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WWWforEurope in a nutshell

Policy design for socio-ecological transition

Research in WWWforEurope seeks to realise and exploit linkages between its research topics. It closely examines how different policy instruments work together. This allows to identify potential synergies and trade-offs when it comes to binding together the results of all research areas. This framework forms the basis to develop a coherent strategy and policy design for a socio-ecological transition of Europe’s economy.

From essential questions to a coherent strategy

WWWforEurope addresses essential questions in five areas of research that reflect vital fields for policy action:

**Area 1** deals with challenges for the European welfare state, exploring the influence of globalisation, demographic shifts, climate change and new technologies on welfare state structures.

**Area 2** provides evidence for designing policies aimed at minimising the conflict between employment, equity and sustainability, using welfare indicators beyond traditional GDP measures.

**Area 3** investigates the role that research and innovation as well as industrial and innovation policies can play as drivers for change by shaping the innovation system and production structures.

**Area 4** focuses on governance structures and institutions at the European level and the need for adjustments to be consistent with a new path of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

**Area 5** explores the role of the regions in the socio-ecological transition taking into account institutional preconditions, regional labour markets and cultural diversity as well as examining the transitional dynamics of European regional policy.

**AREA 1:** EUROPEAN WELFARE STATE

**AREA 2:** ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIO-PHYSICAL DIMENSION

**AREA 3:** DRIVERS FOR CHANGE: INNOVATION, INDUSTRIAL AND INNOVATION POLICY

**AREA 4:** GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONS AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL

**AREA 5:** REGIONS IN TRANSITION

**AREA 6:** FRAMING AND SYNTHESIS