



Policy Perspectives on

Dissemination, Sustainability and Impact of Strategic partnerships in Higher Education

Elena Tegovska
DG Education and Culture



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 pirorities 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



Reflection on Strategic partnerships projects

1. Help students acquire the necessary knowledge and skills

Curricula relevant to labour market and societal needs; transnational teacher training courses; cooperation btw HEIs, VET organisations and employers

2. Strengthen contribution of Higher Education to cohesive societies

Holistic institutional strategies for inclusion and study success; civic and social responsibility of students and HEIs

3. Improve the contribution of HEIs to innovation

Education and research mutually reinforcing; strengthening HEIs' role in local/regional environments; transfer of latest research back into education

4. Design systems that work effectively (funding, incentives)

Supporting effective and efficient higher education systems

5. Promoting internationalisation, recognition and mobility, supporting changes in line with Bologna principles and tools



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 evidencebased 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?

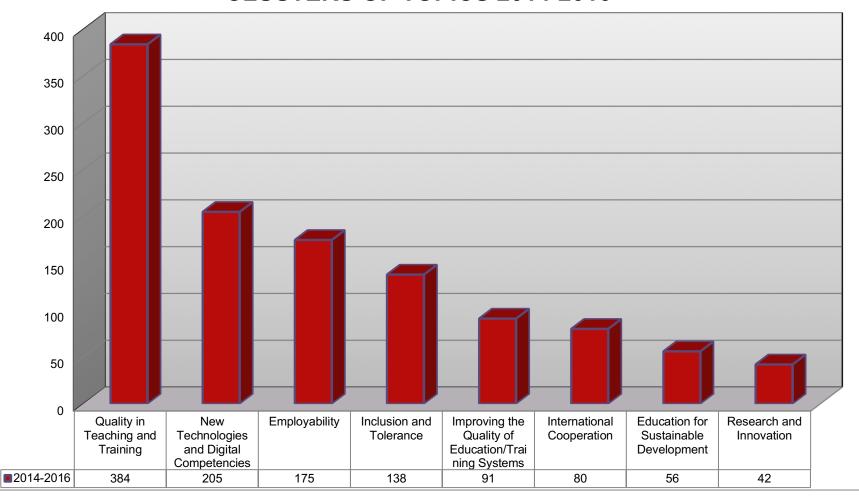
On-going:

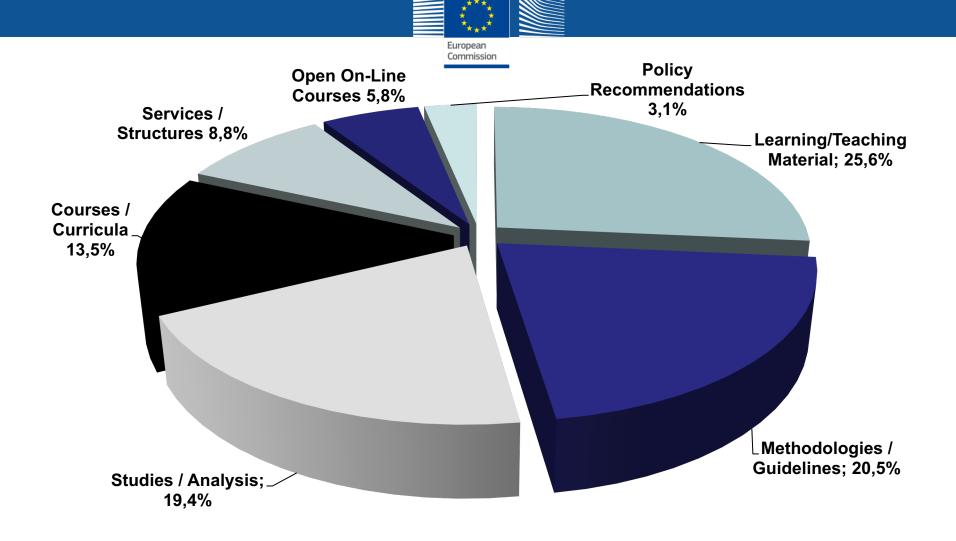
- National level analysis
- Study on Impact of Erasmus+ in Higher Education
- Specific study on the impact of Strategic Partnerships

⇒ However, some data and general trends are already available ...



CLUSTERS OF TOPICS 2014-2016







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?