

A short summary of the Brazilian Trends regarding the development of science, technology and innovation

ANPEI's mission consists in promoting the development of science, technology and innovation in the Brazilian ecosystem including companies operating in Brazil as well influencing the evolution of economic, industrial, scientific and technology policies in Brazil.

The Brazilian innovation ecosystem has evolved significantly over the last 10 year due to articulated efforts between the public and private sectors. Some of the key marks were: new law of innovation (2004), new Law on governmental financial incentives (2005), better interaction between universities and companies through the creation of NIT (Nucleus for Technology Innovation) in the universities to act as a bridge with the private sector, and strengthening of the government agencies involved in financing and promoting innovation (Finep, BNDES, CNPq, FAPs)

Although important achievements have been obtained, the country still needs to gain more maturity through a country agenda which better articulates the efforts of the different players involved, their programs, resource management as well as create an environment to increase private investment. Brazil invests around 1.24% of its GDP in R&D and about 55% of this investment is public.

Brazil currently possesses, more than 1100 higher education institutions, more than 80 universities with research capabilities and more than 4000 companies doing innovative activities in Brazil. A great challenge in the country is how to better converge science into technology and technology into innovation and connect to global innovation and supply chains. Brazil is 13th largest country in terms of scientific articles production but ranks only 64th in terms of global innovation.

The Brazilian innovation ecosystem has diversified to some extent but it is still predominantly conducted by large and multinational corporations. There is although a big opportunity to foster investment in Brazilian companies, start-ups, venture capital and private equity as well as expand the current government financial incentives to smaller companies.

As far as intellectual property is concerned, patent approval process has been an issue due to the long back log and the government agency in charge (INPI) is putting some structural actions to help address this in Brazil. There is no easy fix but ANPEI and other associations are working with INPI on this.

A big trend worth mentioning is the onset of programs to foster collaboration between the public and private sector regarding the development of new technologies. This type of programs will gain even more force in the future.

In summary, some of the key challenges and opportunities regarding innovation in Brazil are:

- Reduce the cost and bureaucracy to do R&D in Brazil
- Develop private equity and risk market in Brazil
- Create instruments to strengthen innovation across the value chain involving multiple players
- Increase the attractiveness for companies to set up R&D centers in the country and therefore raising the level of private investment in Brazil
- Promote the internationalization of Brazilian companies and their inclusion in global supply chains with more added value products
- Take education in Brazil to the next level

Overall, we feel very optimistic about the role Brazil can play in the future regarding innovation but there are some structural challenges which need to be addressed to unlock the innovation potential the country has.