

„Communication in International R&D Projects”

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>Haus der Forschung<

The Culture of Crossing Borders

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OVERVIEW

Four main topics:

- Research under conditions of globalisation
- What borderlines are there in science and research
- How to bridge gaps and borders by communication
- The concept of trans-disciplinarity



„INTERNATIONAL R&D“

Science and research in globalisation:

... nearby,
far away,
at any time



LIMITED KNOWLEDGE

Floating borders and limitations
in history ...

... and concerning
accountability,
responsibility,
ethics





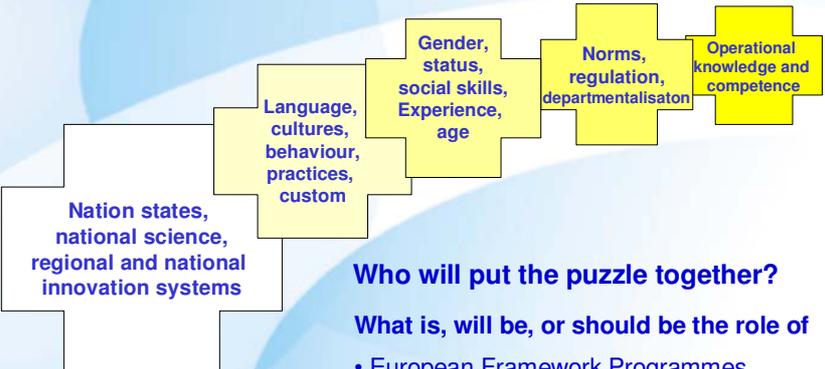
ACCESS VS. CONTROL

The notion of borders in R&D

- More inroads to the land of unknown
- More travel
- More presentations
- More tools to communicate
- Less time for reflection
- Less continuity




BORDERLINES IN SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH



Nation states, national science, regional and national innovation systems

Language, cultures, behaviour, practices, custom

Gender, status, social skills, Experience, age

Norms, regulation, departmentalisation

Operational knowledge and competence

Who will put the puzzle together?

What is, will be, or should be the role of

- European Framework Programmes
- European Research Area
- International scientific communities
- Research organisations
- Researcher in international R&D projects



NOTIONS OF COMMUNICATION



FORMS AND SCOPE OF COMMUNICATION

The language border

„My English is very bad, so I will continue in Russian – but slowly“

The (extended) body language

Caring, logistics, presence and presents

Some little and the more crucial secrets

Co-operation, competition, co-opetition

„Open Source“ – a principle of science

Ethical behaviour and principles of practices

Utilisation – dissemination

Balancing scientific requirements and stakeholder interests



COMMUNICATION LEVELS IN INTERNATIONAL R&D GROUPS

Research is much more than brains and logic

Topics of communication

- Culture
- Language
- Groups networks
- Knowledge
- Facts and understanding
- Performance

... and related issues

- Behaviour, openness
- Varieties of odds
- Inclusion – exclusion
- Overlaps, relevance
- Appropriateness
- Success or frustration



TRANS-DISCIPLINARY SCIENCE

The classic notion of science in the Industrial Society

„Science, Mode 1“ *)

- ⇒ Ideas, theories, methods, norms, codified in disciplines
- ⇒ Organised and regulated by standards within the disciplines
- ⇒ Powered and controlled mainly by scientific communities
- ⇒ Discoveries precede development and implementation

Science in the knowledge based Information Society

„Science, Mode 2“ *)

- ⇒ Production of knowledge, problem driven research across disciplines
- ⇒ Decreasing control of scientific communities concerning RTDI-processes
- ⇒ Increasing relevance of stakeholders and users („science-society interrelation“)
- ⇒ Practitioners and other professional experts become involved („open innovation“)



*) Michael Gibbons, Helga Nowotny et al., 1994: The New Production of Knowledge. The Dynamics of Science and Research in Contemporary Societies; Sage, London

THE REQUIREMENT OF DEEPER AND WIDER COMPETENCIES IN SCIENCE

Professional scientific expertise

- is a necessary, **but**
- not sufficient condition to provide for problem solving research

Wider concepts of scientific domains

- „Humanities, social- and cultural studies“
- „social-scientific“, or „socio-economic research“
- „Social Sciences and Humanities“ (SSH)

„T-Qualification“ is composed of

- deep rooted knowledge in a certain discipline, **plus**
- the capacity to communicate with other scientists and practitioners



CONCLUSION

Components of a „culture of crossing borders“

International comparison and exchange requires

- mobility of researchers
- development of infrastructures

Awareness of

- research context
- multi-dimensional interest of stakeholders
- Options
- Choices
- Avoid the paradox of inferior results compared to improved potential

Education and training

- Social skills
- project management

High degree of consciousness concerning mutual communication

- Integration of partners/participants
- Counter-balance the „Matthew-effect“





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