



MEDIA RELEASE

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National policy needed to encourage innovation in Australia

SYDNEY -- A recent survey on innovation attitudes in Australia has revealed Australians believe the nation is in urgent need of a co-ordinated national policy on innovation.

The survey, conducted by the online collaborative policy development think-tank, Open Forum, and the Society for Knowledge Economics (SKE), has found seventy-four percent of the respondents also believe the Federal Government should establish an innovation portfolio to co-ordinate innovation activities across sectors and institutions.

“Our survey was motivated by the recent national inquiry into the National Innovation Agenda proposal by the Victorian Government, and the general urgency shown by the business community in asking the country’s leaders to show more commitment in dealing with innovation hurdles in a more systematic manner,” said Tamara Plakalo, Chief Executive of Open Forum.

Plakalo said the survey had a surprisingly high-level of policy suggestions, which will be used by the Australian Society for Knowledge Economics to inform the SKE’s further input into the national policy debate.

The survey was one in the line of projects Open Forum has undertaken over the last 12 months in an attempt to open-up the process of policy development to the wider community using Web 2.0 as its key platform.

The full results of the survey can be downloaded from the Open Forum web-site at www.openforum.com.au.

Open Forum is a non-for-profit online think-tank and a consultative online mechanism for governments, institutions and individuals interested in furthering the concept of participative democracy using Web 2.0 mechanisms.

Society for Knowledge Economics is a professional body bringing together governments, academics and policy-makers to raise awareness and instigate a debate on the changing nature of the global economy, and the related need for the appropriate measurement and management of human and knowledge capital.

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