

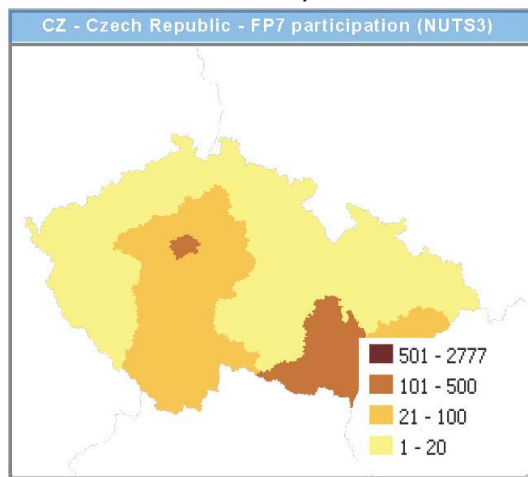


HORIZON 2020

CZECH REPUBLIC



Over the last decade, some progress has been achieved in terms of research and innovation. R&D intensity rose from 1.21% in 2000 to 1.53% in 2009, contributing to the prospect of the Czech Republic joining the lead group of Member States in terms of competitiveness. In particular, the relative good performance of the Czech research and innovation system in terms of business expenditure on R&D (0.92% of GDP in 2009) is due to a



strong manufacturing sector (24% of the total Value Added in 2009) with a marked industrial specialisation in innovative sectors (such as 'motor vehicles' and 'electrical equipment'), combined with increasing foreign direct investment in R&D (0.14% of GDP in 2009).

However, the image is more contrasted when considering the Czech scientific and technological performance (in terms of high impact scientific publications, PCT patents or licence and patent revenues from abroad) which is systematically lagging that of countries with a similar research infrastructure, in spite of sustained increase in public R&D support (0.69% of GDP in 2009). Another weakness lies in the low level of private R&D performed by domestic companies.

In line with their target to increase R&D intensity to 2.7% in 2020, Czech authorities have therefore launched an ambitious reform programme to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of their national research and innovation system, including the quality of its output and the links between the science base and the business sector. This includes extending the existing business R&D tax incentive to R&D carried out by R&D institutions; new programmes to stimulate cooperation between R&D institutions and industry in sectors such as transport, energy or environment (launched by the new Technology Agency); improvements to the process of research evaluation and funding allocation; and the creation of a fund to improve access to venture capital for financing innovation. Such advancements are crucial for capitalising on the strong assets constituted by a strong, innovation-oriented manufacturing sector and a well educated work force.

Innovation Union Scoreboard position	17 out of 27
R&D intensity target	2.7%
Number of eligible proposals	3.563 in response to 294 FP7 calls for proposals
Number of applicants	4.390 (1.40% of EU-27)
Success rate (EU-27 =21,5%)	20.5%
Rank in number of participants signed contracts (EU-27):	17
Rank in budget share (EU-27)	17
Top collaborative links	DE, UK, FR, IT, ES
Total Population & EU 27 Population Share	4.390 (1.40% of EU-27)