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Policy Brief
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Co-creation in Sustainability Science

CHALLENGES AND POTENTIAL WAYS FORWARD IN IMPLEMENTING CO-CREATION IN EUROPEAN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUNDING



[1]

This policy brief explores and explains the concept and rationale of co-creation, both as a general concept as well as in the specific context of sustainability science. Furthermore, it takes a detailed look at its use and potential in the framework of European research & innovation funding. On this basis, it identifies a number of lessons learned with regard to the application of the concept and puts forward concrete policy recommendations. The RECREATE policy brief, written by Ecologic Institute's Dr. Martin Hirschnitz-Garbers, is available for download.

Key messages of the policy brief are:

- Co-creation is a means to improve and foster the participation of end-users by actively involving them in innovation processes. This is believed to yield a number of benefits, including bringing in additional knowledge and creativity; building partnerships and trust; increasing end-user satisfaction; and fostering legitimacy and acceptance.
- Implementing co-creation is challenging for various reasons, such as:
 - Differing values assigned to scientific and extra-scientific knowledge - mixing 'objective empirical knowledge' with 'more subjective and judgmental' knowledge
 - Need for 'intercultural' dialogue between scientists and societal actors to translate and integrate different kinds of knowledge
 - Lack of flexibility in R&I funding to adapt projects to emerging co-creation opportunities
 - Lack of skills in knowledge integration and boundary

management

- European research & innovation policy could foster co-creation in sustainability, e.g. by
 - Fostering conceptual clarity for the term co-creation and embedding a binding and clear definition in H2020, Cohesion and Territorial funding call texts
 - Stipulating co-creation in mission-oriented R&I calls covering topics where societal impact and hence meaningful stakeholder participation is essential
 - Adapting existing and developing new funding instruments to provide more flexible and open-ended forms of science funding
 - Fostering skills for knowledge integration in science education

Attachments

-  2723-recreate-pb9-co-creation-in-sustainability-science.pdf

Main Link

Download: Co-creation in Sustainability Science [pdf, 1 MB, English]

Ecologic Related Articles

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Further Links

- RECREATE project website
- Find all RECREATE policy briefs

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Links

[1] <https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/presentation/2018/recreate-policy-brief-no9.png>