

Handbook on how countries can formulate and implement effective Research and Innovation policies

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10 May 2024



Implemented by the OACPS Secretariat



OACPS R&I

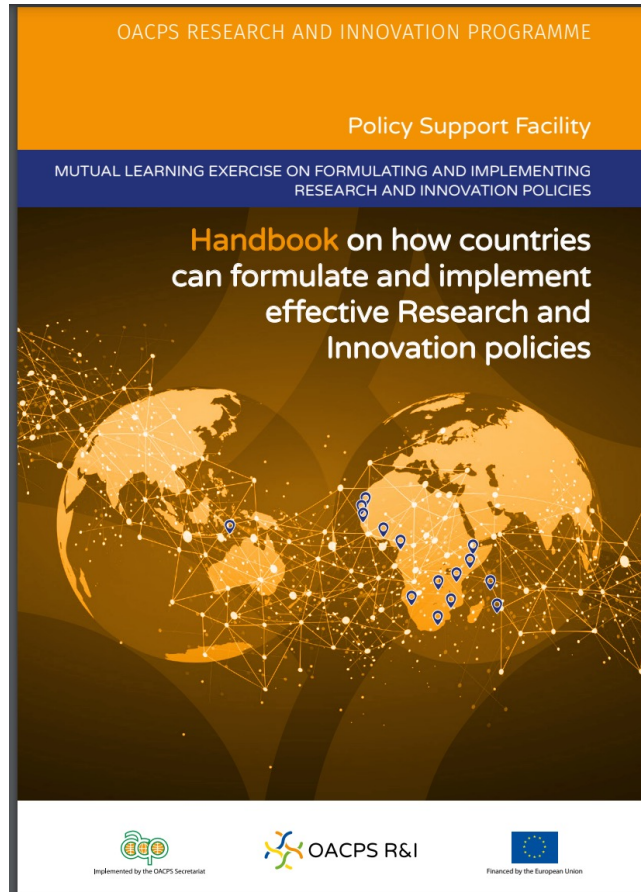


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PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES



Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Togo and Zambia

Mutual Learning Exercise

- The OACPS and background to the MLE
- The MLE aims to exchange knowledge and experience between countries to enhance the capacities of policymakers
- Why do we need a Handbook of this nature? And why now?
- Method, guiding conceptual and theoretical frameworks

Value addition of the R&I Policy Handbook

- R&I Policy Formulation and Implementation
- Funding
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Capacity
- Inclusiveness
- Prioritisation
- Governance
- Politics and Power

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Chapter 2: R&I Policy Formulation and Implementation

Overview

Status of R&I/STI Policies in Handbook countries

- Why we need policies: weak institutions, funds management, implementation, impact.
- Most ACP countries have explicit STI policies (but R&I policies and strategies are often implicit).
- Table 1: summarises the status of policies in ACP countries.

Main challenges and why they have persisted (formulation)

- Poor understanding of the relevant theories that underpin policymaking, weak MERRL.
- Weak evidence base to inform and support policymaking, difficulties with prioritisation.
- Inadequate capabilities and skills, and low levels of inclusiveness and stakeholder participation.

Main challenges and why they have persisted (implementation)

- Lack of implementation framework, costed, indicators, reporting and accountability measures.
- Inadequate funding and resources for implementation, coupled with gaps in governance.
- Low levels of inclusiveness and stakeholder participation, political commitments and cycles.

Policy instruments Case Studies

- Table 2: summary of typical policy instruments and how they are operationalised.
- Case studies: Zambia – highlight re/formulation, alignment, choice of instruments, etc.
- Essential to foster opportunities for transformative change.



Recommendations

- Formulation: a) human capital, b) experimentation, c) broader stakeholder engagement.
- Implementation: a) framework, b) pol. commitments, c) engagements with decision-makers.
- Cross-cutting: a) deepening knowledge on R&I policymaking, b) funding, c) governance.

Chapter 8: Governance – main insights

Overview

Status of R&I/STI Policies
Governance in Handbook countries

- Why we need governance: coord., collab., strengthening R&I linkages, learning.
- Relevant for both policy form. and implement., alongside evaluation and reviews.
- STISA-2024 provides an e.g. of governance, focusing on decision-making processes.

Main challenges that governance could help address

- Absence of governance framework to guide policymaking.
- Fragmentation, silo approach to policymaking, coord. and collab., resource mgt.
- Knowledge generation and circulation, learning, indicators and data mgt., stakeholder participation.

Main interventions and how they have been operationalised (policy instruments – Table 3, pp 55-56)

- Institutions strengthening (Ethiopia, Zambia, Guinea); Edu., training and caps. build.
- Improving funding landscape, enhancing inclusivity, partnerships.
- STI Policy reviews, creating communication mechanisms.

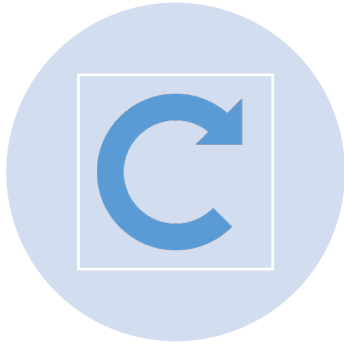
Opportunities for transformation Case Studies

- Enhanced policymaking, decision-making, structure, infra., research and learning.
- Case studies: Lesotho, Tanzania, Zambia, Seychelles, Namibia – highlight governance
- Essential to learn from policy experiments & niche practices that foster governance, transformation

Recommendations

- Put in place governance framework, strategies or plans to guide policymaking, decision-making, etc.
- Strengthen the capacity of policymakers and decision-makers in governance.
- Enhance learning and knowledge, explore options for policy/governance champions (e.g. S&T Cmte)

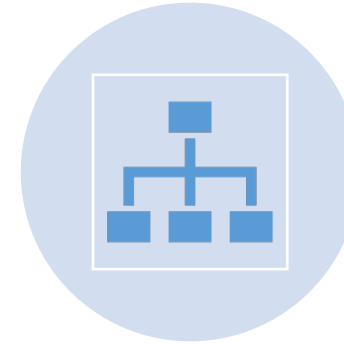
Chapter 8: Governance - It all boils down to this



STATUS OF STI/R&I POLICY GOVERNANCE IN HANDBOOK COUNTRIES – EXISTENCE OF A GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK OR NOT, EXTENT TO WHICH IT IS OPERATIONALISED, EFFECTIVENESS CONSIDERATIONS



GOOD/BEST PRACTICES IN STI/R&I POLICY OR STRATEGIES GOVERNANCE – CASE STUDIES



POLICY INSTRUMENTS, INDICATORS AND METRICS (FOR EFFECTIVENESS, ACCOUNTABILITY, ETC), WITH RESPECT TO GOVERNANCE



Chapter 10: Conclusion – main insights

Concluding remarks and key messages 1

- Countries acknowledge the importance of a) R&I, and b) R&I policies
- But, implementation remains weak, coupled with lack of governance framework
- Thus, weakening the ability to co-create R&I policies that foster transformative change

Concluding remarks and key messages 2

- It is essential to enhance collaboration, cooperation and learning in policymaking.
- Low levels of funding, capacity, evidence base and inclusivity hinder R&I policymaking.
- Need to sustain progress in approaches that foster inclusiveness & wider participation.

Overarching recommendations to ACP MLE Countries

- In policymaking: a) involve key actors e.g, planning commissions; to ensure funding
- Account for funding (for impl., gov., eval.) during formulation; broaden stakeholders
- Align R&I policies with related policies; ensure a robust gov. framework is in place.

Overarching recommendations

- Extend support for ACP countries in R&I policymaking beyond formulation – impl., gov.
- In doing so, ensure alignment with development priorities/policies
- Support ACP countries in the set up of sustainable funding mechs; ensure effective MEL

Overarching recommendations

- Emphasis and support capacity development, and peer learning among ACP countries
- Foster experimentation with demonstrators in e.g. gov. and political commitments
- Enhance countries abilities to understand and address politics & power in policymaking

Thank you

Link to download the Handbook:



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