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Global Education and Measuring Change – Selected Findings from a Study in Germany

GENE ROUNDTABLE #40

05 APRIL 2019, BERLIN

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Structure

- 1. Background of the study
- 2. Objectives, research questions and subject of the study
- 3. Research Design
- 4. Results

4.1 Effects of Global Education

4.2 Factors influencing effects of Global Education

5. Discussion of the results with regard to a greater effect orientation of Global Education Projects

1. Background of the study

- Demand for a greater effect orientation in development information and education work (DEI) in Germany (cf. a.o. VENRO, 2010; 2012a, b; Berliner Entwicklungspolitischer Ratschlag & Stiftung Nord-Süd-Brücken, 2010, 2015)
- Thematic conferences of VENRO in the years 2011 and 2012
- Central challenge: complex relationships of cause and effect (cf. a.o. Bergmüller, Scheunpflug, Franz & Krogull, 2013)
- Research project financed by the BMZ: "Effects and methods of effect monitoring in development information and education work" (2016 to 2018)

2. Objectives, research questions and subject of the study

- Support for effect-oriented planning of DEI/Global Education projects
- Suggestions for useful methods to measure effects within DEIW/Global Education practice
- Stimulating further conceptual, political and scientific debate about effects of DEI/Global Education

2. Objectives, research questions and subject of the study

- I. Which effects of DEI/Global Education can potentially be realized?
- II. Which factors fostering the effectiveness of DEI/Global Education activities can be identified?
- III. How can effects of DEI/Global Education activities be measured efficiently?

2. Objectives, research questions and subject of the study

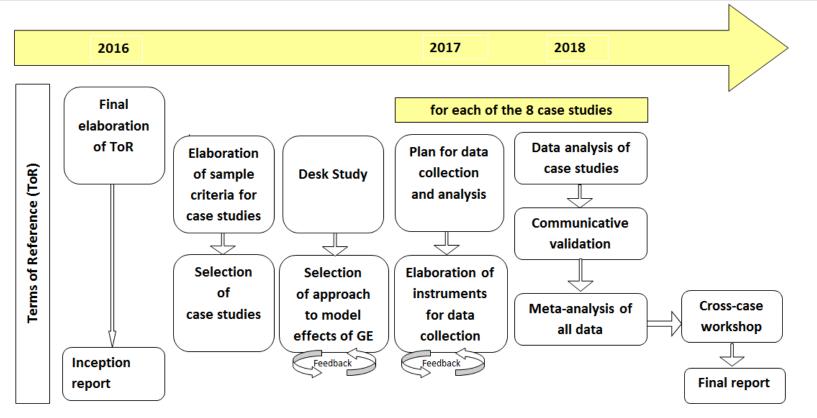
- DEI/Global Education in the formal and non-formal context
- Focus on four typical types of DEI-activities in Germany:
 - 1. Activities of short duration (e.g. public lectures, project days/weeks etc.)
 - 2. School campaigns
 - 3. Qualification of multipliers
 - 4. Development and use of Global Education material
- Two case studies per type of activity (8 out of 25)
- Additional desk study (n= 104 reference studies)
- Additional research on influence factors for long-term engagement in DEI work via biographic interviews in all case studies

Preliminary remarks

- Learning processes cannot be perceived as causal link of input and effect.
- Learning is a complex, self-referential and constructive process.
- Learning is not always visible from outside.

General considerations

- Mixed-method design
- Triangulation of investigators
- Longitudinal data
- Participative approach



May 2016 to June 2018: continuous cooperation with steering-group including interim reporting and the reflection of research processes and results Accompanying project of VENRO including 4 workshops for NGOs to communicate interim results and a Germany-wide concluding conference

Quantitative approach:

- (Semi-)standardised questionnaires
- Card surveying
- Surveying via a response clicker system
- Socio-metric exercises
- => Univariate and bivariate analysis
- => Linear regression analysis

Additionally: analysis of secondary data from the case examples

Qualitative approach:

- Structured individual and group interviews
- Group discussions
- Activity lists
- Participatory observations
- => Analysis of interviews and activity list: content analysis (Mayring, 2014)
- => Analysis of group discussions: documentary method (Bohnsack, 2010)

Additionally: analysis of secondary data from the case examples

Hybrid approaches:

- Semi-structured biographical interviews
- Rating conference
- Impact matrix
- Kasese tool

cf. Tiny Tools / NGO IDEAs (Brenner, 2012)

=> Analysis via content analysis and descriptive statistics

4. Results: Effects of DEI/Global Education

- Acquisition of knowledge
- Gain of interest
- Changed sensitisation
- Reflection
- Experience of self-efficacy
- (Change in) personal attitudes / beliefs
- (Change in) personal action-leading orientations
- (Change in) actions / behaviour
- Dissemination / broad effect of initiatives

4. Results: Effects of DEI/Global Education

1st order of effects

Acquisition of knowledge, gain of interest, changed sensitisation, reflection, experience of self-efficacy

2nd order of effects

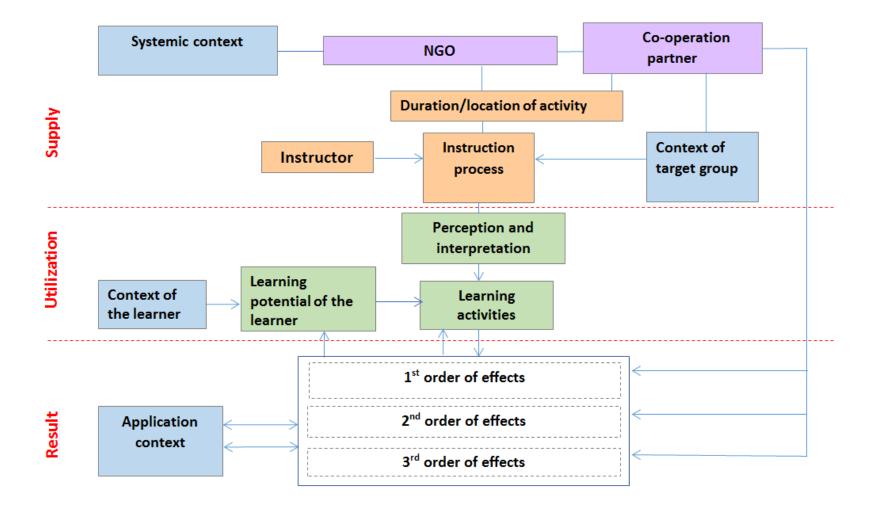
(Change in) personal attitudes / beliefs / action-leading orientations

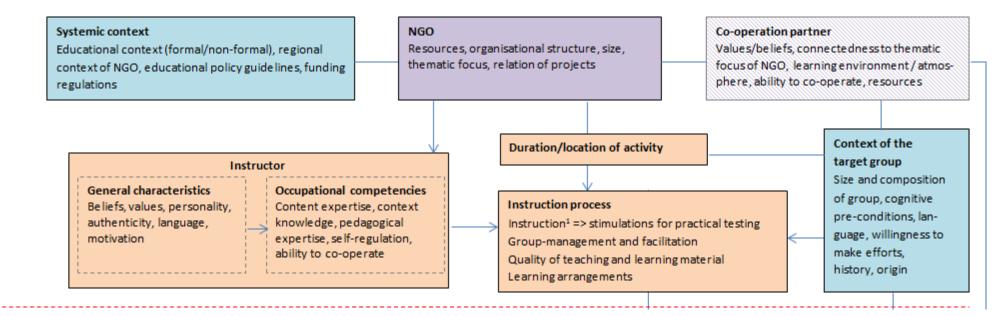
3rd order of effects

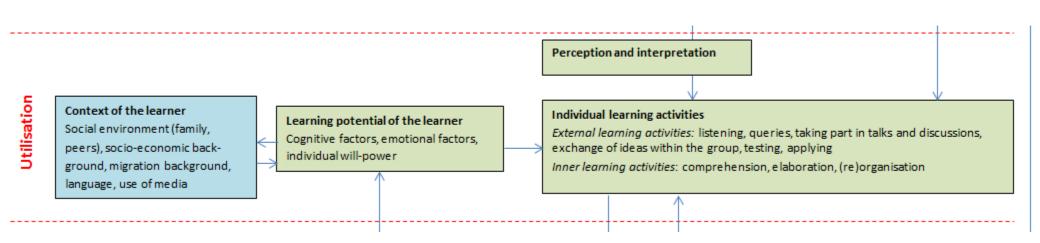
(Change in) actions / behaviour; dissemination / broad effect

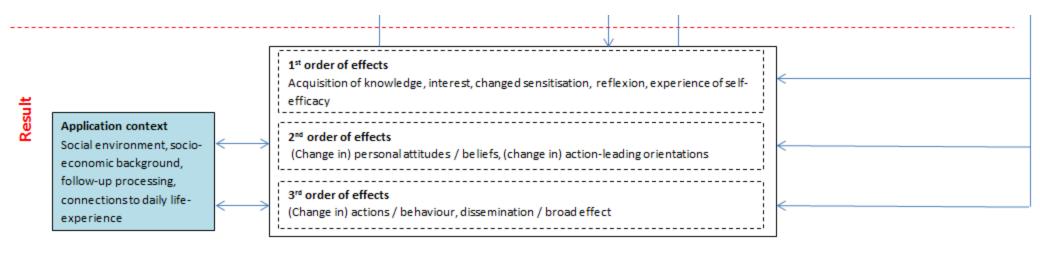
Classification criteria:

- penetration
- persistence
- frequency

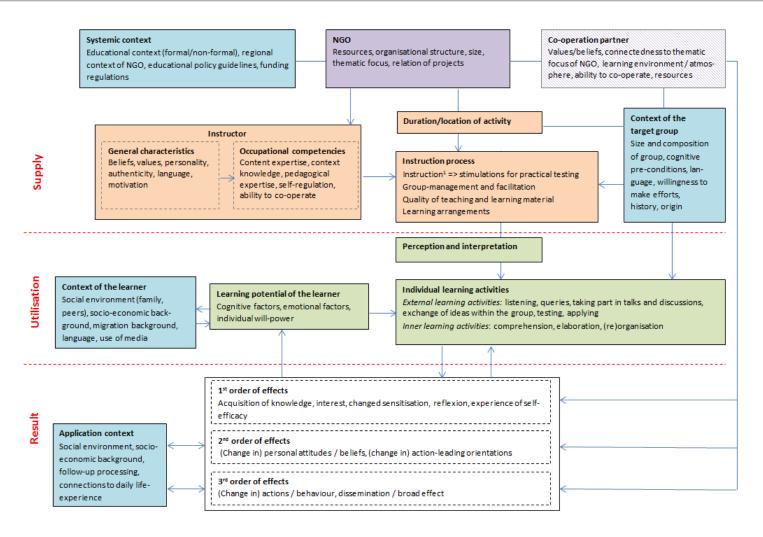




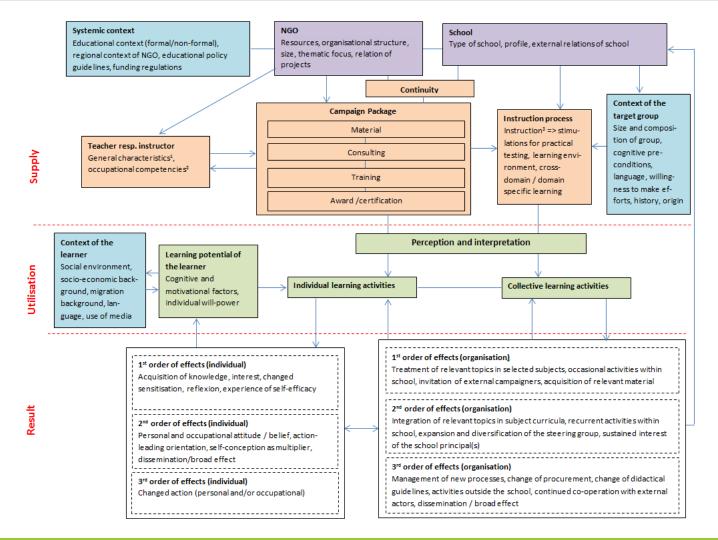




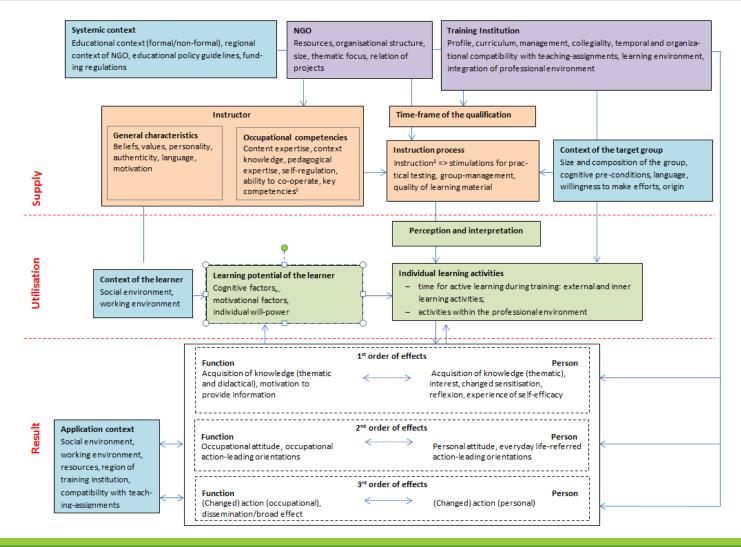
4. Results: Activities of short duration



4. Results: School Campaigns



4. Results: Qualification of multipliers



5. Discussion of the results

- Each type of activity investigated has the potential to change knowledge, thinking and acting.
- Knowledge of specific facts does not necessarily imply certain (changed) behaviour => there is no direct penetration logic of knowledge on action
- Global learning is often a cumulative learning process.
- In development education and information work, there are both characteristic overarching and activity-specific cause-and-effect interdependencies.
- Many of these interdependencies are difficult for NGOs to influence.

5. Discussion of the results

- There is no direct penetration logic of knowledge on action

- ⇒ Overcoming the still widespread technological (behaviourist) understanding of education and development towards a constructivist understanding of learning
- ⇒ Relief of NGOs from a direct (!) focus of their work on effects of third order

5. Discussion of the results

The interplay of the different types of activities is effective

⇒ Consideration of a coherent meshing of DEI/Global Education offers

- There are factors NGOs have only limited or no influence on

- ⇒ Clear identification of factors which NGOs are able to influence: What is the contribution of an activity to a learning process? How does a specific offer fit into the overall development education and information work?
- ⇒ In terms of normative learning, indicators (cf. log frames) should refer to effects of first and second order (due to the context).
- \Rightarrow The models can serve as instruments for planning and reflection.

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Thank you for your attention!

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