The aim of the evaluation was to identify and verify the effects of programmes Potential and Prosperity (implemented under OP Enterprise and Innovation, OPPI) in the field of business research, development and innovation on the growth of many variables in the supported companies and to assess the impact of those programmes.

CONCLUSIONS ON THE PROGRAMME PROSPERITY EVALUATION

- No effect of the support or incubation of the firms on their financial indicators was proven.
- For business incubators (BI) and the science and technology parks (STP), the implementation of the projects contributed to improve the cooperation of universities and research institutions with the business sector;
- BIs and STPs are mostly funded by a combination of own resources and subsidies.
- Development of innovation infrastructures for research and development.

Since sufficient data are not available for effective evaluation of this type of intervention, it will be necessary to establish a way to measure progress and report data for their evaluation.

OTHER RESULTS

- Additional products/services that were not originally foreseen were developed.
- Great interest in incubation-establishing headquarters in BIs and STPs.
- Increasing cooperation between companies and universities or research entities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Supporting research, development and innovation activities in the next programming period.
- Ensuring continuous collection of data on the implemented interventions, and ensuring availability of relevant data.
- Interlinking the monitoring indicators with intervention objectives.
- Reducing the transaction costs related to applications.