

# International PLA: Perspectives on national strategies to promote learning and teaching

Break-Out Sessions: Monitoring

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## Monitoring measures in place

### Reports on the three-year-performance agreements between ministry and each university

*half annual talks and written reports in the annual Wissensbilanz*  
– ANONYM

*Asked to communicate impact* – ANONYM

*"traffic light system" - green, yellow, red for every single target agreed on* – ANONYM

### Qualitative Data - needs a good dialog with the stakeholders

### annual knowledge balance reports

### "Listening to the voice of students"

Needed: Both direct reporting/dialogue and more specific/detailed reporting regarding specific/targeted efforts

### elaboration special software for monitoring

### national student surveys

## Challenges and issues for monitoring and how to tackle them

**Change takes time - long term view is very important**

*Using the consultation phase to build understanding and capacity and to develop ownership in the output.* – ANONYM

*Alignment at sectoral and system level is essential. Each has to change to have change* – ANONYM

### Ministries want to see numbers, but there is so much more qualitative data.

*View to be advocated that quantitative data is there is support qualitative data (not the other way round!)* – ANONYM

Balancing monitoring of actions (easier) vs monitoring of impact (often requires more resources - but can be useful for dissemination)

*Impact needs to be considered at planning stages - how it is going to be captured, evidenced, monitored. The issue of intended impact and unintended impact - how are these to be managed. So many projects' findings/ outputs/ outcomes dissipate once the project is finished. Sustainability is key to real impact. Must also consider that impact may take time post the end of a project, to emerge and demonstrate influence.* – ANONYM

### Challenge: reports and dialogues take time and often tend to be promotion.

### contextualize evidence; demands a lot of time

there should be a balance

## Other / new / innovative approaches to monitoring

**more focus on qualitative contextualised evidence**

*realised by specialised studies?* – ANONYM

easier to go on indicators by numbers – ANONYM

Dialogue with the key participants - focus groups, 1-1  
conversations, – ANONYM

## **Other topics and issues discussed**

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**project speed dating**

**focus groups**

**No perfect way to monitor. Use data  
critically and use time intensive qualitative  
monitoring systematically**

*it has to be driven by what is being monitored and the context*

– ANONYM

**make sure that public money is well  
invested**

**student surveys as a better way to review  
overall impact**

*can only be indicative - must be followed up with other data  
collection methods. Danger of data being misused/ misinterpreted.*

– ANONYM

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