

Abstract

In recent years, an increasing number of universities have developed specialized programs to support students and academic staff with planning and establishing spin-outs. The Innovation Platform at the TU Wien is one of these initiatives. Being founded in 2012, it has produced numerous startups and spin-outs in the meantime. The study presented in the report was aimed to analyze how TU Wien spin-outs perceived the support they received and what they perceived as critical success factors. For this purpose, a survey among TU Wien spin-outs was conducted. Since the success of spin-outs does not only depend on the support provided by a university, but also on the economic and political environment, the survey was supplemented by an extensive literature study that was aimed at analyzing specific assets and shortcomings of the Austrian startup environment. The report is intended to serve as an inspiration for a discussion on the future of startup initiatives at Austrian universities.