EU’s Joint Research Centre Research and Innovation Observatory launches Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility

The EU’s Research and Innovation Observatory (RIO) is aimed at monitoring and analyzing research and innovation developments at national and EU levels with the overall aim of supporting policy-making in Europe. It produces annual Country Reports to develop its findings, and has recently been tasked with providing thematic analytical reports on the impact of public funding instruments on excellence and on effective knowledge cooperation between industry and the scientific community.

The Observatory had launched in March 2015 the Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility (PSF), to provide practical support to EU Member States and associated countries to Horizon 2020 – EU Framework for Research & Innovation – in order to set, implement and evaluate reforms to improve their national policies for research and innovation. In this line, the PSF supports RIO’s activity, by monitoring research and innovation initiatives across the EU.

The instrument is now available online via a dedicated website run by the European Commission’s Directorate General for Research & Innovation (DG RTD) and will gather qualitative and quantitative data and analyses, country by country; as well as statistics and visualisations of key indicators.

This new online tool will be an important base to support DG Research & Innovation’s annual monitoring and analysis of EU Member States performance and policies in the field and inform the related recommendations it issues, in the framework of the European Semester - EU's annual cycle of economic policy guidance and surveillance.