Finding effective strategies and mechanisms for making (EMN) research based knowledge useful for policy makers

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Overview

- Factors influencing policy uptake
- Obstacles to effective collaboration
- EMN and Policy Making
What influences Research to Policy Uptake?

Source: ODI 2004
Obstacles


- Contextual
- Structural
- Cultural
Obstacles

Contextual

- different timescales
- different langue
- differing perspectives on how knowledge and information are used
- different professional contexts, divergent frames of reference and incentives
- approach same topics from different angles with different sets of priorities
- different interests
Obstacles

Structural

✓ Researchers: scientifically robust results which or without immediate impact on society on policy-making

✓ Policy makers: required to think in the short and medium as well as the longer term, respond rapidly evolving political and social challenges;

✓ Researchers: interaction often with peers

✓ Policy-making: interaction with a range of stakeholders

✓ Absence of any appropriate communication channels

Cultural

✓ lack of tradition of collaboration in many countries
Contexts

- different ways and perspectives to conceiving research-policy dilemmas
- no single dominant instrumentalist model for research-policy relations;
- Impact of research can be less direct
EMN and Policy-Making

The objective of the European Migration Network, according to Council Decision 2008/381/EC, is to “meet the information needs of Union institutions and of Member States’ authorities and institutions on migration and asylum, by providing up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information on migration and asylum, with a view to supporting policymaking in the European Union in these areas” and “provide the general public with information on these subjects”.

Findings of the External Evaluation:

- EMN is successfully getting through to target groups at EU level
- Less successful to meeting target groups (esp. also policy makers at the national level)
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<th>Identification of policy-relevant issues</th>
<th>Close Cooperation/exchange with Steering Board, EC other bodies</th>
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<td><strong>Timeliness</strong></td>
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<td>Thematic Studies</td>
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<td><em>Shift from major studies to focussed studies</em></td>
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<td><em>Flexibility- 1 focussed study topic tbd</em></td>
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<td><strong>Communication and Knowledge transfer</strong></td>
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References


Laczko Frank and Boris Wijkstrom (2004): Enhancing the contribution of migration research to Policy-making, Conference Note, Intergovernmental Workshop, Geneva, 5-6 February


