

Monitoring Italy 2007: *Process Innovation, Management Efficiency and Economic Performance*

Call for papers

ISAE is launching Monitoring Italy 2007, a periodical Conference on the position of the Italian economy in the world scenario. The previous edition - Monitoring Italy 2005, Capital Accumulation, Productivity and Growth - was centered on the problem of correct measurement and possible explanations for large productivity differentials observed between Italy and the other main industrial countries since the half of the nineties. One of the main conclusions of the Conference was that existing productivity differential stems primarily from the diffusion of IT technologies in non-IT producing industries, with a particularly important role played by the service sector. The contribution of human resource management and organization efficiency was also mentioned, albeit not analyzed in full detail.

Building on these results, Monitoring Italy 2007 will focus on the role of management practices and organizational capital in influencing innovation efforts and differences in economic performance, looking both at the manufacturing and the service sector, and using data at the aggregate and the firm level. More specifically, the Workshop will be organized along two main “axes” of research: the first will concern the study of the processes of innovation, generally linked to the use of information technology, human resource management, complementary investments, organizational change and externalities from knowledge accumulation. The second will focus on management practices, analyzing the relationship between managerial efficiency and the external environment, such as market structures, the nature of firms’ ownership, firms’ dimension, internationalization, industrial relations, etc. The problem of the correct measurement of

management behavior, together with that of their impact on economic performance, will be at the core of the research.

We invite submission of unpublished papers on the general topic of the project. Papers selected to contribute to the Report will be presented in an International Workshop in October 2007; a selection of contributing paper will be published in a special issue of the “Rivista di Politica Economica” and in the Palgrave MacMillan “Central Issues in Contemporary Economic Theory and Policy” Series. More specifically, papers are especially called on the following topics:

TOPICS

1. Processes of innovation and economic performance
 - IT Impact in IT-users sectors and firms
 - Human resources management: issues and impact of labor market regulation
 - Complementary investments, organizational changes and spillover from knowledge accumulation
2. Management practices and economic performance
 - Measurement of management practices and links with productivity
 - Competition, regulation of output/input markets and management behavior
 - Ownership, internationalization, firms' dimension and managerial efficiency

Papers will be evaluated by a Scientific Committee, chaired by ISAE President, Prof. Alberto Majocchi and composed by Sergio de Nardis and Marco Malgarini, Senior Economists at ISAE, Prof. Gustavo Piga, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Abstracts Deadline: End of March, 2007

The abstract (up to 500 words) should include: Name(s) of author(s), affiliation, address, phone number, e-mail address, title of abstract, keywords and JEL Classification.

Please send your abstract in MS-Word or Adobe-PDF Format at the following e-mail address: monitoring07@isae.it

Invitation to submit the full paper will be sent to the corresponding author by the end of April, 2007.

Papers deadline: End of July, 2007

Please send your paper in MS-Word or Adobe-PDF Format at the following e-mail address: monitoring07@isae.it

Letter of acceptance will be sent to the corresponding author by mid September, 2007.

CONTACT

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