

social entrepreneurs and the positive impact on life they create, there will appear a greater amount of those who want to change social conditions for the better.

О.В. Филимонова

УО БГЭУ (Минск)

INNOVATION ECONOMY AND PROBLEMS OF REFLECTING INNOVATIONS IN BELARUSIAN ACCOUNTING

Nowadays all over the world a great emphasis is made on innovations as they seem to be the main source of future benefits and competitiveness. In the early 1990s, Belarus declared its strategic policy objective to develop an economy based on science and technology. In 2007, the State Programme for Innovative Development was approved. The Republic of Belarus considers innovation policy to be the main priority of economic and technological development for the next 20 years. In 2010, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe presented an annual Innovation Performance Review of Belarus where the main innovation achievements of the country as well as the problems in implementation of the Programme are described.

In the Review Belarus is viewed as a small open economy for the success of which in external markets the dimension of its innovation performance is considered necessary as the country is not well endowed with natural resources, largely relies on imported energy and raw materials and has a historical specialization in processing. The main activities of its significant industrial sector are engineering (agricultural technology and specialized heavy vehicles) and refining (relying on oil supplies from Russia) which heavily depend on external demand. The key objective of the Belarusian government is to create a globally competitive, innovative economy that is high-technology centered with a high level of resource and energy efficiency.

The main innovation-applied fields as identified by the National Innovation Programme are information technology, heavy industry, medicine and engineering.

The projects of innovation development fall into three categories:

- 1) creation of new enterprises and top-priority productions;

- 2) creation of new productions at operating enterprises;
- 3) modernization of existing productions based on the introduction of new technologies.

According to the Review, the problems that arise in the implementation of the Programme include: low rate of application of innovations and lack of equity financing, foreign direct investment and investments by domestic banks.

Implementation of the Programme for Innovative Development in Belarus has serious implications for the national accounting system.

The system of accounting should identify innovations as an object of accounting, give their proper definition according to the economic nature of innovations, and develop principles of their recognition and reflection in the accounts. Today the National Accounting Standards do not cover such principles. These problems can be solved with reference to the European practice, the International Financial Reporting Standards, in particular. The Standards describe the principles of reflecting operations with innovations and assets made with their help.

Being the result of scientific work and research, in accounting, innovations could be defined as tangible (a particular mechanism or device) or intangible (intellectual computer product) assets that can provide a company with future benefits. Instead of annual amortization, innovations should be tested for depreciation, so that the company could be constantly aware of their real up-to-date market price. Financial statements are to provide investors with the following information about innovations: balance value, real market price, transactions that lead to the changes in the value, losses and profits from the use of innovations.

It appears quite topical and useful at the time of economic transformation and modernization of the National Accounting Standards to learn from European experience and use their methods of innovation accounting in Belarusian practice.