

Research at the North-South Interface: Effects of and Conditions for Collaborative Partnerships

Type: funded by ETH Zurich (ETH Grant)

Status: Start in February 2020

Team: Rea Pärli (NARP), Eva Lieberherr (NARP), Manuel Fischer (Eawag Zürich)

Strong partnerships between research and practice, as well as across sectors and disciplines, are discussed as pivotal for solving complex sustainability problems.

However, there is a diversity of partnerships in terms of the actors involved, the intensity of integrating sectoral and disciplinary silos and their degree of achieving goals. In this project we ask *how different types of collaborative partnerships and formal and informal institutions affect project outcomes*.

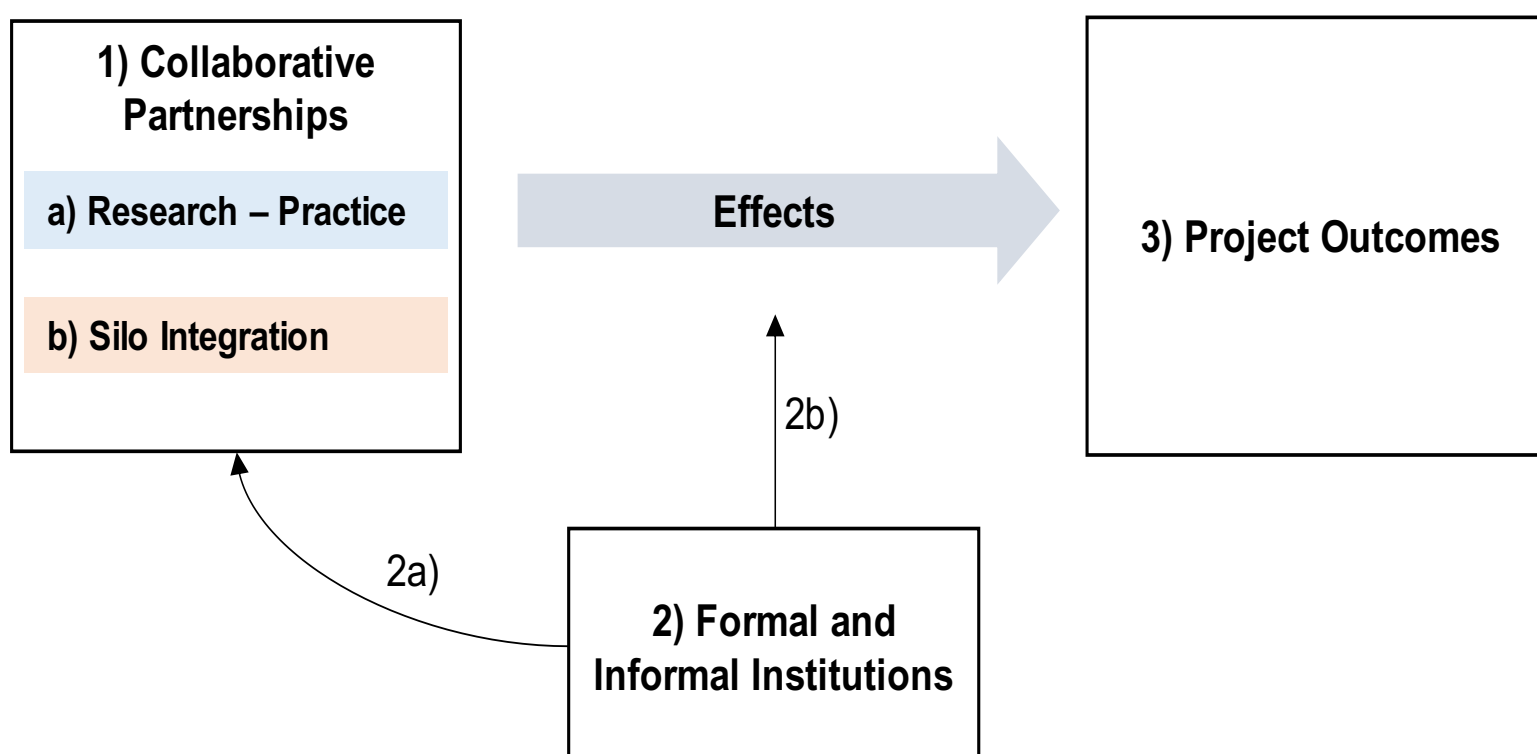


Figure 1 Conceptual framework that will be used to study how different types of collaborative partnerships (1a,b) and institutions (2) have effects on project outcomes (3)

Scope of the Project

- The focus lies on collaborative partnerships in the form of *research partnerships* which integrate several disciplines, sectors as well as actors from research and practice
- Focus on research partnerships in a North – South context

Approach & Methods

- 1) Systematically assessing theoretical and practical knowledge to develop hypotheses on the outcomes of partnerships (document analysis, expert workshop)
- 2) Conduct four case studies and assess the type of partnership, institutions in place as well as project outcomes (document analysis, survey, interviews, Social Network Analysis, Q Methodology)
- 3) Within and cross-case comparison