

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

EMN Cluster Meeting Norway, 11 October 2011

Elisabeth Petzl, AT EMN NCP



The EMN was established via Council Decision 2008/381/EC and is financially supported by the European Union.

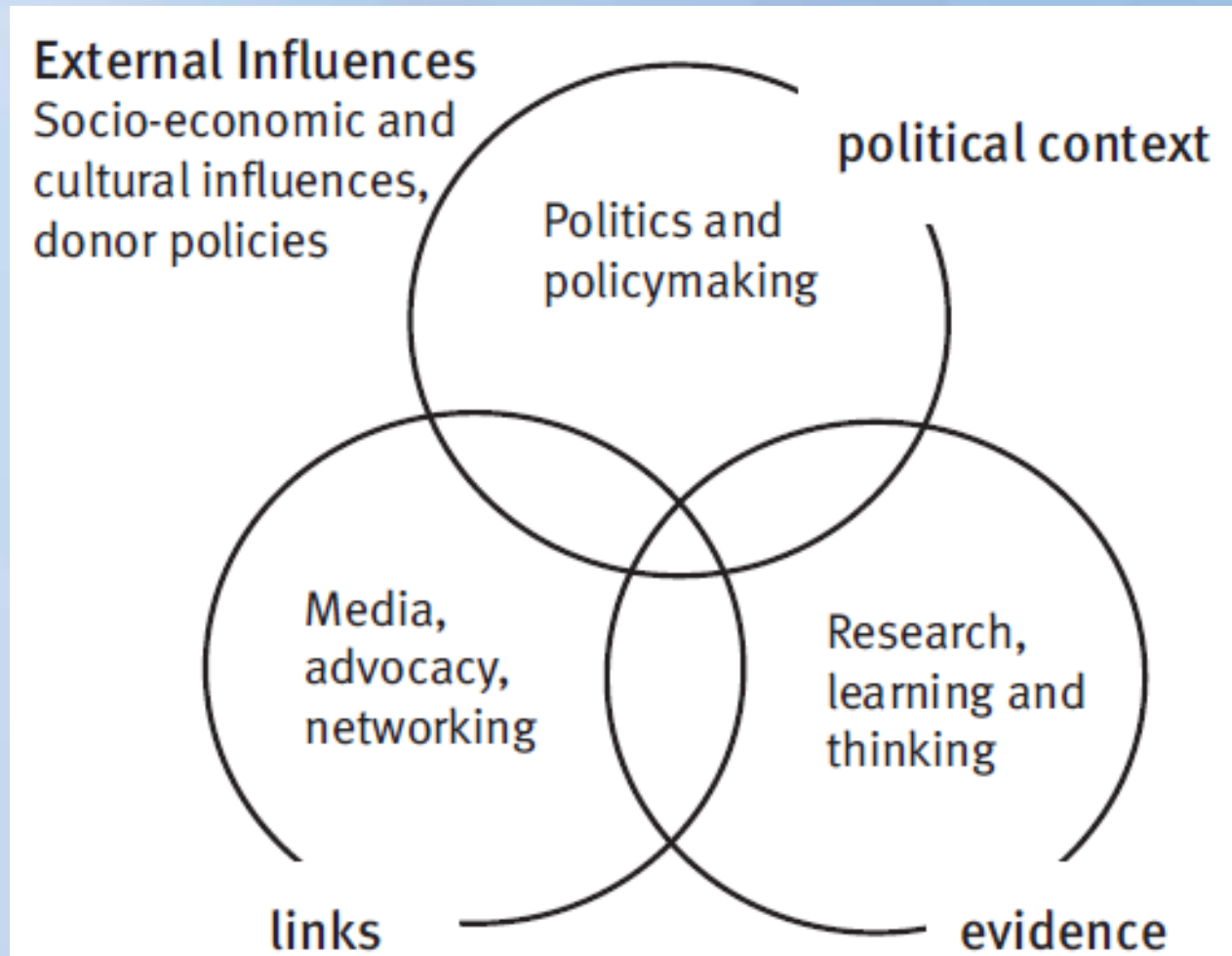
Overview



- ✳️ Factors influencing policy uptake
- ✳️ Obstacles to effective collaboration
- ✳️ EMN and Policy Making



What influences Research to Policy Uptake?



Source: ODI 2004

Obstacles



(Boswell 2004, World Social Science Report 2010, IFSP 2006, Penninx/Scholten 2009, Laczko/Wijkstrom 2004, European Commission 2009 and 2008)

 Contextual

 Structural

 Cultural

Obstacles



✖ Contextual

- ✓ different timescales
- ✓ different language
- ✓ 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)

EMN and Policy-Making



Identification of policy-relevant issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Close Cooperation/exchange with Steering Board, EC other bodies
Timeliness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ad Hoc Queries○ Thematic Studies○ <i>Shift from major studies to focussed studies</i>○ <i>Flexibility- 1 focussed study topic tbd</i>
Communication and Knowledge transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ EMN Communication and Dissemination Strategy○ International / European / National Networks○ EMN Website(s) as information portal○ National Newsletters○ Information emails○ Project flyer/ brochures○ Conferences and National Network Meetings○ Summary reports○ <i>EMN Informs</i>○ <i>EMN Quarterly Report as reference tool</i>

References



- ✖ Boswell Christina (2004): Knowledge transfer and migration policy making, Geneva, International Institute for Labor Studies.
- ✖ Burnstein Meyer (2004): Connecting Research and Policy, Report for the Social Sciences and Humanities Reserach Council of Canada, Ottawa.
- ✖ Burnstein Meyer (2005): Linking Academic Research and Policy Development Framing the Issues, Report for the Social Sciences and Humanities Reserach Council of Canada Ottawa.
- ✖ Danida (2001): Partnerships at the Leading Edge: A Danish Vision for Knowledge, Research and Development, Report of the Commission on Development-Related Research, Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Danida Copenhagen.
- ✖ European Commission (2010): Communicating research for evidence-based policy-making. A practical guide for reserachers in socio-economic sciences and humanities, Brussels, available at ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/ssh/docs/guide-communicating-research_en.pdf
- ✖ European Commission (2009): Moving Europe: EU research on migration and policy needs, Brussels, available at: ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/ssh/docs/ssh_research_migration_20090403_en.pdf
- ✖ European Commission (2008): Scientific evidence for policy-making, Brussels, available at: <ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/ssh/docs/20080619en.pdf>
- ✖ Haagensen Eva (2006): The Role of Research in the Formulation of Policies, policy brief based on non published Unesco document, available at <http://www.unesco.org/shs/most/tool/index.php?action=view&db=BRIEF&app=3&lng=en&id=132>
- ✖ Laczko Frank and Boris Wijkstrom (2004): Enhancing the contribution of migration research to Policy-making, Conference Note, Intergovernmental Workshop, Geneva, 5-6 February
- ✖ Lee at al. (2005): Social Science and Social Policy: From National Dilemmas to Global Opportunities, Reference Paper for the International Forum on the Social Sciences- Policy Nexus, Unesco, Paris.
- ✖ Oversees Development Department (2004); Research and Policy in Development Programme Briefing Paper No 1, October 2004, available at http://www.chronicpoverty.org/uploads/assets/files/toolbox/Policy_influencing_resource_pack/3.4%20Opportunities%20and%20Bottlenecks/3-RAPID%20BP1.pdf
- ✖ Penninx Rinus and Peter Scholten (2009): Research-Policy Dialogues on Migration and Integration in Europe, IMISCOE Policy Brief 15, Amsterdam, available at <http://library.imiscoe.org/en/record/342844>
- ✖ Stone Diane (2002): Getting Research into Policy. University of Warwick.
- ✖ UNESCO (2006): International Forum on the Social Science- Policy Nexus, Argentine and Uruguay, 20-24 February 2006, Final Report, available at www.unesco.org/shs/ifsp
- ✖ UNESCO (2011): Social sciences and policy-makers, Chapter 9, in World Social Science Report 2010, available at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/resources/reports/world-social-science-report/>