NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

GEO/EGIDA: Engaging policy makers with a focus on the ERA-NETs

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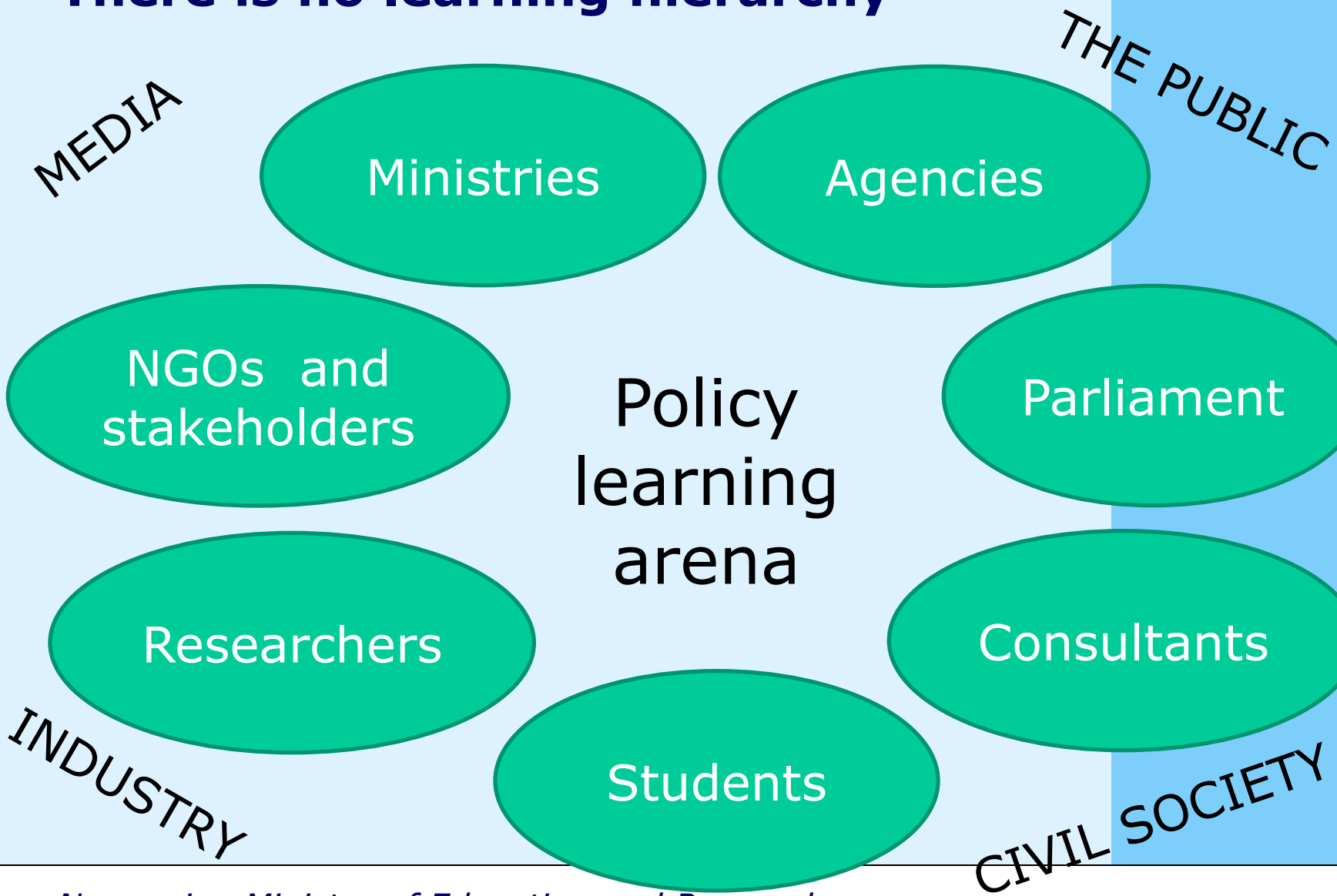
- The researcher and the policy maker: The same world, but different points of views.
- These different perspectives have to be understood to ensure good cooperation.
- This presentation will give one example on how to engage policy makers and promote GEO.

There is no learning hierarchy



Ministries, agencies and international policy organisations: Policy learning and innovation as co-evolution

- Acquired R&D
- Governance experience
- Tacit knowledge
- Acquired knowledge
- Literature
- Conferences and workshops
- Mobility
- International co-op.

"societal pull"

Interaction with researchers, experts, policy makers, stakeholders, politicians, citizens.

In-house learning based policy innovation

Policy makers develop new policies, new policy measures and narratives

Drivers for policy learning

- **Staff with high levels of professional expertise, exhibiting a high level of creativity and problem solving and a positive attitude to teamwork**
  - Mobility of people within the policy system, and between policy and society
  - Researchers with an understanding for policy learning and the political process
  - Employment of STS/STP/innovation savvy candidates
- NGOs and civil society
- International learning arenas like the OECD and the EU
- Political push and crises

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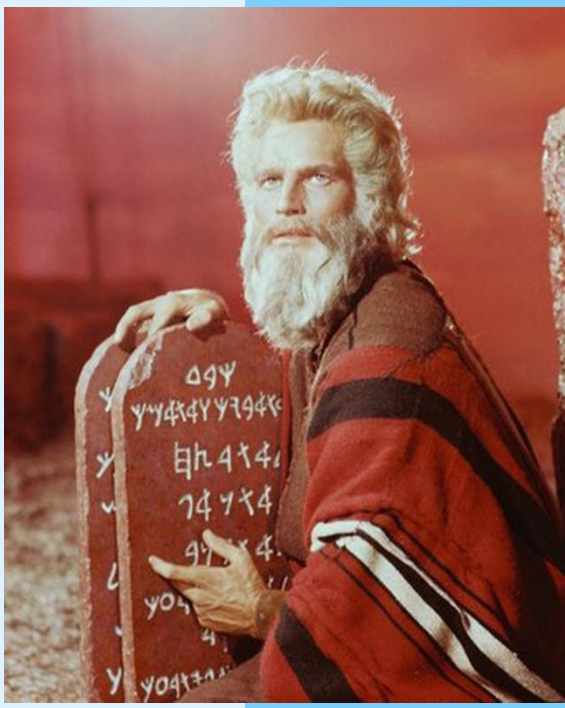
The need for an understanding of the socio-cultural framework of policy making

- If researchers are to interact with policy institutions they must be aware of their belief systems and master narratives, regardless of policy area.

One example: Belief systems

- The policy makers
  - The tribe (actor network)
  - Their common belief system (ideology)
  - Their master narratives
- The researchers
  - The tribe (actor network)
  - Their common belief system (paradigm)
  - Their master narratives



Different belief systems in research and innovation policy

- Different ministries, agencies and stakeholders speak different languages
- What is most important?
  - Basic science or innovation?
  - Economic growth or welfare?
  - Technology or culture?

There are many policy narratives

- Reflect different understanding of:
  - What society is and how it works
  - How research interacts with society
  - Common terms (e.g. "innovation", "research")
  - What the role of science is
  - What the best theoretical and methodological foundation for policy development is

The science narrative

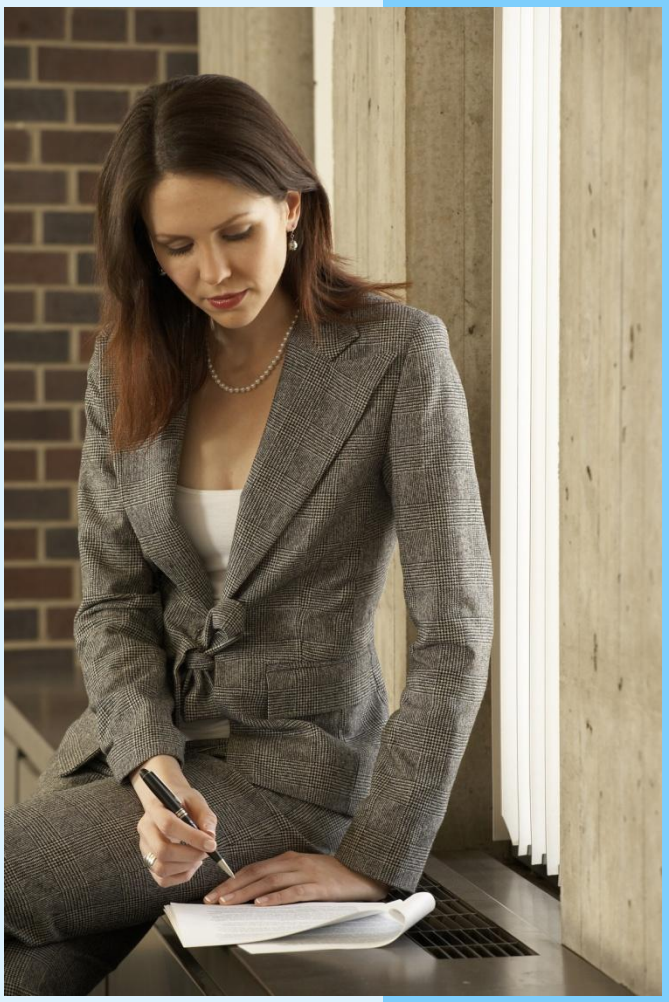
- Social contract between science and the state
- Supporters in ministries of research, and in universities
- Narrative: Science produces ideas and inventions to be used in society
- Linear model

- Originally influenced by STP

The business narrative

- Social contract between the business sector and the state
- Supporters in industry and ministries of industry
- Narrative: Industry innovates, which leads to increased productivity and economic growth
- Originally a linear model, now systemic.

- Influenced by innovation research



The social narrative

- Social contract between the government and its citizens
- Supporters in the EU, the OECD and various national ministries
- Narrative: Research is part of the learning processes of society and institutions. The state must develop strategies for meeting major challenges.
- Case: OECD project for developing mechanisms for research cooperation for meeting global challenges

- Important role for STS

The new role of global challenges

- The next European Research Area will have a strong focus on societal and global challenges.
- The OECD is focusing on global challenges
- Global challenges used to focus R&D investments
- Global challenges used to legimitize R&D investments

GEO - Science and Technology work plan

- Catalysing R&D Resources for GEOSS
- Promoting awareness and benefits of GEO in the S&T Community
- *Promoting awareness and benefits of GEO in the relevant policy communities*

Promoting awareness and benefits of GEO in the S&T Community (researcher level)

- Promote awareness and benefits of GEOSS in the scientific and technological communities.
- Related activities will include:
  - Form links with major scientific research enterprises in each societal benefit area;
  - Actively encourage relevant scientists and technical experts to contribute to GEOSS in a truly participatory way;
  - Reach out to the world's diverse scientific and technological communities and make GEOSS more visible and attractive to them;
  - Contact universities and laboratories to involve them in GEOSS activities;
  - Organize a GEO presence at major symposia and other meetings, for example through plenary presentations or side events

Catalysing R&D Resources for GEOSS (the agency level)

- Encourage national governments and international organizations to address GEOSS Science and Technology needs in their R&D programmes.
- Involve research institutions and funding agencies in GEOSS implementation.
- GEO Members and Participating Organizations will be encouraged to:
  - plan and conduct R&D activities in support of GEOSS implementation;
  - Contribute relevant R&D activities (planned or ongoing) to GEOSS implementation;
  - Identify and earmark resource sources for those activities;
  - promote GEOSS throughout the process.

Promoting awareness and benefits of GEO in policy communities (the policy level)

- Agencies, ministries, NGOs, stakeholder organization (the research and innovation policy system).
- Making GEO known and understood.
- Communicate the usefulness of GEO, with special emphasis on global challenges.
- Go beyond the linear model. Communicate this research as part of a larger social, cultural and economic context.
- Gain (tacit) knowledge of policy culture and policy rules of the game.

Some few preliminary comments to the present work plan

- Relatively loose in definition of goals
- Encouraging of national governments is not ambitious enough. There is a need for more systematic approaches towards funding bodies and research organisations.
- Interdisciplinarity is a major challenge in implementing the working programme, in particular the integration of social sciences.
- A long way to go for policy makers if we want that they take use of the GEO portal. Further simplification and increase of user friendliness is needed.

The ERA-Net scheme

National and regional authorities identify research programmes they wish to coordinate or open up mutually.

The participants in these actions are therefore

- programme owners (typically ministries or regional authorities defining research programmes) or
- programme managers (such as research councils or other research funding agencies managing research programmes).

Can be used to make GEO more visible, develop policy strategies and gain support.

The ERA-NET instrument has existed since the 6th Framework Programme (2002-2006), under which 71 ERA-NETs were supported.

ERA-NET activities

An ERA-NET can include the following activities:

- Systematic exchange of information and best practices
- Strategically targeted activities that develop an evaluation of the options and barriers for cooperation and lead to the development of complementarities and joint objectives of national and regional research projects.

  Implementation of joint activities (e.g. clustering of nationally and regionally financed research programmes), utilization of multinational evaluation processes, joint training measures or the mutual opening of national infrastructures.
- Transnational research activities, e.g. the formulation of joint strategies and work programmes or the implementation of joint calls for research funding

ERA-NET Plus

- ERA-NETs Plus (usually based on an already successfully finished ERA-NET) for which a common funding pot should be established and additional funding can be obtained from the European Commission ('top-up funding' for joint calls).

Future steps and options for EGIDA

- There is a need for at least one ERA-NET on earth observations having research funding agencies from all GEO countries as participants.
- An ERA NET is normally co-funded by the FPs and is organised as a research project with work packages and deliverables.
  - We suggest that one of the tasks early of the project should deal with barriers (financial, legal, organizational, etc) to implement GEOSS activities.
  - Another task should focus on the multidisciplinary challenges in the GEOSS-activities.
- The main goal with an ERA NET+ should be to launch common calls for projects and to prepare for an international jointly funded research programme which should reflect key tasks in the GEOSS ten year road maps.
- EGIDA should organise and prepare the ground for such an ERA NET.

One more thing…

- EGIDA should also prepare ideas for ESFRI-projects. These projects should have as a common objective the development new and more user friendly GEOSS-infrastructures. All ESFRI-projects should allow for participation from all GEO countries.
- Of course, all future EGIDA work aiming towards ERA NET type activities must take into account (and differentiate from) the ongoing activities in GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security), in particular FP7 projects such as Geoland2, Myocean, Macc, Safer, G-mosaic, etc.

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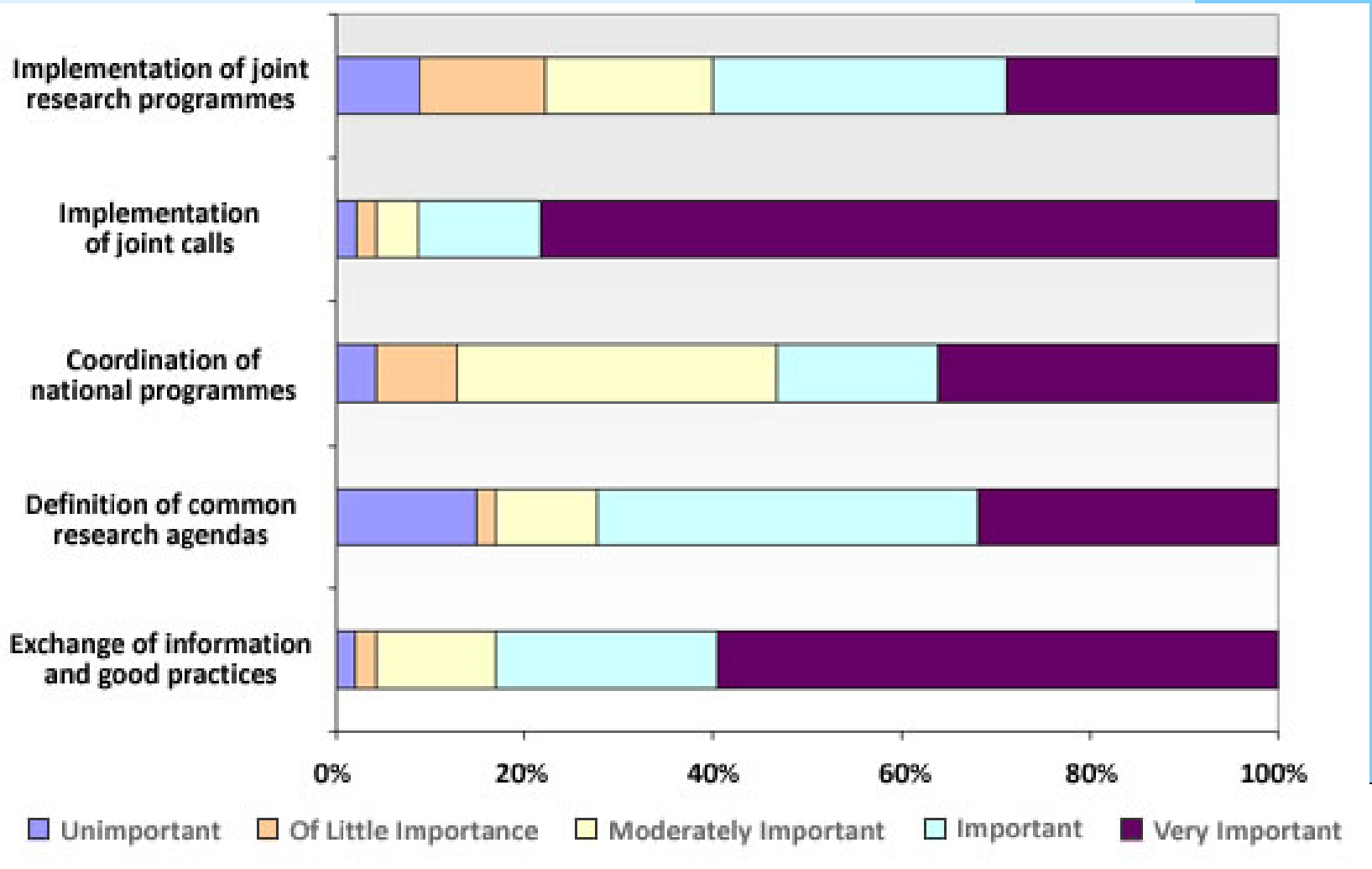
APPENDIX

The relative importance of Objectives of ERA Nets – funding agency survey results



Relevant funding models in the EU policy instruments

- Joint programming initiatives (JPI) (http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/areas/programming/joint_programming_en.htm)
- ERA-NETs (see http://netwatch.jrc.ec.europa.eu/nw/ for a detailed analysis)
- ESFRI-platform (http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/index_en.cfm?pg=esfri)
- Systematic Mapping and monitoring of specific research areas
  - ERAWATCH (mapping research policies world wide)
  - INNO POLICY TrendChart (mapping innovation policies wordwide)
  - METRIS (mapping the content and resources into social sciences and humanities in EU)

Example I - CIRCLE-2

- CIRCLE-2 ERA-Net is a European Network of 34 institutions from 23 countries committed to fund and share knowledge on climate adaptation research (http://www.circle-era.eu/np4/55.html) . Three calls (see the website for a list of deliverables, common calls and budgets)
- Objectives:
  - Establish a research funding network oriented towards Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation (CCIVA) policy-relevant questions.
  - Facilitate cooperation among Europe's national and regional CCIVA research programmes and their funders/managers.
  - Promote a common strategic agenda on relevant CCIVA research areas and coordinate it with European framework programmes, policies and objectives.
  - Design and Fund joint initiatives and joint calls for transnational CCIVA research proposals on identified knowledge gaps or needs.
  - Share knowledge and support European countries in their efforts to adopt appropriate climate Adaptation strategies, action plans and measures.
  - Optimise national and European investments on CCIVA research by increasing the effectiveness of its funding and maximising the policy-relevance of its outcomes.

Example II - NORFACE

- NORFACE - New Opportunities for Research Funding Co-operation in Europe - is a partnership between twelve research councils to increase co-operation in research and research policy in Europe (http://www.norface.org/).
- After a preliminary phase of intensive planning of work in order to increase complementarity, relevance and impact, at present, the twelve partners in NORFACE support a diverse range of research topics, research funding mechanisms and strategic objectives such as:
  - The NORFACE Seminar Series (a scheme supporting research networking in social sciences);
  - Funding of ten transnational research projects on 'Re-emergence of Religion as a Social Force in Europe?' ;
  - Funding of 12 transnational research projects on Migration in Europe - Social, Economic, Cultural and Policy and
  - Funding of Capacity building projects.