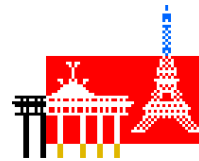


Examples and Experiences with D-F Cooperation in the EU and Global Context:

Formatvorlage des Untertitelmasters durch Klicken bearbeiten

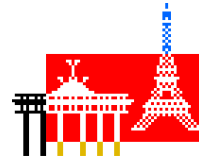
German-French Colloquium on Science Diplomacy
- Paris 21 November 2011 -
Prof. Dr. Michel Laurent
Dr. Joern Sonnenburg





Why Africa? – its potential

- Geographic **proximity** and **historical ties**
- Stable **economic growth** (average annual GDP growth rate 6 % until 2008) and still GDP growth afterwards (3 % in 2009)
- Huge wealth of **natural resources**, esp. oil, gas, minerals, rare earths
- 60% of the potentially available **cropland** in the world
- Growing and young **work force** (estimated 1.1 bill. people in 2040)
- Rise of the African **consumer market** due to growing middle class
- Secondary and tertiary **education and science** are on the agenda (national and pan-African level)



Why Africa? – its challenges

Climate Change, among others

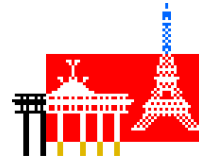
- High vulnerability to climate change: forecasts suggest a median temperature increase of 3 to 4 C° for (1.5 times the mean global)
- Suffering from climate-related stresses such as droughts, floods and rainfall variability and low own adaption capacity

Health, among others

- SSA accounts for 67% of HIV infections worldwide and 72% of AIDS-related deaths with concentration in the population cohort of 15-49 years with serious implications – amongst others – for economic growth

Food Security, among others

- In SSA one third of people are suffering from chronic hunger. The UN estimates that 12 millions people across the Horn of Africa may still be at risk of starvation.



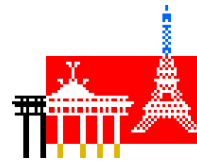
General Concept of the German-French cooperation with Africa

- **policy driven process** (3rd German-French Research Forum) through a **ministerial Working Group** (WG) in **consultation with S&T institutions and individuals** (from GER, F and Africa)
- **managerial support** by AIRD (France) and International Bureau of BMBF (Germany)
- **pilot phase** set-up in 2010/11 with **top-down decision on thematic**
 - 1) Health
 - 2) Agriculture/Food Safety
 - 3) Environment
 - 4) Applied Mathematics/Computer Science
- February 2011 – **joint call for proposals** on preparatory measures for German-French-African research initiatives in Sub-Sahara Africa: **36 proposals**

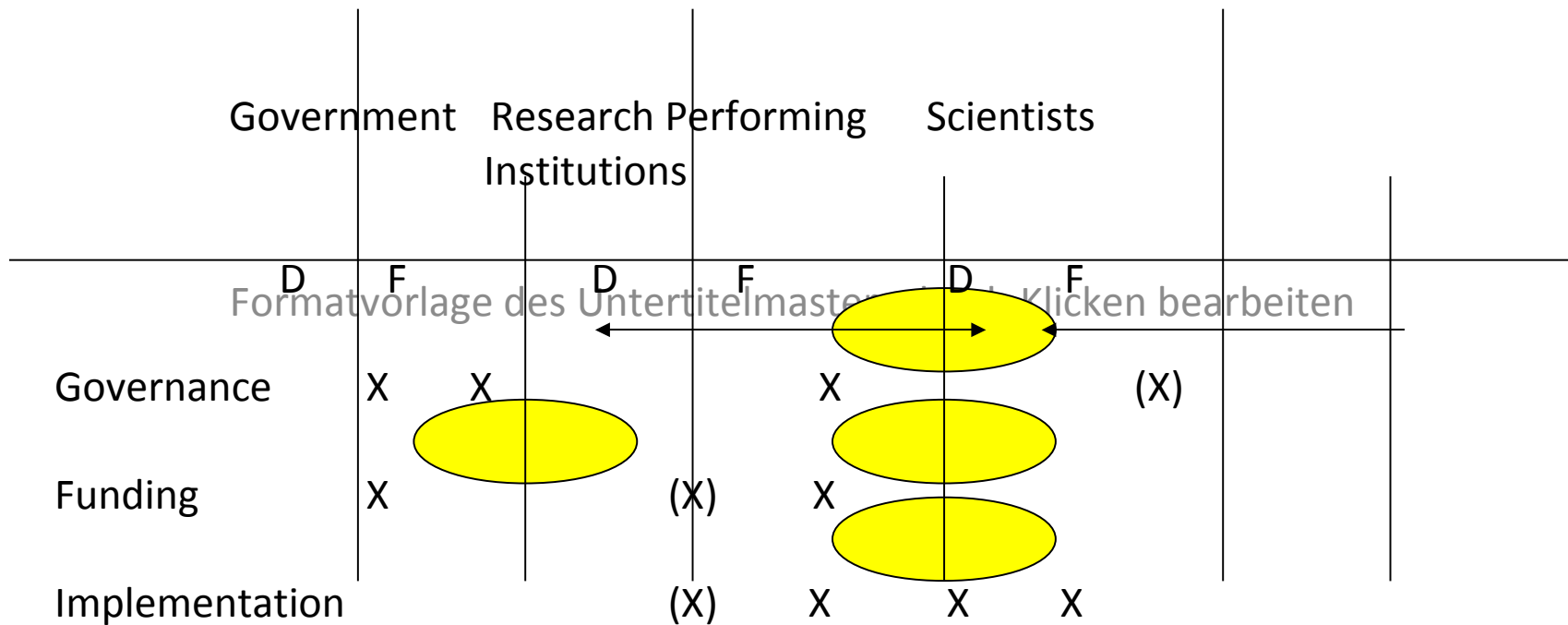


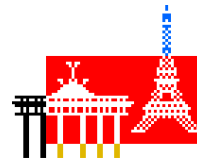
General Concept of the German-French cooperation with Africa (cont.)

- **parallel expert evaluation of the proposals** and final selection by a **German-French selection committee** (BMBF, MESR, MAEE, International Bureau, AIRD) on the basis of **common criteria: 10 projects**
- **parallel expert evaluation of final reports** of 9 projects (one stopped by project consortium) describing a new German-French-African initiative and final selection by the **German-French selection committee: 4 draft initiatives to be presented at the 4th German-French Research Forum**
- 12/13 October 2011 – **presentation at the 4th German-French Research Forum**
- Next steps for each of the 4 draft initiatives:
 - parallel clarification on priority, open questions and options for financing
 - joint consolidation of open questions and addressing these to the PIs (German, French, African)



The challenge: Different institutional environments in Germany and France, covering among others





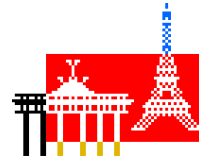
Critical Assessment of the initiative

German Perspective

- **Thematic programmes of BMBF** need to be better integrated in planning and implementation (funding)
- Role of **government vrs.** role of **research performing institutions** needs advancement (challenge: diverse actors for Research4Development)
- Link between **science** and **development policy** needs advancement

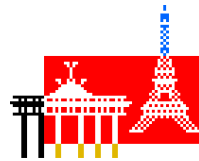
French Perspective

- The **national strategy on research and innovation** (SNRI) steers the research performing institutions by fixing multiannual priorities (programming)
- The **framework document on French development cooperation** sets both geographic and thematic priorities in direction of Southern countries
- It is needed to improve the **articulation** between the two previous frameworks



Critical Assessment of the initiative – joint affairs

- **Long process with open end** due to “learning by doing”: Will the expectations of the science communities be met?
- **Joint vision** on role of knowledge society on development
- Links to **other pillars of German-French cooperation** need to be reflected (such as health, bio-economy/food security, climate change ...)
Formatvorlage des Untertitelmasters durch Klicken bearbeiten
- **Role of African institutions** (in governance and implementation) needs reflection
- **Links to European** (Joint Africa-EU Strategy) **and international** (AU, G8/20, UN-family) **activities** need to be advanced

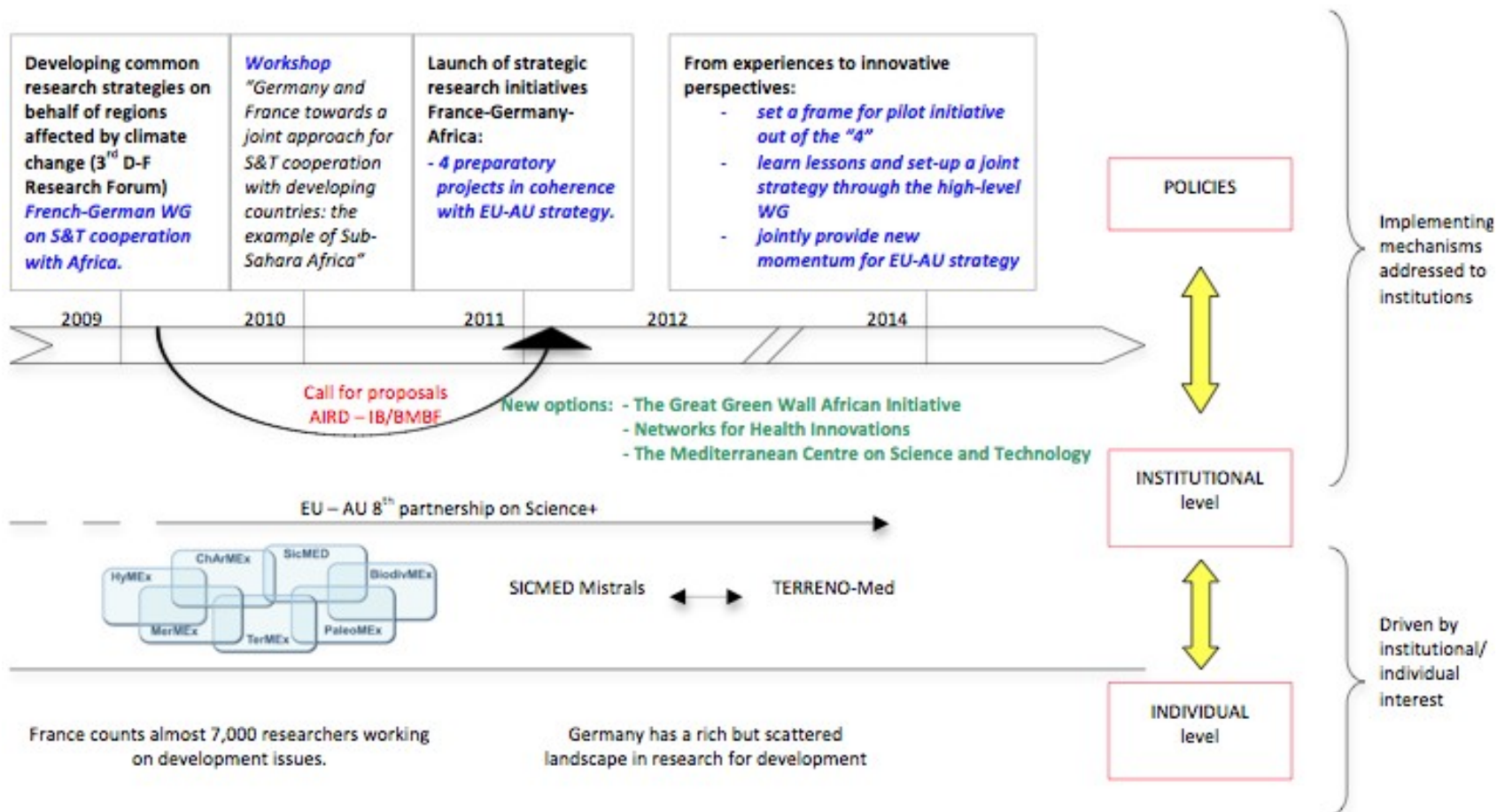


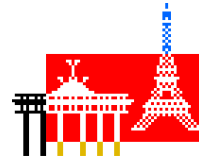
Lessons Learnt from the pilot case for a second try

- Combine joint policy priorities (top-down) with joint scientific priorities (bottom-up) through **stakeholder consultations**, incl. African partners
- Foresee **governance through trans-national partnership of governments with research organizations** (Steering Group)
- **Commitment** needed **in advance** of relevant stakeholders (policy institutions and research organizations) **for implementation of initiatives** via stable frameworks incl. budgets
- **Endorse the process** for planning and implementing joint initiatives **from the beginning** instead of negotiating the process step-by-step
- **Align with other German-French cooperation priorities** to exploit synergies
- Use the **German-French momentum for EU/OECD/G8-20 initiatives** - coordinate initiatives with third parties (EU, UN, ...) to add value such as the EU-AU 8th partnership on science
- Put the joint initiative towards Africa on the agenda of the **German–French high-level Working Group** to benefit from the strategic decisions and to ensure consistency with other cooperation pillars



The overall picture





Suggestions to go ahead ...

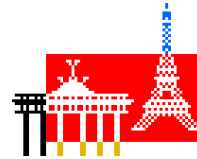
- **Update and monitor the stock** of French as well as German scientific collaborations and cooperation in Africa at both institutional and individual level (Education and Research)

*If Science Diplomacy can be seen as a pillar of a broader field of international activity that might be described as an **Innovative Diplomacy**, then we should also ...*

- Support a **stocktaking of D.I.** in Africa by French as well as German private undertakings with a focus on PPP implementation mechanisms

Formatvorlage des Untertitelmasters durch Klicken bearbeiten

- Set up **multiannual funding scheme** to support long standing cooperation programmes (Education, Research and Innovation)
- Establish a **permanent joint (F-G) committee for Africa** to optimize French-German cooperation in Education, Research and Innovation



Thank you very much for your attention

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