and Investments (HAMAG-BICRO) and Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR) as TAFTIE group coordinators continued to work on **data collection for 2017 and 2018** of the TAFTIE members for **four types of instruments** primarily arranged for business enterprises; **R&D grants, cooperative R&D grants, innovation vouchers and competence centres**.

New possibilities have been recognized; the way of diverse output indicators analysis approaches.

Data Collection and Benchmark report 2020 – schedule for 2019

- **January.** Kick-off meeting (CDTI premises, Madrid)
- **January-March.** Defining new types of output indicators
- **April.** Second group meeting (SOST office, Brussels)
- **April - May.** Data collection for 2017 and 2018
- **June.** Coordinating/operational meeting (HAMAG-BICRO premises, Zagreb)
- **June-July.** Data validation and reminder/request round
- **July-August.** Data qualitative control
- **September.** Third group meeting (SOST office, Brussels) and Data processing
- **October-November.** Mini-report preparation for 2019 (HAMAG-BICRO, TA CR)

The network consists of **sixteen SNB2020 participants** presented below:

TAFTIE Structural Network on Benchmarking Participating Agencies in the working group	Contact person	Country
 FFG Austrian Research Promotion Agency	Austrian Research Promotion Agency - FFG Sabine Mayer sabine.mayer@ffg.at / Rafael Lata rafael.lata@ffg.at	Austria
 BUSINESS FINLAND	Business Finland Teppo Tuomikoski teppo.tuomikoski@businessfinland.fi	Finland
 CDTI Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial @CDTloficial	Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial - CDTI Maria-Ascensión Barajas Iñigo ascension.barajas@cdti.es	Spain
 HAMAG BICRO	Croatian Agency for SMEs, Innovations and Investments - HAMAG-BICRO Ivona Jerković Ivona.Jerkovic@hamagbicro.hr / Neno Rakić Neno.Rakic@hamagbicro.hr	Croatia
 EAS Enterprise Estonia	Enterprise Estonia - EAS Tonis Tanav tonis.tanav@eas.ee	Estonia
 ENTERPRISE IRELAND where innovation means business	Enterprise Ireland - EI Kevin Flynn Kevin.flynn@enterprise-ireland.com Louise Maye louise.maye@enterprise-ireland.com	Ireland
 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra Swiss Confederation Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency	Innosuisse - Schweizerische Agentur für Innovationsförderung Adrian Berwert adrian.berwert@innosuisse.ch	Switzerland
 REPUBLIC OF SERBIA INNOVATION FUND	Innovation Fund - IF Ana Mojsilović Ana.Mojsilovic@inovacionifond.rs	Serbia
 innoviris .brussels we fund your future	Innoviris Andreas Boogaerts aboogaerts@innoviris.brussels	Belgium
 LUXINNOVATION TRUSTED PARTNER FOR BUSINESS	Luxinnovation Philippe Mayer philippe.mayer@luxinnovation.lu	Luxembourg
 Netherlands Enterprise Agency	Netherlands Enterprise Agency - RVO.nl Arjan Wolters arjan.wolters@rvo.nl Pieter de Bruijn pieter.debruijn@rvo.nl	The Netherlands
 ANI AGÊNCIA NACIONAL DE INOVAÇÃO	The Portuguese National Innovation Agency - ANI João Lobo Ferreira joao.ferreira@ani.pt	Portugal
 The Research Council of Norway	The Research Council of Norway - RCN Tobias Ellingsen tel@forskingsradet.no	Norway
 SIEA SLOVENSKÁ INOVACNÁ A ENERGETICKÁ AGENTÚRA	Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency - SIEA Peter Adamovský peter.adamovsky@siea.gov.sk	Slovakia
 SPIRIT SLOVENIA	SPIRIT Slovenia Irena Meterc Irena.Meterc@spiritslovenia.si	Slovenia
 T A Č R	Technology Agency of the Czech Republic - TA CR Zuzana Holická zuzana.holicka@tacr.cz Petr Horák horak@tacr.cz	Czechia

The main domain of work of SNB2020 participating agencies could be seen below:



The **Austrian Research Promotion Agency** is the national funding agency for industrial research, development and innovation in Austria. The agency offers a broad portfolio of funding schemes for R&D and innovation projects of companies and research performing entities in Austria, funding advice and assisting in the submission to European programs and international cooperation projects for Austrian researchers.



The **Business Finland** continues the activities of Tekes. It is the main public research and development and innovation funder and implementer of innovation policy in Finland. The activities cover innovation funding, internationalisation, tourism promotion and foreign investments.



The **Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology** is a Spanish public organisation, under the Ministry of Science and Innovation, whose objective is to help Spanish companies to increase their technological profile by means of supporting and encouraging their participation in national and international R&D&i projects. It is a state-owned company that has financed more than 15000 technology development projects so far.



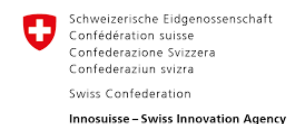
The **Croatian Agency for SMEs, Innovations and Investments** is an independent institution under the supervision of the Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts. The Agency provides support to small and medium-sized enterprises through all development stages starting from research and development of an idea to commercialization and placement on the market.



The **Enterprise Estonia** promotes business in Estonia. It is one of the largest institutions within the national support system for entrepreneurship by providing financial assistance, counselling, cooperation opportunities and training for entrepreneurs, research institutions, the public and non-profit sectors. The agency supports the development of companies that have export capacity and create higher added value.



The **Enterprise Ireland** is the government organisation responsible for the development and growth of Irish enterprises in world markets. Working in partnership with companies, the agency supports sustainable economic growth, regional development and secure employment.



The **Swiss Agency for Innovation Promotion** supports science-based innovations. Until the end of 2017 it was called the Commission for Technology and Innovation. Innosuisse promotes targeted cooperation between science and the market for the benefit of industry and society through innovation projects (mainly collaborative R&D grants), networking, training and coaching as well as international funding. The agency does not provide any direct funding to companies.



The **Innovation Fund of the Republic of Serbia** is the national institution that provides financial support for the innovation activities by managing public and donor sources. The IF aims to promote linkages between academia based research and technology development and industry, and encourage and support the development of innovative technologies. The IF carries out business activities related to the funding of the preparation, execution, and development of the programs, projects, and other activities in the sphere of implementation of the innovation policy.



The **Innoviris** agency's mission is to fund Research Development and Innovation (RDI) projects and to promote science within the Brussels Capital Region. This implies Innoviris connects, stimulates, and funds citizens, companies, research institutes, and non-profit actors. With regard to its RDI projects, Innoviris supports two kinds of research: industrial research and strategic research.



The **National Innovation Agency of Luxembourg** offers a wide portfolio of services to companies and public research actors in order to foster innovation. The agency ensures that Luxembourg continues to attract international investment, companies and skills that are a perfect fit for the country. Luxinnovation is a public private partnership composed of the Ministry of the Economy, the Ministry for Higher Education and Research, the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce, the Luxembourg Chamber of Skilled Crafts and the Federation of Luxembourgish Industrials.



Netherlands Enterprise Agency

The **Netherlands Enterprise Agency** supports entrepreneurs, NGOs, knowledge institutions and organizations. It is a government agency which operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy. Its activities are commissioned by the various Dutch ministries and the European Union. The agency covers a wide variety of domains: R&D, agriculture, international collaboration, foreign investment, environment. RVO.nl is built up from more than 20 different organizations, active in all kind of domains.



AGÊNCIA NACIONAL DE INOVAÇÃO

The **Portuguese National Innovation Agency** aims to develop actions to support technological and business innovation in Portugal, contributing to the consolidation of the National Innovation System and to strengthening the competitiveness of the national economy in global markets. The agency manages or coordinates a toolbox of integrated instruments; the financial incentive schemes to support business R&D, the R&D tax credit scheme, the promotion of the national participation on the Horizon2020 and other international programmes or the instruments designed to assist the process of internationalization and knowledge transfer.



The Research Council of Norway

The **Research Council of Norway** works to promote research and innovation of high quality and relevance, generate knowledge in priority areas to enable Norway to deal with key challenges to society and the business sector and invest NOK 10 billion in research and innovation annually on behalf of the Norwegian government. The RCN is the key advisory body to the authorities on research policy issues and carries out tasks commissioned by 15 ministries.



SLOVENSKÁ INOVACIÁ A ENERGETICKÁ AGENTÚRA

The **Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency** is a contributory organization of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic. For more than ten years, SIEA has implemented measures supported by the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF). Activities in innovations are preparation and implementation of support schemes and mechanisms for entrepreneurs, analyzing the innovation potential of industries, advice services on the implementation of research findings into practice, active participation on international projects funded through the ESIF and other sources.



SPIRIT SLOVENIA

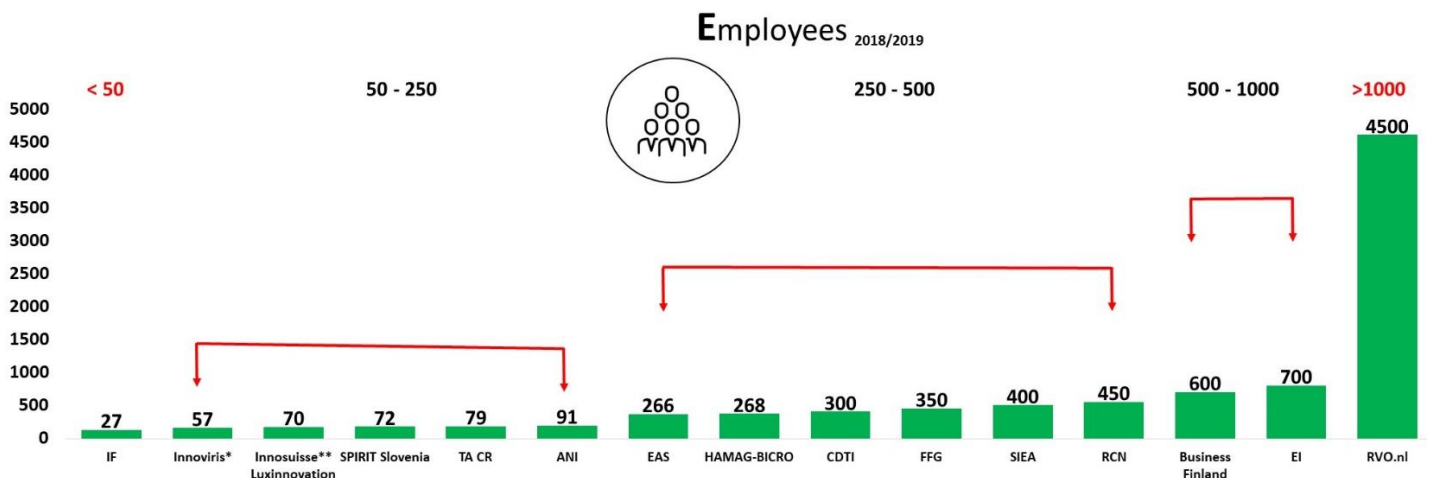
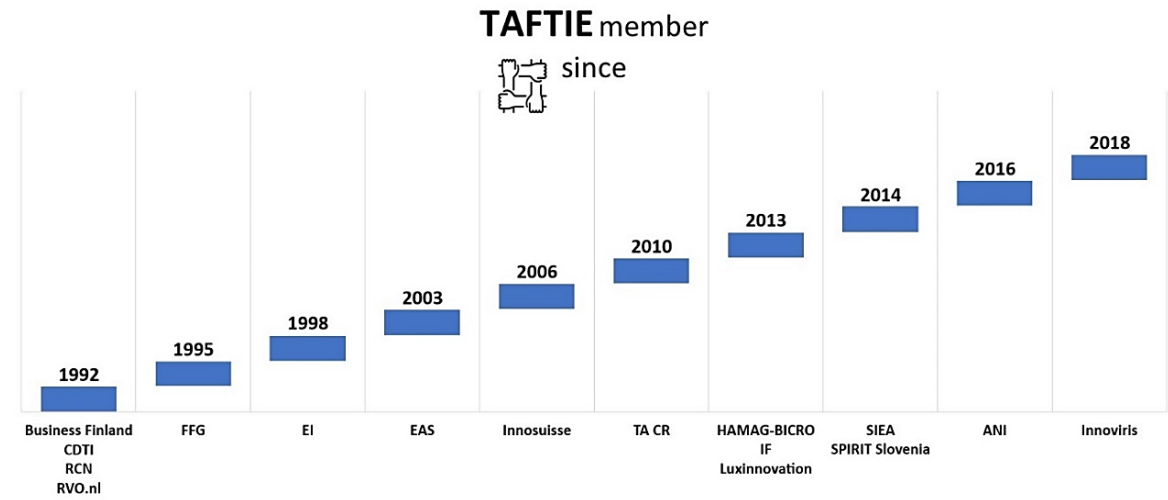
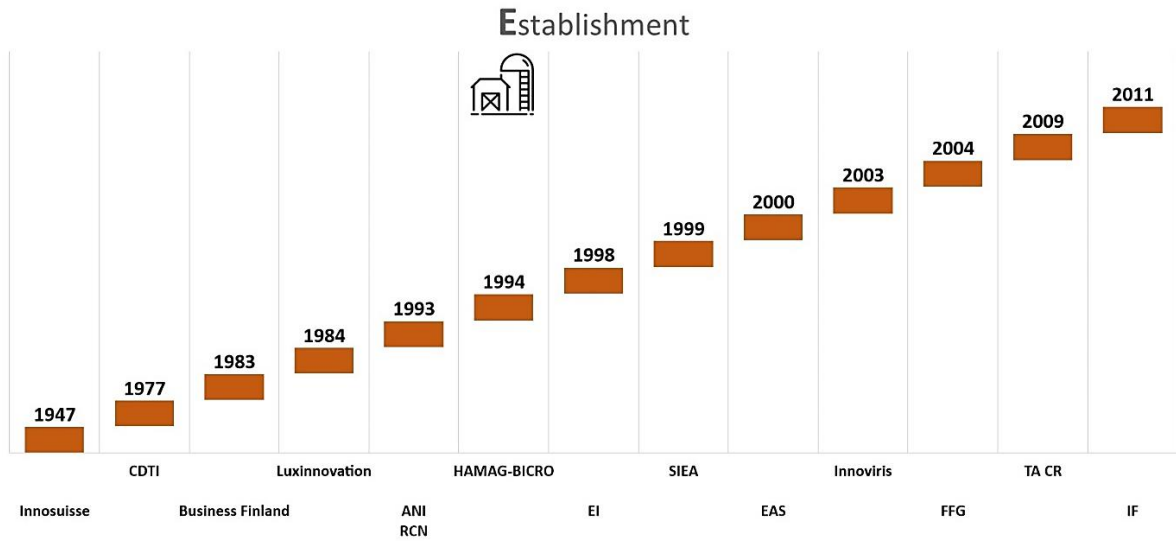
The **Public Agency for Entrepreneurship, Internationalization, Foreign Investments and Technology** is an implementing agency, operating under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Economic Development and Technology. The agency is implementing the orientations of Slovenia's development programs with the aim of achieving an entrepreneurial, innovative, technologically developed and export-oriented companies. One of the main tasks is to strengthen innovative entrepreneurship, which is a key lever for the growth of productivity and employment and thus the competitiveness of the Slovenian economy.



TA CR

The **Technology Agency of the Czech Republic** is an organizational unit of the state that was founded in 2009 by the Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on the support of research, experimental development and innovation. The creation of TA CR is one of the cornerstones of the fundamental reforms in research and development (R&D) in the Czech Republic. The key features of the reform is the redistribution of financial support from the national budget. The TA CR simplifies the state support of applied research and experimental development which has been fragmented and implemented by many bodies before the reform.

The years of agencies establishment and memberships in TAFTIE together with number of employees are illustrated below:



* expressed as the number of full-time equivalent (FTE)
** staff in the secretariat

Participating Agencies in SNB2020 per scheme:	R&D grants	Collaborative R&D grants	Innovation vouchers	Competence Centre
FFG	+	+	+	+
RVO.nl	+	+	+	+
Business Finland	+	+	+	
EI	+	+	+	
HAMAG-BICRO	+	+	+	
Innosuisse	+	+	+	
ANI	+	+		
CDTI	+	+		
EAS		+		+
IF		+	+	
Innoviris	+	+		
SIEA	+		+	
TA CR		+		+
Luxinnovation	+			
RCN		+		
SPIRIT Slovenia	+			

OUTPUT indicators

Four new OUTPUT indicators have been defined in 2019 after two TAFTIE group meetings (Brussels 09.04.2019 and 05.09. 2019) and one coordinating/operational meeting (Zagreb 11.-12.06.2019):

(1) Number of active (running) projects

How many projects were active in terms of technical activities during year X (active at least one day in year X reported)

(2) Number of foreign participants

Number of unique foreign organizations active in R&D projects in year x

Number of unique foreign organizations active in R&D in competence centres in year x

(3) Amount of annual payoffs

Indicator that reflects annual payoffs (*or payment orders given by the agency to other institutions such as ministries*) and tracks annual variations but do not have direct relation with contracted budget of the programme in year x

(4) Share of contracted budget of the programme

Indicator that reflects the share of the contracted budget of the selected programme in the total contracted budget of all agency programmes in year x (not included tax incentives)

After received input and output data of TAFTIE group participants and data validation, additional parameters have to be considered in SNB 2020:

- (1) **programme division according to research phases:**
basic research, industrial research or experimental development
- (2) **thematic focus per instrument:**
thematic call or bottom up
- (3) **type of financing per instrument:**
grant or loan or conditional loan
- (4) **source of financing per instrument:**
European Structural and Investment Funds, national or another source of funding
- (5) **type of call per instrument:**
open call or temporary call (with ranking)

Pilot test - OUTCOME and IMPACT indicators

A pilot test on some OUTCOME and IMPACT indicators will be carried out for *R&D collaborative* scheme and presented in SNB2020.

Therefore, a joint definition of OUTCOME and IMPACT indicators connected to the project 2-5 years after the project end due to diverse TAFTIE group timeline have been defined in 2019 at coordinating/operational meeting (Zagreb 11.-12.06.2019) and confirmed at the third TAFTIE group meeting (Brussels 05.09. 2019):

- (1) **Share of enterprises that introduced an innovation (new to the firm)**
- (2) **New R&D employees:**
yes or no / FTE - for enterprises
yes or no / FTE - for PROs
- (3) **Registered IP:**
technical (patents, utility models)
non-technical (trademarks, registered design)
- (4) **Peer-reviewed publications**
- (5) **Total turnover – percentage increase for enterprises**

Five agencies have been confirmed their interest to join to the pilot test AFTER task force meetings: CDTI, FFG, HAMAG-BICRO, INNOSUISSE and TA CR.

CONCLUSION - future steps:

- SNB2020 finalization in the first part of 2020
- SNB2020 presentation during the EWG meeting in June 2020