KNOWLEDGE CO-PRODUCTION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

THE TRANSNATIONAL CASE STUDY OF WAVE

Effective strategies for climate change adaptation in water management, promote the mobilization and integration of different knowledge types – or in other words, *knowledge co-production* practices. The European Commission endorses and funds these practices with transnational cooperation projects. However, the question to what extent do knowledge outcomes in transnational projects for climate change adaptation actually result from an interactive co-production process remains to be addressed. To answer this question in depth, the case study of WAVE is employed. The analysis is done with process tracing, -a backwards reasoning method, whereby starting from the outcome, evidence of causation is tested for three mechanisms; the project design, the interaction activities and the participants. The general picture is that knowledge co-production outcomes can be evident not only in co-generated project outputs but also in co-developed relationships. Results regarding project design demonstrate that; the presence of a cohesive agenda coupled with the needs of participants (reasons for co-production) can confirm why knowledge outcomes occurred. During interaction processes, representativeness, good communication and capturing the interests of partners form leading conditions for knowledge creation and development. In the end, the leadership style of participants is relevant condition which explains how knowledge co-production outcomes occur in transnational settings. Strategic recommendations to increase the added value of future investments, suggest targeted joint measures. Concluding, the quality of the adaptation agenda of Europe can be advanced when relational practices accept and include different ways of knowing.

Figure 1: Brue Valley Living Landscape, WAVE project

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