Issues Impacting on the quality and the success of a National Dashboard –the Sri Lankan Case

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on scale to capture the science, technology and innovati Sri Lanka The rationale behind building the syste challenges faced, and the expected value it could br are discussed.

Keywords: Innovation, Dashboard, national landscap system

1.0 Background and Introduction

With the aim of accelerating the economic development of the country, ear5 y Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) Strategy was established in Sri Lanka in 2010. Innovation activities towards economic development cut across a number of line ministries and hence the implementation of the strategy also required the joint action of these ministries. However, the role to be played by each stakeholder

One of the goals of the National ST&I strategy is to 'Establish a system for efficient and coordinated S&T Governance'. As part of the plan in achieving this goal, COSTI embarked on creating a national innovation dashboard for Sri Lanka to capture ST&I activities and research outputs across the country. The Dashboard will clearly facilitate the achievement of the following national goals:

- Establish a system for efficient and coordinated S&T Governance;
- Attract, build and retain strategic Human Capital needed to make Sri Lanka a leading knowledge and innovation hub in Asia;
- Ensure rationalised, increased Investment in R&D supported by facilitated utilisation;
- Facilitate International Partnerships in promoting high end technology and research.

At the moment there is no one location where ST&I information of Sri Lanka can be obtained. Complete and up to date information is essential if we are to use ST&I
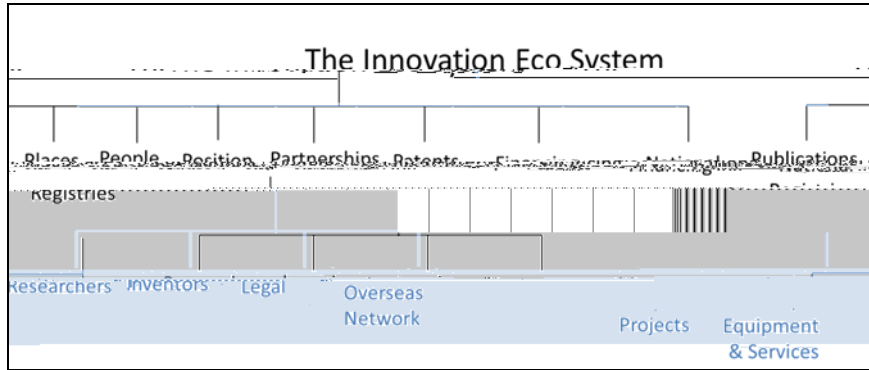
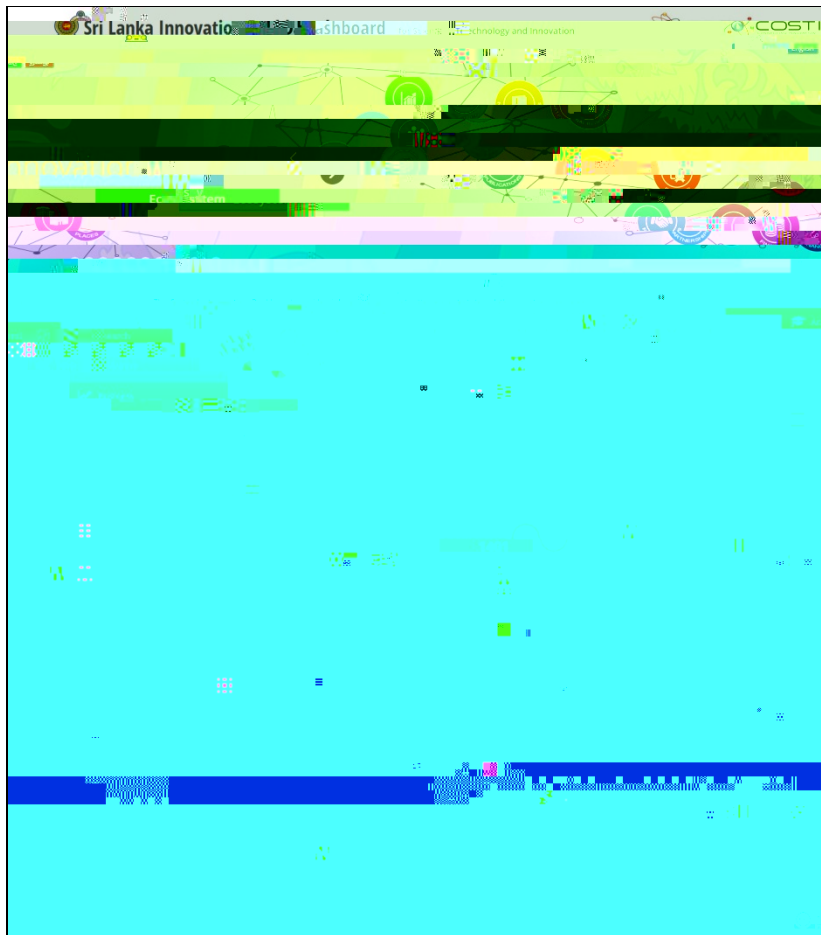Figure 1: The components and the sub-components of the Innovation Eco System

Figure 2: The Main Page of the Dashboard

To facilitate easy navigation there are 4 pre-designed Dashboards: General, Academic & Research, Decision Makers, and Business. Clicking on a particular view will take the user to that Dashboard. For example, clicking on 'Academic & Research' will take the user to the Dashboard showing the human capital, research outputs, international collaborations etc. depicting the current research status in Sri Lanka (see Figure 3).
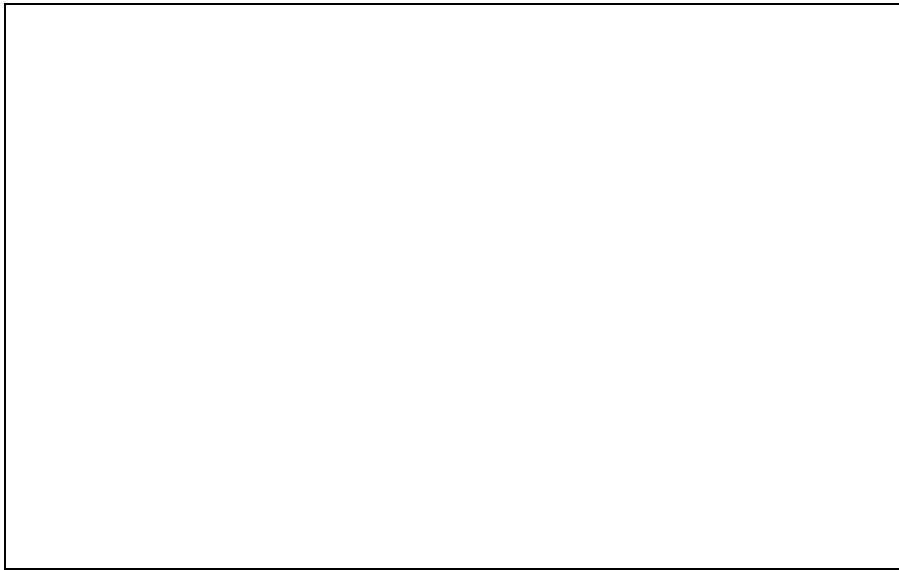
3.0 Continuity and Sustainability of the Dashboard

The field of Information Systems (IS) is relatively young when compared to that of Information Technology (IT). However, the IS arena developed quite fast and today we find a plethora of different types of ISs deployed in organisations for various purposes One reason being that the success stories have showcased the value adding capability of ISs. This wide variety of uses have made defining the success of IS difficult. The success stories have also shown that the benefits gained

incentive to interact with the system is related to the perceived value s/he expects to receive from the system.

The expected value adding features of the system include:

- Availability of stable, reliable, and accessible collections of institutional and people data in electronic form;
- Availability of the county's current research landscape at a glance thus being able to locate his/her own research within that;
- Provide an integrated view of national research outputs;
- Improve direct access to research data for users;
- Provide valuable input to industry experts on what to avoid and where to channel their limited resources and how to align with existing resources to ensure better end results;
- Provide a vital platform for networking for those involved in ST&I;
- Provide high-level visibility to the utilisation of national funds, and projects;
- Support the national ST&I strategy by providing national ST&I information that can be an integral part of decision-making, competitive positioning, and focus on value-adding areas;
- Allows easy access to the information captured in the Dashboard which will provide critical information to decision makers and policy makers;
- Provide patent information registered with the National Intellectual Property organisation (NIPO) - those seeking crucial information about IP and patent registry will be able to know beforehand if someone has pre-empted their R&D initiative and quest for IP;
- Provide an excellent reference point for funders. They can seek relevant feedback and information before approving the allocation of funds by making sure that the proposed project has the potential of producing commecialisable outputs.
- Investors can use the Dashboard to select, approach researchers and network with project teams. Companies can select suitable projects which they would like to get involved with, increase their commitment to support research, and their corporate social responsibility.

Throughout the RD&C (Research, Development to Commercialisation) value chain there are many players e.g. researchers, lecturers, fund managers; industry etc. who have different questions that they need answers to. The Dashboard will facilitate answers to all kinds of questions sought by users, such as:

- Is this technology area worth pursuing?
- Has anyone done a similar project?
- Who or which organisation(s) can I collaborate with?
- What are possible sources of funds?

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2016, from Internet Society:
http://www.internetsociety.org/sites/default/files/CollaborativeSecurity-v1-0.pdf

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