First impacts of strategic and innovative funding, lessons and future recommendations – clues from Germany

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What sorts of impact are out there?

Impact of strategic funding on

- National policy design
- Funding programmes
- Regional policy design
- R&I institutions / stakeholders
- Funding support mechanisms
- Projects
Impact on national policy design

National Dialogue on Synergies Horizon 2020 and the European Structural Investment Funds:
Information, Dialogue, Learning
"National coordination mechanism for cooperation und dialogue between involved stakeholders“
(Partnership Agreement DE - COM)

- pool of policy/strategy information
- map of regional funding priorities and stakeholders
- good practice
- newsletter

Topics with added value through synergies (e.g. innovative public procurement)

Web Portal
www.eu-synergien.de

Bund-Länder
Working Group

National & Regional Public Authorities

- information dialogue/alignment
- national positioning
- programme planning
- cooperation

New Formats
of Support

Advisory Services
(NCP, regional offices etc.)

- integrated advisory services for proposers
- guidance and training

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National position paper on strengthening synergies post 2020 (under preparation)
Impact on funding programmes: BMBF regional funding instruments (selection)

- "Joint Research Structures":
  - Exploiting knowledge and innovation potential in less research intensive European regions
  - Those CESEEC that became EU member since 2004 plus WBC without BIH, KOS

- "Danube Call":
  - Encourage stronger links between the leading innovative regions upstream and the developing regions downstream
  - Danube region

- "CESEER":
  - Preparation of applications for R&D projects in Horizon2020 et al.
  - Those CESEEC that became EU member since 2004 plus GRC plus WBC

- "EUREKA Bilateral DEU-CZE":
  - Innovative and market oriented bilateral R&D projects
  - DEU and CZE

- National funding programmes have an impact on H2020 performance (incl. SEWP)
- EU funding programmes influence national funding policy (e.g. preparation of H2020 projects)
Impact on regional policy design:
ERDF-funded project Brückenbildung.NRW

ESI-Fonds and actors in NRW

- NRW-Min. Employment
  - ESF
  - NRW agency GIB
  - counselling

- NRW-Min. Economy
  - ERDF
  - ERDF MA
  - Lead market agency
  - counselling

- NRW-Min. Env./Agriculture
  - EAFRD
  - Energy agency
  - Efficiency agency
  - counselling

Brückenbildung.NRW: analyses - strategies – technologies – actors - information

Synergies in NRW Lead Markets

ZENIT / NRW.Europa
HORIZON 2020
NRW-Min. IWF

DLR Project Management Agency

Federal Ministry of Education and Research
Impact on funding support mechanisms

- **Dialogue Workshop**
  „A new boost through innovation procurement“ (1 Sep 2015)

- **Result:**
  Ministry of Economics (BMWi) invested in a new contact point for innovation procurement under H2020

- **(possible) impact:**
  Stronger participation in PCP/PPI calls
Impact at project level: share / success rate of „synergy projects“

H2020 SC environment projects (sample: n=75)

- Synergy projects (79%)
- Synergy proposals (39%)

NRW „synergy tracker“ (n=819)

- Synergy proposals (28%)

Source: H2020 mid-term evaluation 2017
Source: NRW Lead market agency, 2017
Lessons to be learnt

• To create a coherent policy mix, breaking-up silos is as important as difficult (will change the configurations of power)

• To convince people, practice examples are as important as difficult to get

• Quick wins and radical changes in funding policies are unlikely – incrementalism is the strategy of choice – and a long breath needed

• Understanding the relations between actors (governance) is the key to achieve strategic funding (even good arguments can loose and vice-versa)

• It is less what is funded but how funding is conditioned that matters (e.g. ex-ante conditionalities, supply vs. demand-driven innovation funding, grants vs. loans)

• Impacts of projects are hard to track when funding is over; programme evaluation is important but not a standard tool across national funding
Thanks for listening!

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