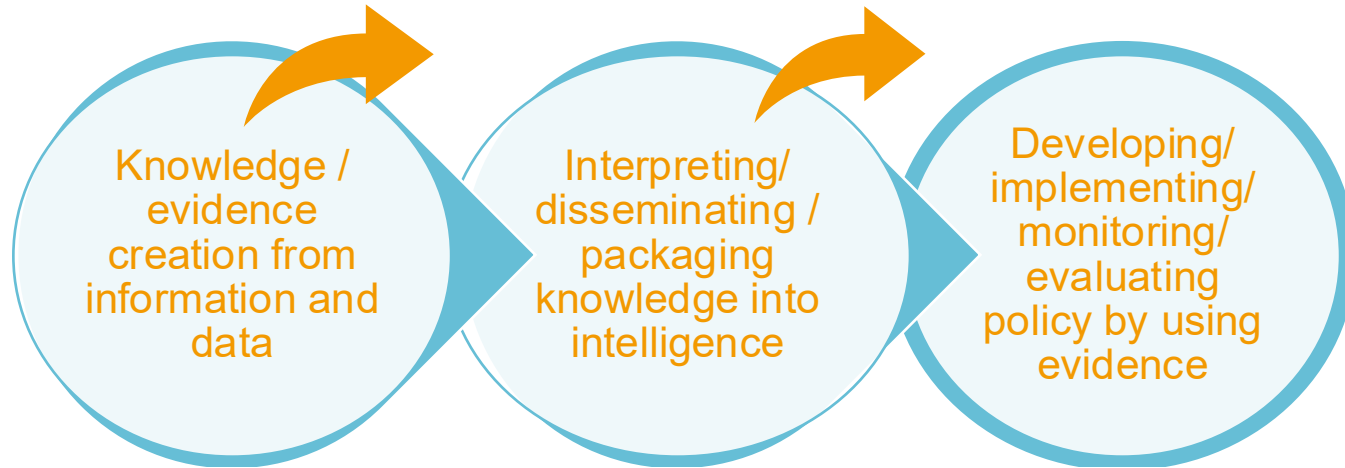


USING EVIDENCE / INFORMATION / DATA FOR POLICYMAKING

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Linking research to policy



Challenges in transforming information into policy

- **Research not linked to existing issues/ policies:** missing links between experts and policy-makers
- **Results not attractive:** too general, too technical for non-experts, low reliability/ accuracy of results
- **Lacking support from stakeholders:** no / limited involvement, lacking ownership, weak funding, lacking technical knowledge



Challenges in transforming information into policy

- **Institutional silos:** scattered responsibilities among institutions, weak inter-institutional coordination/ cooperation
- **Weak / non-targeted dissemination:** insufficient sharing with stakeholders, non-targeted/ generic messages, no follow-up of the results
- **Lesson learnt:** Using evidence for policy-making is **NOT AUTOMATIC!**



Tips for using evidence for policy-making (1)

- 1. Policy-oriented research:** selecting a research topic that affects daily lives of people, whose results can guide to better policies
- 2. Time allocation for reflection/ follow up** of the study after it ends, as its results are not immediately actionable
- 3. Interpretation / packaging knowledge** into 'skills intelligence' and advocacy for each target group



Tips for using evidence for policy-making (2)

4. Products for specific targets: ministers/ institutions, companies, schools, young people, jobseekers, students, parents (end-user friendly language)

5. Forming alliances (public, private, NGOs, media) from the start by involving them in analysis, validation and dissemination together

6. Coalition building among institutions: developing a collaborative culture among stakeholders to reach policymakers with a common agenda



Tips for using evidence for policy-making (3)

7. Prioritisation of recommendations necessary as fewer and simple actions are more feasible to achieve, instead of long list of recommendations

8. Being aware of trade-offs and discussing among different policy options, e.g. giving up something in return for getting something else

9. Initiating policy advocacy: engaging in a dialogue to make decision-makers take ownership of proposals and subsequently act upon them



Conclusions

- **Organising events for ‘constant exchange’** between experts and policy makers
- **Creating structures for regular dialogue** between them, e.g. annual ‘policy forums’ where university professors meet with local politicians
- **Fixing regular research briefings by universities/ researchers** to the thematic committees in the National Parliaments

***Availability, transparency of research, methodology, data sources are key to prevent misuse of research for wrong policy making!**

