

IRELAND AND FINLAND: SHARED HISTORIES BUT DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO INNOVATION POLICY

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While the histories Ireland and Finland may have strong similarities, the approaches that they have taken to innovation policy have shown many marked differences. In Ireland the focused nature of entrepreneurship or start-up related policy is significantly different to that of a very broad based government approach to innovation, which covers all stages of business (from start-up to maturity). Innovation policy in Finland is explicitly top down and narrow since it is primarily targeted at potential innovators. Indeed, it has been and continues to be dominated by a focus on technological innovations while a minor focus has been placed on other innovations.

Track: 3. Entrepreneurship and Public Policy