

« FICHE CONTRADICTOIRE »

Evaluation of EU support to R&I for development in partner countries (2007-2013)

Recommendations	Services replies	Follow-up (one year later)
Cluster one: Policy and strategic focus		
<p>1) Formulate a strategic approach to R&I with a focus on establishing institutional frameworks</p> <p>DG DEVCO should formulate its own R&I for development policy, within the overall EU policy on international co-operation in R&I, and better implement a division of labour with DG RTD. This should be clearly set in the context of the overall contribution of R&I to sustainable development and the achievement of the new UN Global Goals.</p>	<p>This is a very good recommendation. When the results of this evaluation were presented to DEVCO Management on 19/05/16, it was concluded that DEVCO and RTD should move beyond mere PCD, towards the formulation of policies and programmes conducive to development, in the spirit of the SDGs and Agenda 2030. The 2016 Evaluation of Framework Programme 7 support for development cooperation makes a similar recommendation, so there is now a DEVCO-RTD determination to proceed in this way.</p> <p>For its part, DEVCO is scheduling a foresight exercise to identify the role of research and innovation in future EU development cooperation. This follows a mapping exercise of R & I in developing countries by both DEVCO and DG RTD. The strategic approach will integrate the 2 aspects of R & I – <i>internal</i>, relating to use of available research and knowledge to inform policy development and practice and <i>external</i> – relating to cooperation with developing partners in the area of R & I.</p> <p>The development of the strategic approach will, <i>inter alia</i>, guide R&I cooperation under the next MFF (2021-27)</p>	
<p>(2) At national level, develop a strategy for R&I</p>	<p>Cooperation in the area of R & I needs to respect the</p>	

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https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/final-report-volume-1-main-report-evaluation-eu-support-to-r-and-i_en.pdf

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<p>that adapts the support provided to the needs and level of development of partner countries</p> <p>DG DEVCO should develop a strategy for R&I that differentiates between partner countries at various stage of development.</p>	<p>fact that DEVCO focal sectors per country are limited to three. The principle of ownership and mutual accountability implies that EU shall provide support where there is political will and ownership in the partner country. In the countries where R & I is not one of the focal sectors, R & I, where relevant, can be integrated in the agreed focal areas. Where feasible - as in the ACP context – DEVCO will promote the integration of R&I into EU Regional cooperation priorities. R&I cooperation is already tailored to the capacity level of partner countries in so far as our dialogue with them has identified R&I as a priority – or as important in their development strategies.</p>	
Cluster two: Operational approach		
<p>(3) DG DEVCO support should continue to focus on seven principal elements:</p> <p>i) support to networks, ii) capacity development, iii) careful selection of partner institutions, iv) policy dialogue, v) actual funding for research, vi) capitalisation of results and vii) establishing and strengthening of national innovation systems.</p>	<p>DEVCO agrees. Support for these seven principal elements will be reaffirmed in the strategic approach to research and innovation for development. The approach will, <i>inter alia</i>, propose (i) ways of cooperation with other donors including knowledge sharing (ii) engaging with graduating and more advanced countries and (iii) supporting south-south knowledge sharing. As regards human capacity development, emphasis should be given STEM education. There should also be better alignment between EU support to Higher Education and to R&I as per the draft findings of the Higher Education evaluation.</p>	
<p>(4) Employ instruments and modalities suited to the needs of R&I.</p> <p>DG DEVCO should examine the mix of instruments and modalities it uses and review them to design</p>	<p>The strategic approach will address the issue of appropriate instruments and modalities. For example, opting for policy and regulatory framework reforms or institutional development will</p>	

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<p>approaches adapted to the long timeframes in scientific research, research uptake pipeline and institution strengthening.</p>	<p>inevitably imply longer time frames that those in projects resulting from calls from proposals.</p>	
<p>(5) Ensure adequate human resource capacities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DG DEVCO greater involvement requires more resources at headquarters. - In the field R&I function should also be strengthened. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In DEVCO Headquarters, a Research Sector has been created within the Knowledge Management unit. This has already led to increased coherence and efficiency between dossiers, allowed new services to be developed and will lead to the development a strategic approach and better coordination within DEVCO. More capacity will be needed to take a proactive DEVCO role in the programming of actions by other DGs; the development of synergies and the provision of more substantial support and guidance to Delegations. The same applies to coordination with EU MS and other donors. - At the level of EU Delegations, RTD and DEVCO will look together at how best to address the issue of human resources. 	
Cluster three: Complementarity		
<p>(6) DG DEVCO should consolidate and implement an explicit division of labour with DG RTD.</p> <p>Each DG should agree in a clearer division of labour in their respective roles and ensure that it is followed through at all levels. Cooperation should be stepped up on the design of framework programmes calls so they meet developing countries' needs, on the coordination of staffing in EUDs, and on the capitalisation of results of research.</p>	<p>A clearer division of labour between RTD and DEVCO is emerging under the 2014-20 MFF from Commissioner-level down. DEVCO thematic and geographical units (as relevant) are attending Societal Challenges Horizon groups and gradually influencing H 2020 work programmes and subsequent calls.</p> <p>DEVCO-RTD cooperation on the staffing of EUDs is still work in progress. So is the capitalisation of research results, largely because aid programming is a one-off operation within the 7-year MFF cycle, based on policy dialogue and ownership by the recipient countries/organisations. Moreover, knowledge about how to access the research results</p>	

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	is currently limited in Delegations and will need to be enhanced. Tools are being prepared by RTD to do this, starting with South Africa.	
<p>(7) Maintain the political and practical commitment to promoting Policy Coherence for Development. This is particularly important in the new context of the UN Global Goals and the value attached to policy coherence for sustainable development.</p>	<p>Policy Coherence for Development in EU research policy and programmes has always been monitored and found to be adequate. In view of the SDGs, as part of the strategic approach, the Commission will move beyond monitoring to forward-looking joint policy and programme formulation.</p>	
Cluster four: Results		
<p>(8) Take more systematic steps to foster results.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DG DEVCO should focus and coordinate its support systematically in order to reach a critical mass within a national or regional context; a clear approach to support national and regional R&I frameworks would assist this focus. - Support to R&I within specific sectors should continue to play a role, but linked to the national and/or regional R&I policy context. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Results and results uptake need to drive programming, development of R & I programmes and their management. At the same time, uptake of results from R & I has been demonstrated to be a broader European challenge and addressing it in development cooperation will require thinking 'out of the box'. - Critical mass in support of R&I, <u>where there is national and/or regional ownership</u> is only possible in collaboration with other development actors (EU MS, World Bank, Ausaid, Usaid, S. Korea, Singapore). National and/or regional frameworks will be supported where they exist (eg the AU STISA, Mauritius, Trinidad and Tobago..) and others can be encouraged where they do not but could be shown to make sense in terms of development priorities. - Support to R&I within specific sectors <u>will</u> continue to play a role. With this in mind, stronger links will be sought at the geographical strategy dialogue/ programming stage so that CSPs and RIPs identify R&I needs and the most appropriate EU response. Supporting the policy development and 	

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	market uptake of existing research results will be an important part of this response.	
<p>(9) Develop a strategy and support the capitalisation and transfer of results.</p> <p>Targeting systematic capitalisation of results and their transfer and dissemination is essential. This could be done in conjunction with DG RTD around institutional development and frameworks for innovation. EUD and project implementers should also ensure uptake.</p>	<p>See 1st paragraph of response to point (8). DEVCO is actively piloting this in the design of the planned 11 EDF Intra-ACP programme. There will be links with policy and regulatory framework development and private sector development to gradually build the innovation policy framework which will promote demand for research as well as innovation.</p> <p>EUDs are already being better informed eg: through dissemination of the first ACP R&I Programme Evaluation and DEVCO Research Sector presence at the May 2016 Higher Education Seminar in Pretoria.</p>	
<p>(10) Build a visibility strategy on commitment to R&I</p> <p>DG DEVCO should publically state its role in promoting R&I in the achievement of EU development objectives and in the framework of the UN Global Goals, through a communication and visibility strategy.</p>	<p>This is being increasingly done. Visibility is being given not only to <i>this</i> thematic evaluation, but also to the ACP R&I Programme evaluation (presentations workshops, EDDs, Info-Point debate; information to EUDs). The AUC publicly acknowledges its indebtedness to the EU for the progress made in R&I policy on its website and other media channels.</p> <p>At DEVCO level, further improvements will be made to both intranet and internet pages.</p> <p>A more strategic approach to visibility will be considered as part of the proposed overall R&I for development strategic approach. In so doing, appropriate links will be made to the programmes of RTD and other relevant DGs.</p>	

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