

Evaluation as an Agent of Programme Change

An Example from Austria

AEA, Baltimore

Austrian Genome Research Programme GEN-AU (GENome Research in AUstria)

Looking back
on the mid term Evaluation 2005

Presentation at the annual conference of the American
Evaluation Association, Baltimore, MD
November 10, 2007

Klaus Zinöcker,
Vienna Science and Technology Fund WWTF

R&D in Austria: starting position

- Member of the European Union
- last Nobel laureate in 1974 (Friedrich August von Hayek)
- Number of Nobel laureates per Million inhabitants 1966-1999: 0,33 (US: 0,68)

- GDP per inhabitant: € 27 710
- gross domestic expenditure on R&D: 2,54%
- 20.000 Researchers in Austria (US: 1.220.000)
- 15,3 scientific publications / 1.000 inhabitants (US: 17)
- Impact Factor: 4.5 (US: 6)



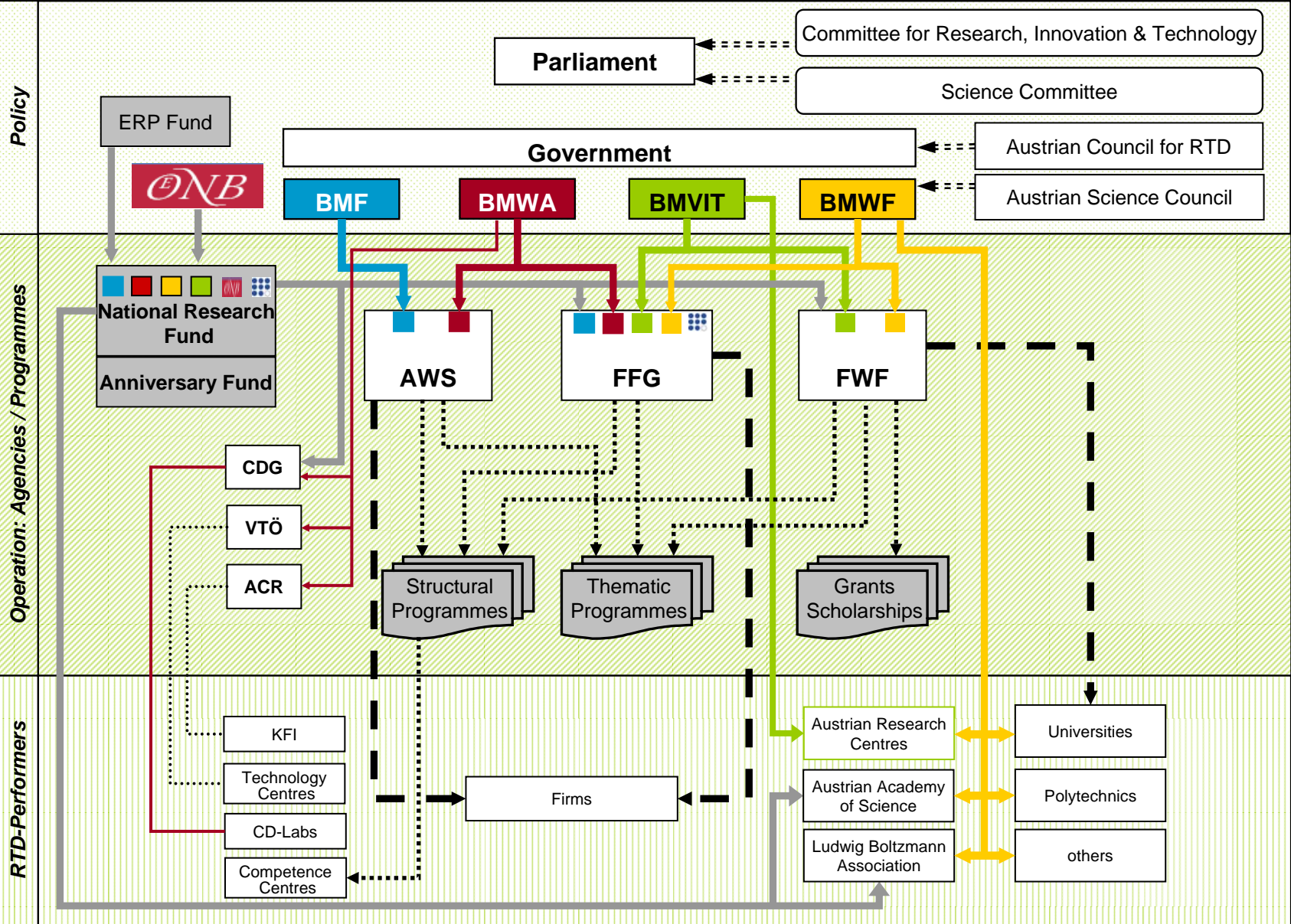
Some stereotypes →



□ ministry represented on the board
 ■ Austrian Council consultative member of the board

— Institutional funding
 ■ Bottom-up project funding

----- Policy advice
 Programme Management
 Financial Execution



Source: Leonhard Joerg, Technopolis

GEN-AU Key Facts

- Top down, thematic programme
 - Mission is to strengthen genome research in Austria and to foster networking among all relevant stakeholders
- 2001 – 2011, 3 phases
- Big (but also smaller) science
 - variety of project types: Large cooperative projects, network projects, pilot projects and projects addressing accompanying research in the social sciences.
 - dedication to the idea of networking
- Basic Research
 - Emphasis on scientific quality, no bridging activities
- € 10 Mio per year (1/10 of Austrian Science Fund), 100 Mio

And the money goes to...

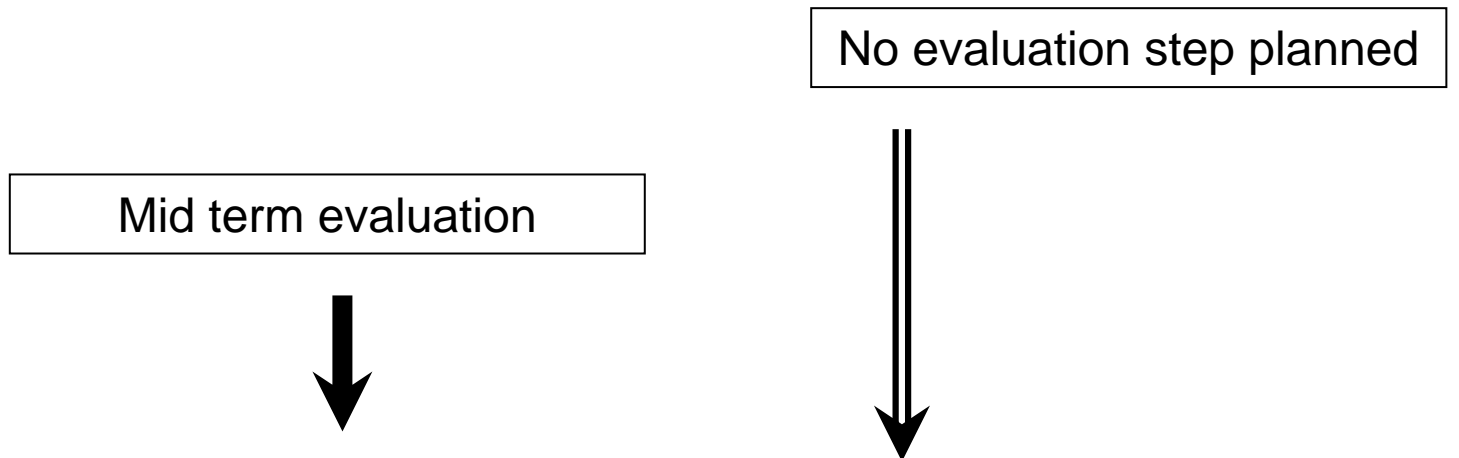
[2 Examples]

- **BIN – bioinformatics integration network**
 - Aim of the project: To provide an environment for building bioinformatics capabilities in Austria,
 - Funding and Running Time € 1,733,952 for 36 months
- **Epigenetic Plasticity of the Mammalian Genome**
 - Aim of the project: The project is aimed at analyzing the epigenome of the mouse and creating a corresponding index.
 - Funding and Running Time € 3,453,446 for 36 month

Evaluation key facts

- 2004 – 2005, 5 months
- Mid term evaluation
- Focus: Quality of Management, R&D Policy fit
- Quality of Research was not in the focus
 - professional evaluators, no peers

Evaluation Timing



Phase I		Phase II		Phase III
2001-2004		2005 -2008		2009 - 2011

Evaluation Aims

- Legitimation
 - Should the programme, in its present form, be continued? Y/N?
- Learning
 - possible room for improvement?
 - provide support when it comes to adequately preparing a subsequent impact analysis.

Evaluation Team

Evaluation Team

Name	Organisation	Position	Role
Klaus Zinöcker	JR	Project Manager	Author / Researcher
Brigitte Tempelmaier	JR	Researcher	Author / Researcher
Alfred Radauer	KMFA	Researcher	Author / Researcher
Roald Steiner	KMFA	Researcher	Author / Researcher
Rosalie Ruegg	TIA	Director	Author / Researcher
Iris Fischl	KMFA	Researcher	Author / Researcher
Franziska Steyrer	JR	Researcher	Author / Researcher
Helene Schiffbänker	JR	Researcher	Scientific Advice
Jacqueline Allan	Forfas	Guest Researcher	Scientific Advice
Martina Gugerell	KMFA	Research Assistance	Layout
Susanne Fröhlich	KMFA	Research Assistance	Layout



contact addresses:

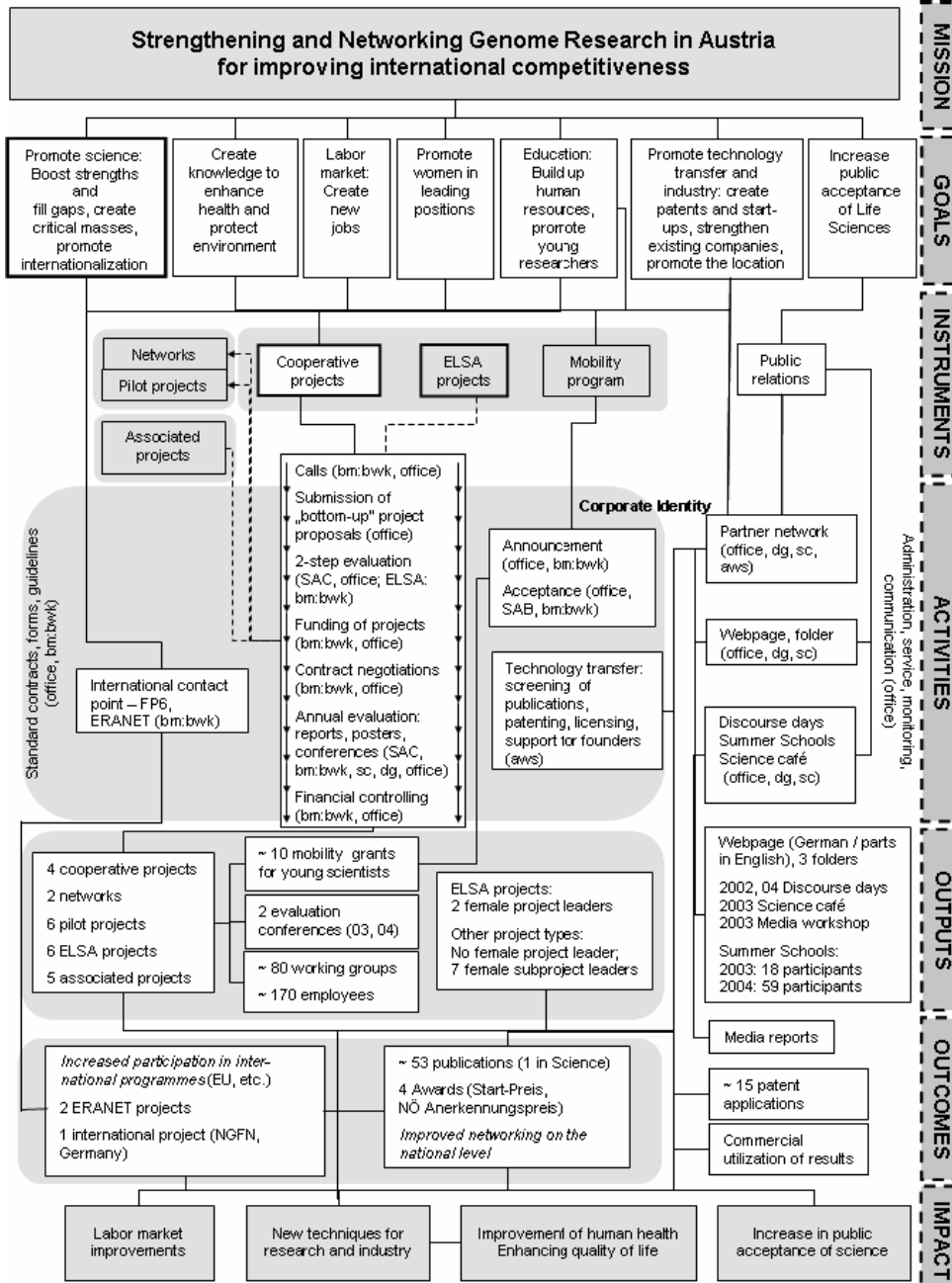
TIA Consulting, Inc.

KMU FORSCHUNG AUSTRIA
Austrian Institute for SME Research



Methods

- Desk Research
 - Sifting through tons of material
- Interviews
 - # 72, too much
- Case Studies
 - # 5
- Logic Chart Analysis
 - Not Jordan-Style
- Social Network Analysis
 - As a starting point for future research
- International Comparison
 - E.g. Genome Canada, NIH Human Genome Research Institute



Key Messages

- Lively scientific environment within the programme
- Proposal review and project selection processes are certainly a crucial point
 - Rumors were afloat, very harmful for the reputation and the success of the project
 - *Increase Transparency!*
 - *Professionalize programme management*
 - *Agentification*
 - *Reduce the bureaucratic burden*

Impacts of the Evaluation?

- Did the stakeholders learn?
- Is the programme better now?

- Did the evaluators learn?
- Did we contribute to evaluators' discussion on evaluation?

Impacts of the Evaluation?

- Did the Ministry learn?
 - Those who could have left the scene
- Did the Programme Managers learn?
 - “The GEN-AU mid term evaluation contributed to
 - The agentification of the programme
 - Establishment of efficient routines (e.g. controlling, public relations)
 - Standardization and transparency.
 - Preparation of an Impact Assessment Tool, starting in 2008”
(E. Glenck, head of department, Austrian Research Promotion Agency FFG, Nov. 8th)

Impacts of the Evaluation?

- Did the evaluators learn?
 - Further collaborations
 -
- Other effects?
 - “knowledge spill overs”
- Did we contribute to evaluators’ discussion on evaluation?

Impact of Evaluation Report?

zinöcker ruegg "gen-au" - Google Scholar - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Favoriten Extras ?

Zurück Suchen Favoriten

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Scholar Erg

Tipp: Entfernen Sie die Anführungszeichen in Ihrem Suchbegriff, um mehr Ergebnisse zu erhalten.

[Special Edition](#)

... , DFJ Campbell, A Radauer, K **Zinöcker**, M Glanz, B ... - fteval.at

... The Usage of PART in the European Context - Possibilities and Caveats Alfred Radauer, Klaus **Zinöcker** ... Klaus **Zinöcker** klaus.zinoecker@wwtf.at ...

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Gen-au Homepage

www.gen-au.at

Evaluation Report:

<http://www.fteval.at/files/evstudien/GENAU.pdf>

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www.wwtf.at