Policy Perspectives on Dissemination, Sustainability and Impact of Strategic partnerships in Higher Education

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Why strategic partnerships?

- To promote cooperation, peer learning and exchanges at European level by supporting implementation of joint initiatives

- To support the development and implementation of innovative practices
How to reach these goals?

- By developing innovative outputs
- By engaging into intensive dissemination and exploitation activities
- By addressing specific policy priorities in the field of higher education
In higher education:

• Achieve policy priorities set under the "Renewed EU agenda for higher education"

• Achieve impact at three levels:
  ✓ systemic
  ✓ organisational
  ✓ individual
Renewed EU agenda for higher education

What's new?

• Greater emphasis on quality of learning and teaching than ever before

• More steering of EU funding instruments such as Erasmus+ but also the Structural and investment funds towards the strategic goals in higher education.

• A new interest in the way higher education systems function, how they are funded and governed.
HE Strategic Partnership priorities – linking projects to political priorities

5 areas of action:
• Developing skills
• Building inclusive and connected systems
• Contributing to innovation
• Supporting effective and efficient higher education systems:
  • Promoting internationalisation, recognition and mobility, supporting changes in line with Bologna principles and tools

4 new topics (cross-sectoral):
• Civic engagement / responsible citizenship
• Social entrepreneurship / social innovation
• Cooperation between educational institutions and business
• Social/environmental responsibility of educational institutions
Renewed EU agenda for higher education

1. Help students acquire the necessary knowledge and skills
2. Strengthen contribution of Higher Education to cohesive societies
3. Improve the contribution of HEIs to innovation
4. Design systems that work effectively (funding, incentives)
5. Promoting internationalisation, recognition and mobility, supporting changes in line with Bologna principles and tools

Reflection on Strategic partnerships projects

Curricula relevant to labour market and societal needs; transnational teacher training courses; cooperation btw HEIs, VET organisations and employers
Holistic institutional strategies for inclusion and study success; civic and social responsibility of students and HEIs
Education and research mutually reinforcing; strengthening HEIs’ role in local/regional environments; transfer of latest research back into education
Supporting effective and efficient higher education systems

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Supporting effective and efficient higher education systems
How to better promote results

Efforts of coordination needed to ensure our "collective" capacity to extract the best results ...

How?

- Quality monitoring
- Dissemination / valorisation of results
Quality monitoring

- **EC support** to NAs' supervision role, in ensuring links with EU policy priorities; participating in projects' events

- **Promising projects** identified with the help of NAs; focus on potential impact and contribution to national and EU policy (e.g. innovative dimension; transferability of results)

Sharing relevant info on projects with other NAs and EC
Dissemination of results

**PROJECT's LEVEL:**

- Involve highest academic governance from the very beginning

- Share the results within participating organisations (at academic, administrative and student levels)

- Share results outside participating organisations (other organisations in the country and outside; local, regional and national authorities, press...)

- Identify and contact other projects with similar objectives/activities to strengthen the impact of the results
Dissemination of results

**NAs’ LEVEL:**
- Overall dissemination strategy
- Cross-national meetings
  - **Themes** – Employability; Inclusion; Quality in Teaching/Training; Research; UB cooperation; Responsible Citizenship; etc.
  - **Issues for quality/impact** of projects; project management; networking; best practices; dissemination; etc.
  - **Across KA2 projects** (Knowledge Alliances; HE Capacity Building...)

**EU LEVEL:**
- E+ Project Results Platform
- EU-level cluster seminars to promote synergies among projects + provide evidence-based outputs to policy makers
- “Mainstream” within EC services (EMP; HEALTH; ENV; DIGIT)
- Compendium SPs projects 2014 published; 2015 soon
What about the *impact* of Strategic partnerships projects?

On-going:

- National level analysis
- *Study on Impact of Erasmus+ in Higher Education*
- *Specific study on the impact of Strategic Partnerships*

⇒ However, some data and general trends are already available ...
CLUSTERS OF TOPICS 2014-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster</th>
<th>2014-2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality in Teaching and Training</td>
<td>384</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Technologies and Digital Competencies</td>
<td>205</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employability</td>
<td>175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inclusion and Tolerance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving the Quality of Education/Training Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education for Sustainable Development</td>
<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research and Innovation</td>
<td>42</td>
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</tbody>
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Types of Intellectual Outputs

- Learning/Teaching Material: 25.6%
- Methodologies / Guidelines: 20.5%
- Studies / Analysis: 19.4%
- Courses / Curricula: 13.5%
- Services / Structures: 8.8%
- Open On-Line Courses: 5.8%
- Policy Recommendations: 3.1%
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What makes a successful strategic partnership project?

- Relevance to policy objectives
- Innovativeness
- Effective dissemination and sustainability plan
- Impact
- Stimulating synergies between projects
- Involving institutional governance
- Committed and competent consortium with relevant stakeholders
Thank you for your attention

Questions?