GLOBAL SOLUTIONS FORUM

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https://www.unsdsn.org/sdsn-holds-2nd-global-solutions-forum
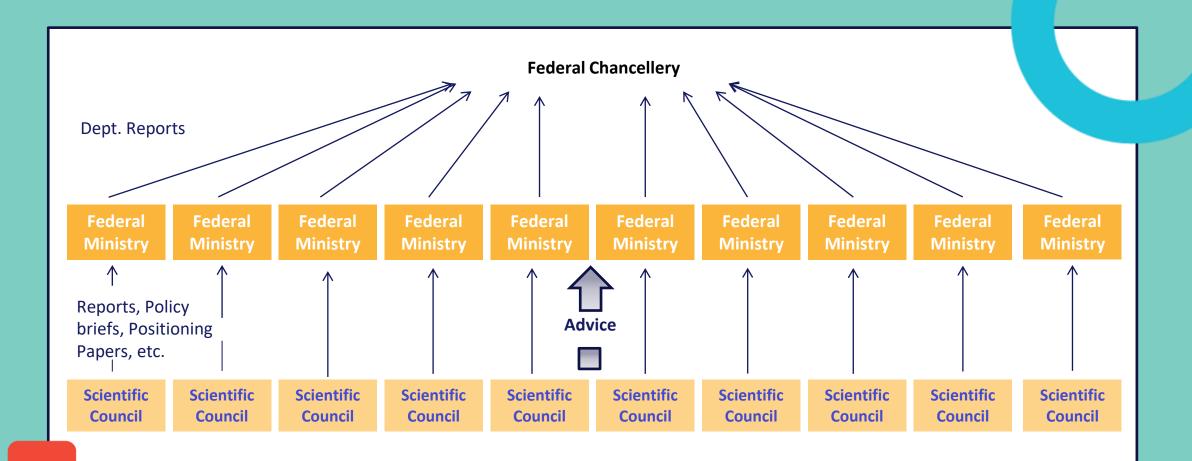
https://www.die-gdi.de/en/sdsngermany/

@SDSN_Germany

Dialogue
of the Scientific Councils

The German Sustainable Development - Siloed Policy Advice

Problem

- Large number of diverse scientific advisory councils – most linked to one specific ministry

- Little to no regular exchange across silos / policy fields

- Little to no explicit link to sustainable development (SD) policy / SDGs
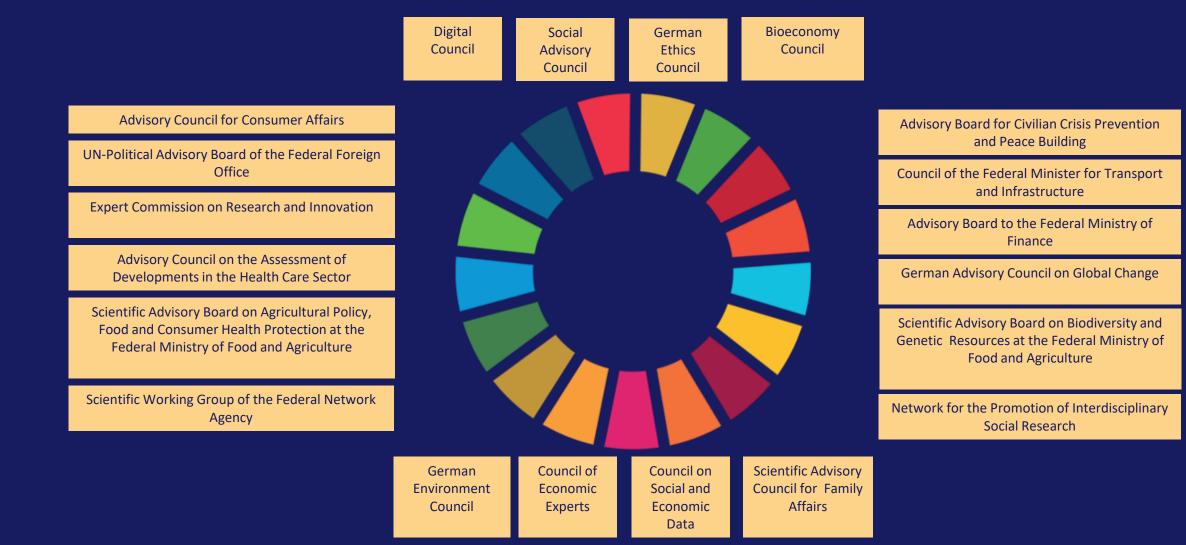
- Lack of reciprocity and feedback

Solution

SDSN Germany and the Science Platform Sustainability 2030 invite a number of selected councils to a dialogue on the future, the 2030 Agenda and the German National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS)

Idea:

- Bring together, for the first time, such a diverse number of scientific councils

- Facilitate mutual exchange on ideas and work

- Develop shared understandings of the future and SD-related policies: German NSDS / 2030 Agenda / SDGs.

Solution: Building an Advisory SDG-Circle

Digital Council

Social Advisory Council

German Ethics Council

Bioeconomy Council

Advisory Council for Consumer Affairs

UN-Political Advisory Board of the Federal Foreign Office

Expert Commission on Research and Innovation

Advisory Council on the Assessment of Developments in the Health Care Sector

Scientific Advisory Board on Agricultural Policy, Food and Consumer Health Protection at the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture

Scientific Working Group of the Federal Network Agency

Advisory Board for Civilian Crisis Prevention and Peace Building

Council of the Federal Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

Advisory Board to the Federal Ministry of Finance

German Advisory Council on Global Change

Scientific Advisory Board on Biodiversity and Genetic Resources at the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture

Network for the Promotion of Interdisciplinary Social Research

German Environment Council

Council of Economic Experts

Council on Social and Economic Data

Scientific Advisory Council for Family Affairs

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„Progress on sustainable development requires exchange and collaboration across policy fields."

Rep. Scientific Advisory Board on Biodiversity and Genetic Resources (2019)

*„By the means of reports and positioning papers […]
the councils can […] revitalize the discourse on sustainable development."*

Rep. Council of Economic Experts (2018)

*„Joint positioning in areas where there is a great need for action and where common understandings
exist can increase the leverage of scientific policy advice."*

Rep. Advisory Council for Consumer Affairs & Scientific Advisory Board for Agricultural Policy, Nutrition and
Consumer Health Protection (2018)

#GSF2020

Results

- Strong interest: Representatives of 15 (2018) to 20 councils (2020) and of ten ministries participated

- Increased awareness of SD / SD-related transformations in council reports

- Joint report with recommendations on the development of the NSDS (Dialogue 2019)

- Initiatives by participants to strengthen the reciprocity of dialogue at the science policy interface for the NSDS

- Dialogue recognised as integral part of the SD implementation architecture (Dialogue Version of the NSDS, 2020)

Potential for Transferability & Scalability

Transferability
o Scientific councils / advisory bodies exist in many countries / regional bodies
o Horizontal links are weak across silos also in other contexts
o Not much financial ressource requirements

Scalability
o Strengthen links to Chief Science Advisors and Foresight Processes
o Collaboration with / scale to EU-level