

S&T cooperation policy strategies

***Contributions from a Mutual Learning Exercise of
EU-Member States and Countries Associated to
the EU RTD Framework Programme***

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1. The story behind the CREST-OMC Working Group „Internationalisation of R&D“

CREST = Scientific and Technical Research Committee of the EU

OMC = Open Methode of Coordination

Scope: **Mutual policy learning** and **recommendations**
to **Member States and EU Commission**

WG-Members: Experts from Member States, Associated
Countries and EU Commission

Duration: 2007/08



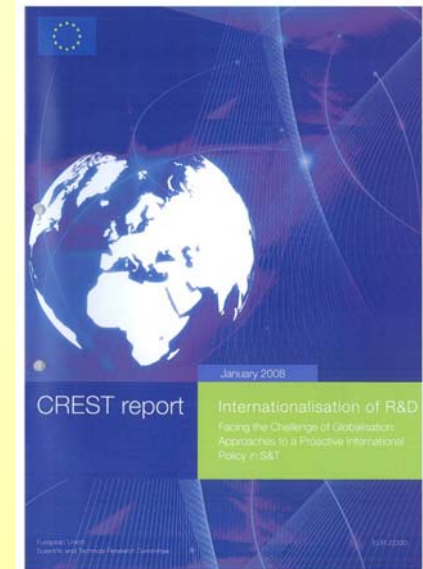
CREST OMC Working Group (2)

Deliverables:

Report of 1st phase “Facing the challenges of globalisation: Approaches to a proactive internationalisation policy in S&T”,

Brussels, January 2008

http://ec.europa.eu/invest-in-research/pdf/download_en/kina23330enc_cover_txt_web.pdf



Special report on “Exploring synergies through coordinating policy measures between the EU Member States, Associated Countries and the European Commission – An element of the ‘New Partnership’ for ERA governance”, Brussels, December 2008

3 Country reports: “An Analysis of EU-Russian/Indian/Brazilian Cooperation in S&T” including recommendations for enhancing the cooperation”, Brussels, December 2008

2. National drivers of international S&T cooperation policy

Availability of an international S&T strategy of MS/AC (22 responses) (data from 2007)

	Strategy exists	Strategy under development
Focused strategy		
As part of a broader globalisation strategy		



Policy objectives of internationalisation of R&D

- access to foreign **knowledge and S&T resources**
- access to new **markets and innovation system's competitiveness**
- solve **global problems** (Climate Change, Water Management, Energy Security, Health Protection)



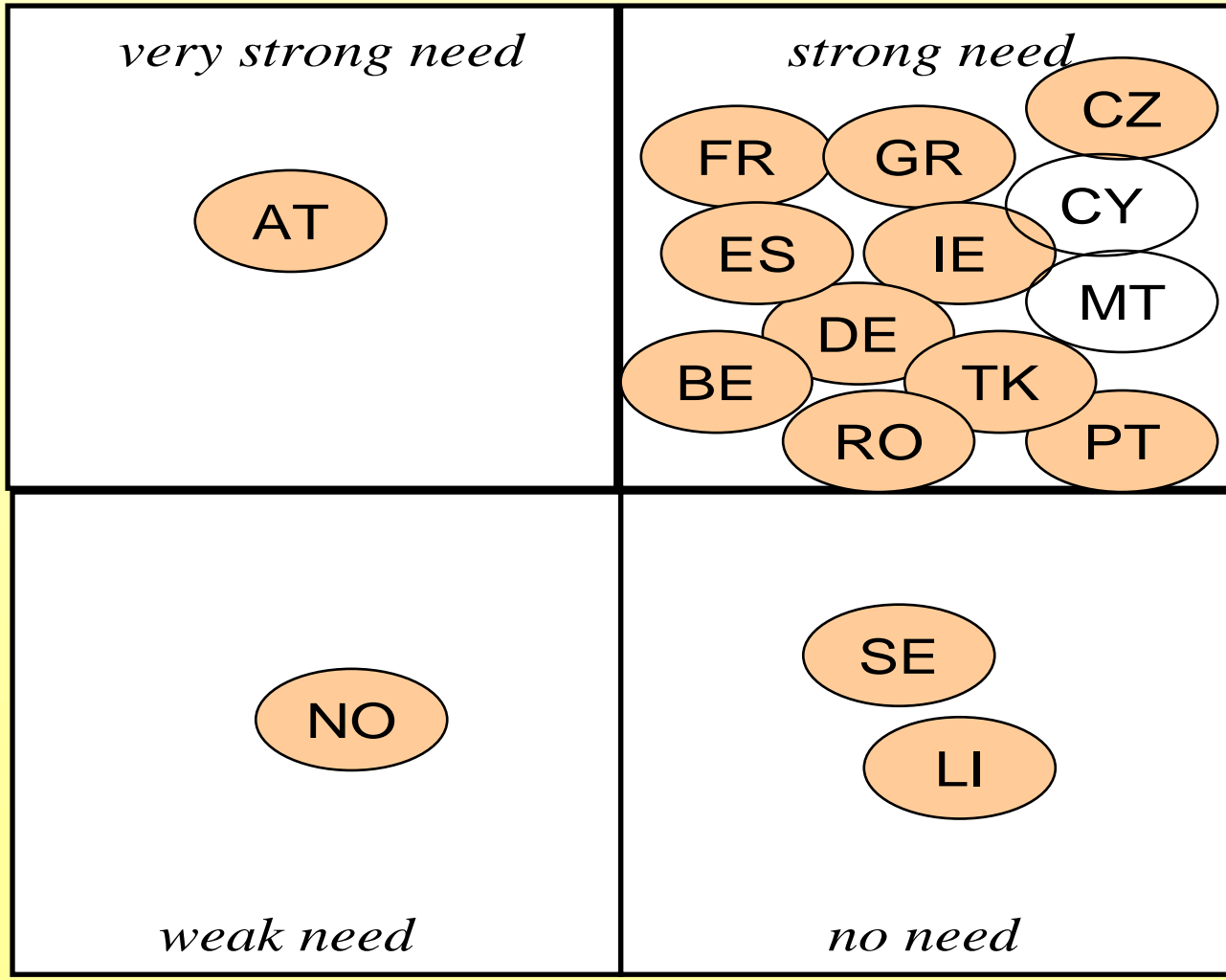
Policy objectives of internationalisation of R&D (cont.)

- strengthen **human capacities**
- contribute to **other policy sectors** such as:
 - development policy: international development goals (MDGs, Paris/Accra Declarations, ...)
 - foreign policy: security, stability, ...
- **Traditional** geographical, historical, linguistic and cultural **ties**.

3. Expected benefits from trans-national policy coordination

Perceived need for trans-national coordination of S&T policies towards third countries

(to be implemented in variable geometries)



Motivations for a closer coordination of S&T policies

- access to **information and mutual learning**
- **common legal framework** for S&T(&I) communities
- increasing **efficiency and sharing risks** in particular in
 - basic research and
 - areas addressing global challenges
- speaking with **one voice in multilateral frameworks**
- developing **common standards and ethical principles** for the performance of science

4. Policy recommendations of the OMC-Working Group

A) Strengthening international S&T partnerships

Increasing mutual openness of STI communities through:

- **scaling-up funding schemes** for collaborative research in addition to small-scale mobility-based networking measures
- **increasing brain-circulation** through promoting opportunities, advancing funding schemes and removing still existing barriers
- **setting a regulatory frame**
 - access to foreign knowledge
 - exploitation of domestic knowledge in Third Countries.



Strengthening international S&T partnerships (cont.)

Increasing mutual openness of STI communities through:

- ...
- **ensuring policy coherence**
(S&T, Education, Innovation, Development, ...)
- **providing access to information**
 - S&T systems,
 - S&T activities
 - cooperation framework

Policy recommendations (cont.)

B) Enhancing trans-national policy coordination

Raising awareness and implementing coordination activities through:

- **widening dialogues on international cooperation policies** (policy dialogue platforms at the example of the EU – Mediterranean Partnership)
- **developing Joint Action Plans** to make optimum use of national, bilateral and EU Community instruments

Policy recommendations (cont.)

C) Making optimum use of EU – Community instruments

Coordination and Support Activities such as

- the **INCONET scheme** for increasing the dialogue among various groups of stakeholders and the participation of third countries in the 7th EU RTD FP
- the **ERANET scheme** for developing joint funding schemes for collaborative S&T projects



IncoNet EECA
IncoNet SC/CA



ERA.net RUS
Black Sea ERANET



Policy recommendations (cont.)

Making optimum use of EU – Community instruments (cont.)

- **the BILAT scheme** for increasing the impact of bilateral S&T agreements of the EU
- ...



BILAT RUS
BILAT UKR



Policy recommendations (cont.)

Making optimum use of EU – Community instruments (cont.)

- **INCO-NETs, ERA-NETs, BILATs** etc.) as an information source

www.incrEAST.eu

www.st-gateRUS.eu

www.st-gateUKR.eu

■ to come

- **ERAWATCH** for information gathering on national policy implementation

<http://cordis.europa.eu/erawatch>



Policy recommendations (cont.)

Making optimum use of EU – Community instruments (cont.)

- linking **S&T policy** instruments with
 - **European Neighbourhood Policy**
 - **Four Common Spaces** with Russia
 - **Development Cooperation** with Central Asia
- ➡ S&T as a knowledge base for other policy sectors
- ➡ building S&T capacities through other policy instruments

5. Questions proposed for further discussion

Cooperation vers. Competition:

- Where is the common ground for joint policy actions?

Role of trans-national policy coordination:

- How to exploit synergies?
- Is a bi-regional policy dialogue a road to be followed?

Instruments for a bi-regional approach:

- How to realize a joint action plan?
- Which funding instruments are needed?
- Is there a value of regional S&T strategies to be better prepared for S&T cooperation?

Thank you.

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