



How to improve regional and local governance of SME and entrepreneurship policy

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Aim of the project

- ▶ Identify the role, competences and scope of action of regional and local authorities
- ▶ 13 case studies in EER regions and cities
 Murcia Region (EER 2011), Brandenburg (EER 2011), Helsinki-Uusimaa (EER 2012), Southern Denmark (EER 2013), Styria (EER 2013), North Brabant (EER 2014), Flanders (EER 2014), Lisbon (EER 2015), Northern Ireland (EER 2015), Malopolska (EER 2016), Extremadura (EER 2017), Lower Austria (EER 2017), Western Greece (EER 2017)
- ▶ 4 case studies in non-EER regions
 Copenhagen, Lyon, Tel Aviv, Vojvodina
- ▶ Establish a typology of the key elements of governance models and mechanisms

Most frequent actors involved

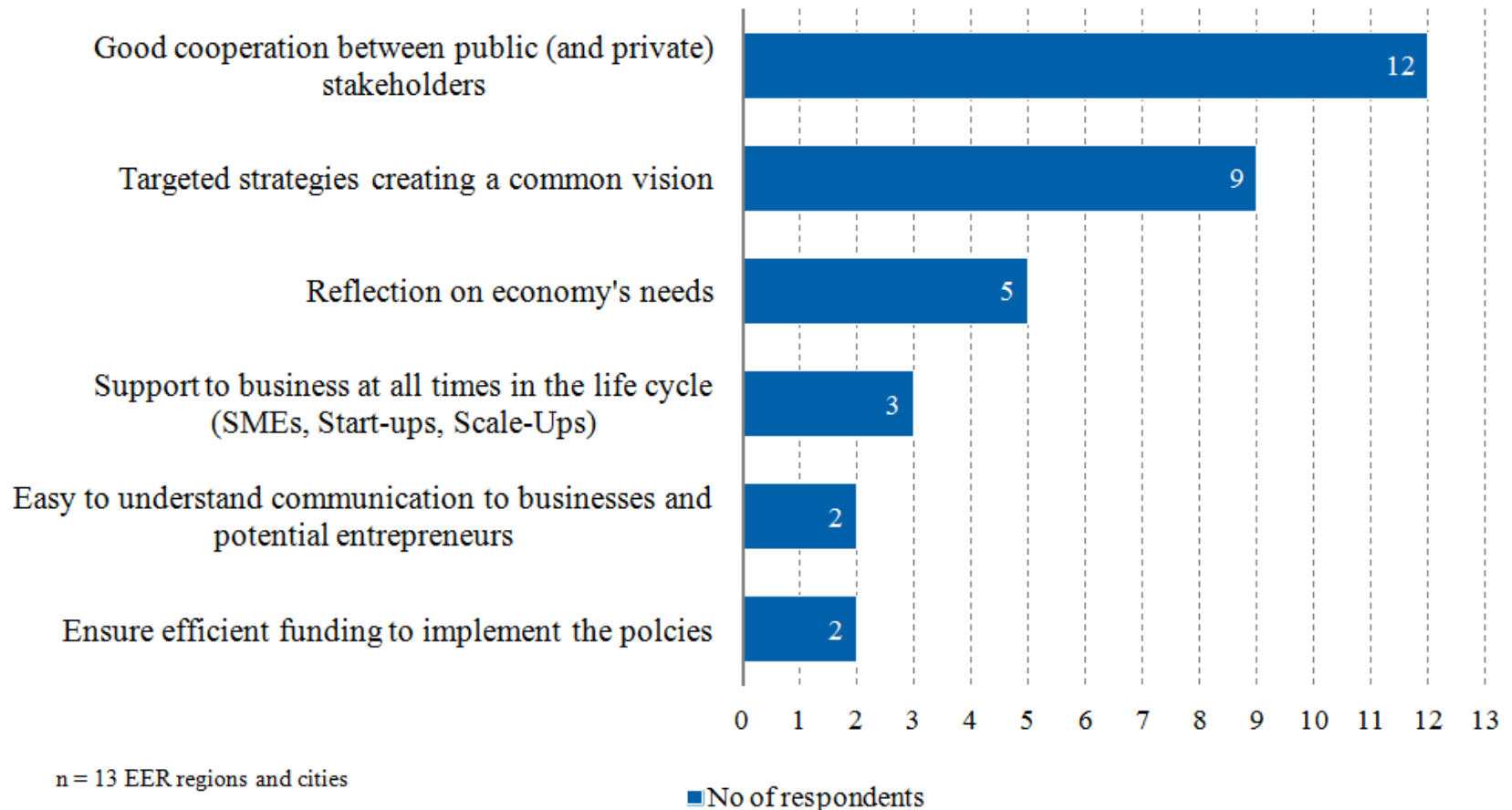
- ▶ Regional departments of economy, regional development and education (design of the strategy)
- ▶ Regional business agencies or regional development agencies (implementation of policies, provision of services, funding, networks)
- ▶ Regional funding agencies (funding and financial instruments)
- ▶ Regional education agencies (entrepreneurial culture)
- ▶ Universities (entrepreneurial skills, think tank, networks)
- ▶ Incubators (office space, advice, networks)

Success factors for governing start-up and scale-up policy

- ▶ Favourable economic environment (“eco-system”)
 - *help entrepreneurs to “play out their strength”*
 - 1. Creation and implementation of networks and (inter-)regional clusters
 - 2. Structures and initiatives enhancing the entrepreneurial culture
 - 3. Streamlining the administrative services (timely support, advice, financial aid)

- ▶ ad 2. Building-up of an entrepreneurial culture
 - Provide entrepreneurial skills and encourage entrepreneurship
 - at schools (incl. initiatives for underrepresented target groups)
 - at “further education” colleges
 - at universities

The three most essential governance aspects to ensure effective governance processes



Recommendations

- ▶ Create a favourable economic environment
 - Create clusters and networks within regions and throughout Europe
 - Establish an entrepreneurship culture
 - Overcome the lack of financing / financial instruments, e.g. by establishing own bodies
 - Create clear-cut administrative structures (transparency) and timely processes for business support (quick decisions / advice)

- ▶ Active promotion
 - at the regional level: identify and support those businesses which want to grow and encourage businesses who do not see their growth potential yet
 - Promote actively the EU-single market at all levels of governance
 - for many start-ups and scale-ups work for an EU or even global market