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# TOWARDS SYSTEM ORIENTED INNOVATION POLICY EVALUATION? EVIDENCE FROM EU28 MEMBER STATES

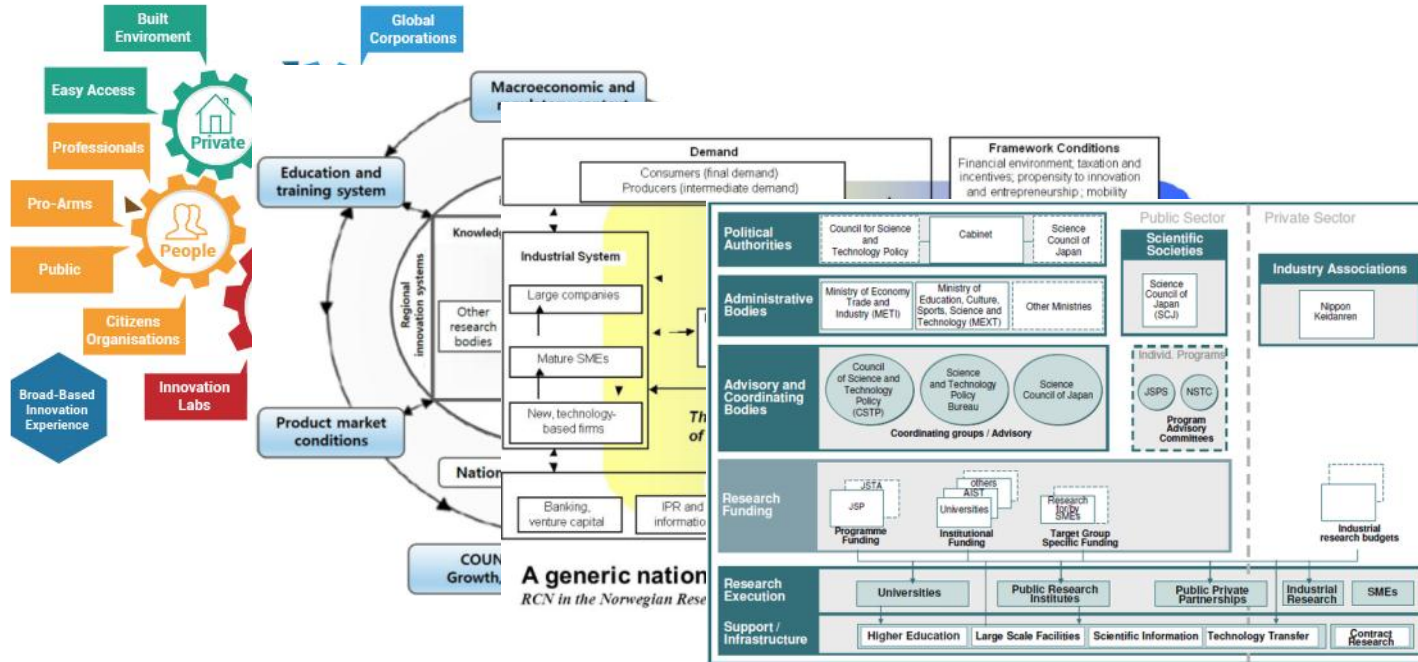
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# SYSTEM ORIENTED INNOVATION POLICY EVALUATION

# DEFINITION

## **SYSTEM ORIENTED INNOVATION POLICY EVALUATION:**

- COVERAGE
- SYSTEMIC PERSPECTIVE
- TEMPORALITY
- EXPERTISE

# SYSTEM ORIENTED INNOVATION POLICY EVALUATION

- **COVERAGE**
- SYSTEMIC PERSPECTIVE
- TEMPORALITY
- EXPERTISE

- Policy instruments
- Policy mixes
- Socio-economic impact

# SYSTEM ORIENTED INNOVATION POLICY EVALUATION

- COVERAGE
- **SYSTEMIC PERSPECTIVE**
- TEMPORALITY
- EXPERTISE

Interaction  
between  
innovation  
policy and  
innovation  
system

# SYSTEM ORIENTED INNOVATION POLICY EVALUATION

- COVERAGE
- SYSTEMIC PERSPECTIVE
- **TEMPORALITY**
- EXPERTISE

Regularity of evaluations



# SYSTEM ORIENTED INNOVATION POLICY EVALUATION

- COVERAGE
- SYSTEMIC  
PERSPECTIVE
- TEMPORALITY
- **Expertise**

**Variety of  
sources used  
for evaluations**

# DATA AND METHOD

## 62 SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS

ALL EU28 COUNTRIES, 2+ PER COUNTRY

JANUARY 2016 – JUNE 2017

## SECONDARY DATA

NATIONAL EVALUATION DOCUMENTS

RIO AND SIPER DATABASES

# RESULTS

# EMPIRICAL FINDINGS

- Coverage:
  - Instrument evaluations taking hold
  - Policy-mix evaluations the weakest dimension – how to assess the interactions between policies?
  - Socio-economic assessments relatively wide-spread
- Systemic perspective – OECD, OMC/ERAC/PSF
- Temporality – very few routine practices, mostly ad hoc
- Expertise – usually different sources used

*Strong*

*Weak*

The  
Netherlands  
Austria  
Finland  
Ireland  
Sweden  
Germany

Denmark  
France  
United  
Kingdom  
Belgium  
Poland  
Estonia  
Lithuania  
Slovenia

Latvia  
Spain  
Hungary  
Czech  
Republic  
Portugal

# ”HOLISTIC”

	Coverage			Interactions	Temporality	Source	Score
	Instrument evaluation	Policy-mix evaluation	Socio-economic assessment				
The Netherlands	2	2	2	2	2	2	<b>12</b>
Austria	2	2	1	2	2	2	<b>11</b>
Finland	2	2	1	2	2	2	<b>11</b>
Ireland	2	2	2	2	2	1	<b>11</b>
Sweden	2	1	2	2	2	2	<b>11</b>
Germany	2	1	2	2	2	1	<b>10</b>

# CONCLUSIONS

- 3-levels of challenges
  - Basic evaluation capacities
  - Comprehensive, systematic and regular evaluation practices
  - Developing advanced practices: interactions, system level etc.

# FUTURE RESEARCH AGENDA (S.BORRAS)

- For innovation policy learning -> holistic evaluation approaches
- Need to study the dynamics of possible factors:
  - **Capacities** (analytical, operational, regulatory) at the national level – and how to build them.
  - **Absorptive capacity** of key innovation policy-makers (analytical capacity) at various national levels - and how to boost them
  - **Cross-national learning** – to identify more targeted learning groups
  - **On-going policy learning** – to secure continued impact of assessments.





## Research Policy

Available online 7 September 2018

In Press, Corrected Proof 



# Towards system oriented innovation policy evaluation? Evidence from EU28 member states

Susana Borrás  , Mart Laatsit

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.respol.2018.08.020>

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### Highlights

- Most national innovation policy evaluation practices are still not truly 'systemic'.
- Only 6 out of EU28 countries have developed a system oriented innovation policy evaluation.

# THANK YOU!

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# ”FLEXIBLE”

	Coverage			Interactions	Temporality	Source	Score
	Instrument evaluation	Policy-mix evaluation	Socio-economic assessment				
<b>Denmark</b>	2	2	1	1	1	2	<b>9</b>
<b>France</b>	2	1	1	2	1	2	<b>9</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	2	1	1	1	2	1	<b>8</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	2	1	1	1	1	2	<b>8</b>
<b>Poland</b>	1	1	1	2	1	2	<b>8</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	1	1	1	1	1	2	<b>7</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	1	0	1	2	1	2	<b>7</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	1	0	1	2	1	2	<b>7</b>

# ”STARTER”

	Coverage			Interactions	Temporality	Source	Score
	Instrument evaluation	Policy-mix evaluation	Socio-economic assessment				
Latvia	1	0	1	1	1	1	5
Spain	1	0	1	1	1	1	5
Hungary	1	0	0	1	1	1	4
Czech Republic	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
Portugal	1	0	1	0	0	1	3

# ” WEAK SYMPTOMS ”

	Coverage			Interactions	Temporality	Source	Score
	Instrument evaluation	Policy-mix evaluation	Socio-economic assessment				
<b>Bulgaria</b>	0	0	0	1	0	1	<b>2</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	0	0	0	1	0	1	<b>2</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	0	0	0	1	0	1	<b>2</b>
<b>Romania</b>	0	0	1	0	0	1	<b>2</b>
<b>Italy</b>	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Greece</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Malta</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

## Carrot:

- assistance in introducing new methodological frameworks
- knowledge-sharing between countries and network creation

## Stick:

- higher demands for SF evaluations (advanced methodologies and contextualisation, different levels)
- increased attention to analytical capacities and evaluative activity through the European Semester process, RIO reports

# FUTURE RESEARCH AGENDA (S.BORRAS)

- Evaluation is a key aspect for innovation policy learning (learning: improvement and development).
- We need to put up mechanisms and institutional frameworks to secure holistic evaluation approaches for better design and implementation of innovation policies.
- Therefore there is a need to study the dynamics of possible factors for that:
  - Understand different types of capacities (analytical, operational, regulatory) at the national level – and how to build them.
  - Examine the levels of absorptive capacity of key innovation policy-makers (analytical capacity) at various national levels - and how to boost them
  - Find the patterns of cross-national learning – to identify more targeted learning groups
  - Investigate what processes and methodologies might help generating on-going policy learning, rather than one-off assessments – to secure continued impact of assessments.