

Developing a Vision for Innovation Platforms: Scenario Planning Approach

Synopsis

Innovation platforms are a new way of working for government and business that enable the integration of a range of technologies and better coordination of policy and procurement. An innovation platform in construction would need to be able to respond to the diverse needs of the sector and the diverse ways in which innovation can happen. Since the needs of the industry are continuously changing, identifying possible futures is a must to inform the programme of work for such a platform and strategic planning. Scenario techniques have been used as a strategic planning tool for years in order to develop a future vision and a strategic action plan. This paper proposes the use of a scenario planning approach as an enabler to identify the important elements of innovation platforms. It investigates how scenario planning could help develop appropriate strategies to establish and effectively manage innovation platforms in construction. In this respect, the need for innovation platforms and their roles/functions will be discussed and a scenario planning process will be presented as a means of identifying the critical elements of innovation platforms.