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An International Think Tank for Environment and Development

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▶ REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE 2030 GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

Katharina Umpfenbach, Andreas Graf, Camillia Bausch

Outline

- Objectives
- Approach
- Mapping the existing institutional landscape of regional cooperation
- Lessons from the assessment
- Looking forward towards 2030

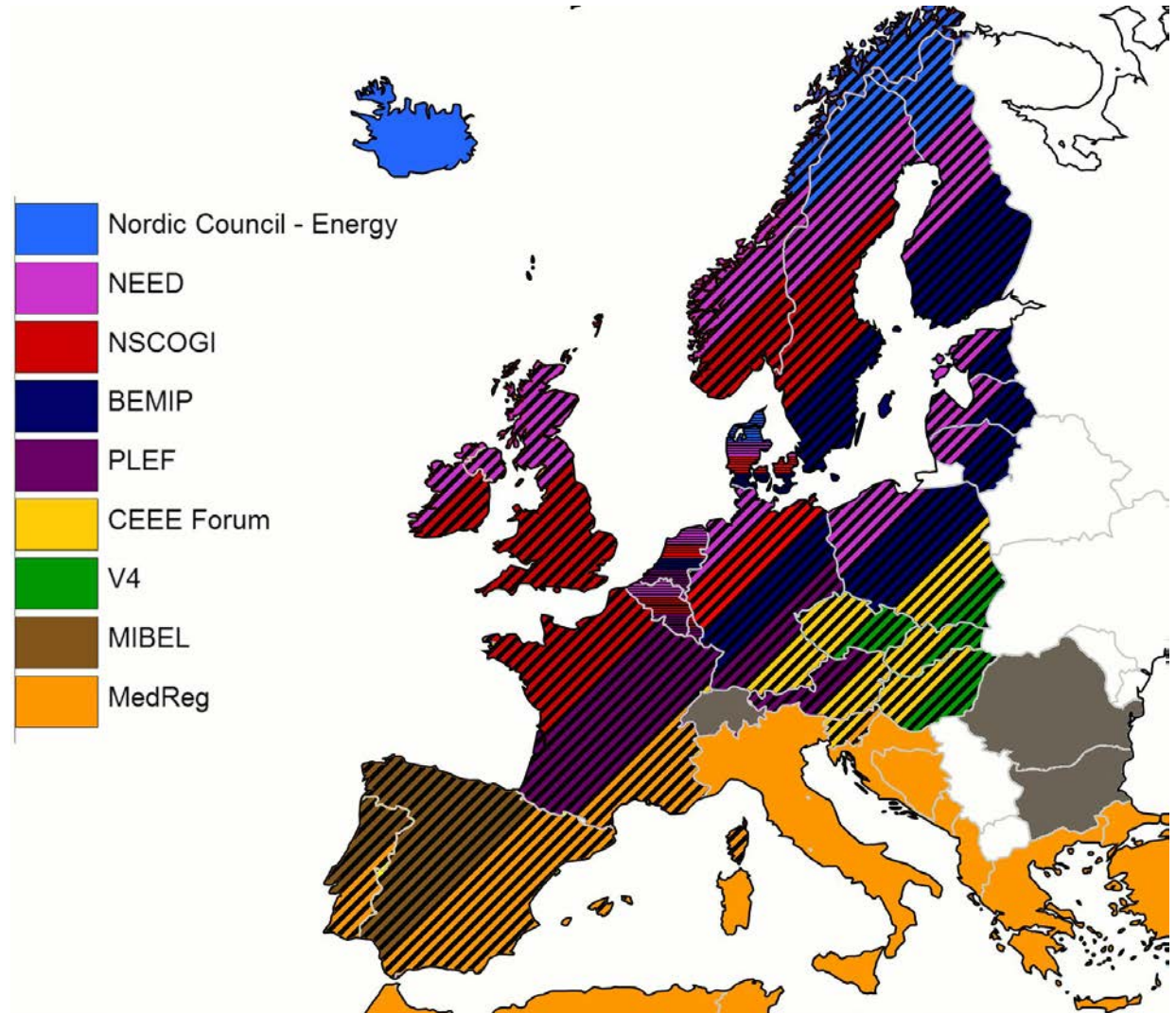
Objectives

- ▶ Analysing the status quo of regional cooperation in EU electricity sector
- ▶ Contribution to the implementation of EU 2030 climate and energy targets
- ▶ Strengths and risks of regional cooperation
- ▶ Exploring future pathways and options for intervention

Approach

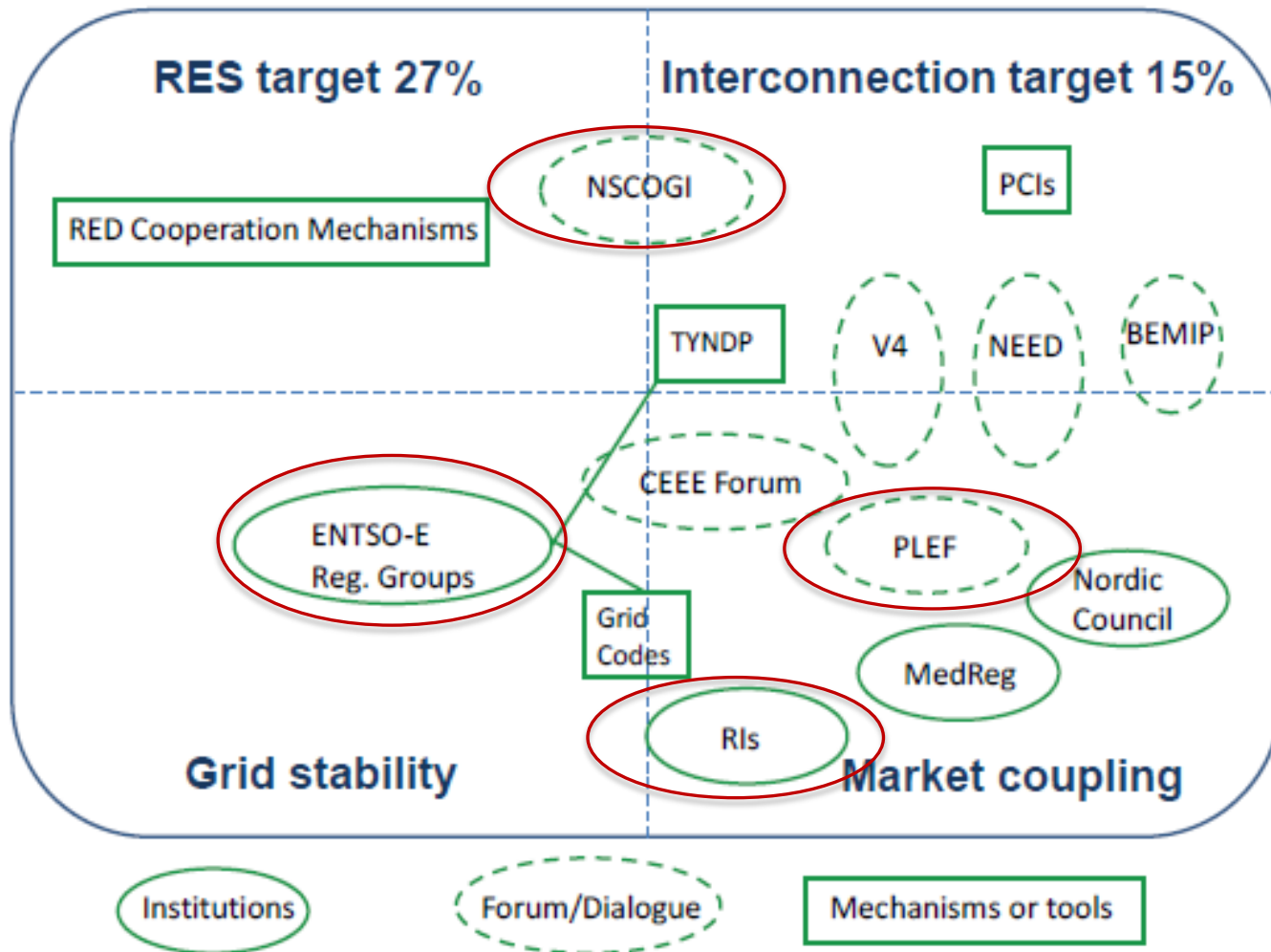
- ▶ Typology of existing institutional landscape based on geography, objectives and intensity of cooperation
- ▶ Four case studies
- ▶ Document analysis and expert interviews

Geography



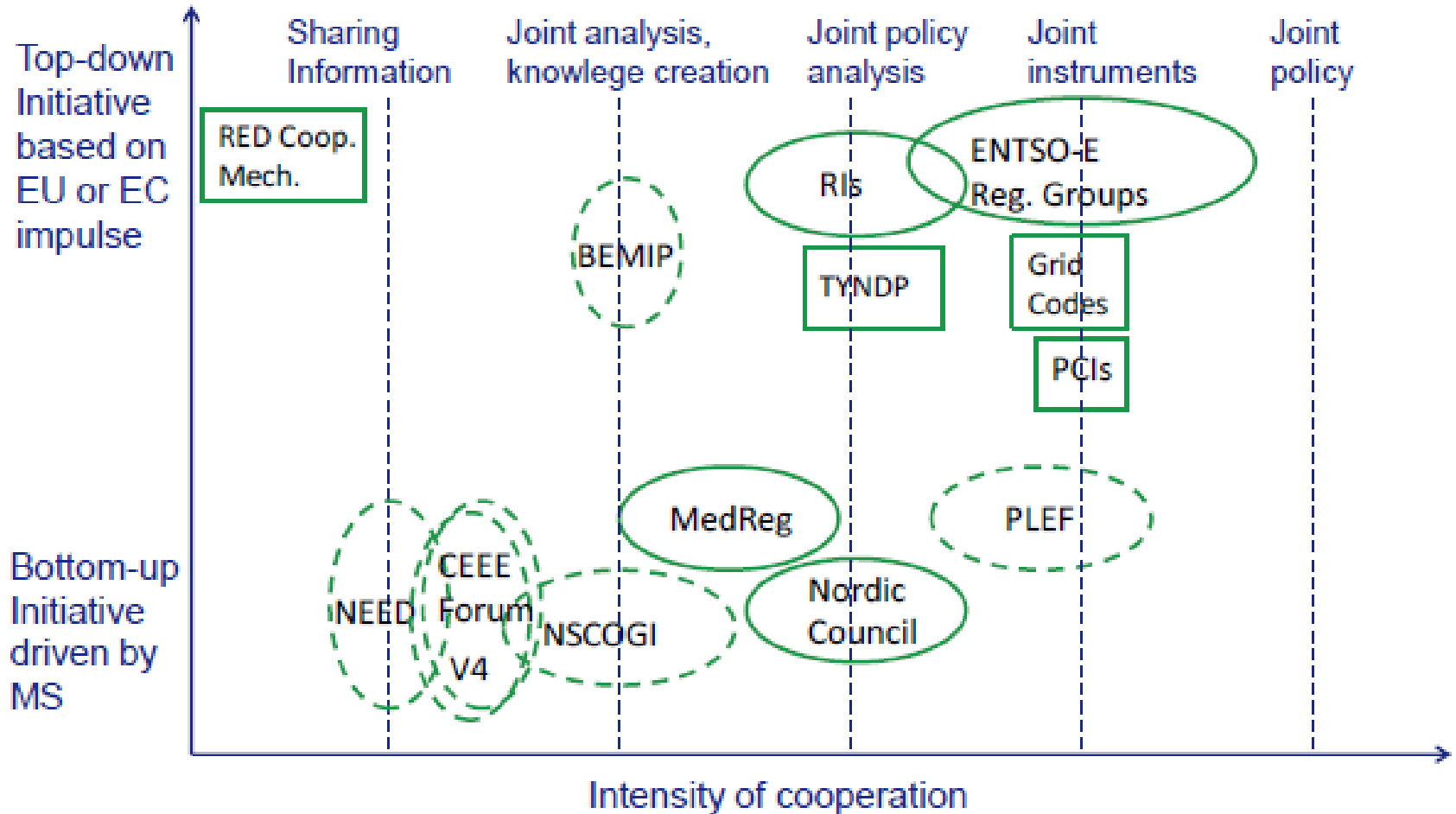
Source: Ecologic Institute.

Mapping by primary objective



Source: Ecologic Institute.

Mapping by origin and cooperation intensity



Based on typologies by Meulman et al. 2012 and de Jong et al. 2014.

Lessons from the existing institutions (I)

- ▶ A number of regional cooperation fora with varying formats and delineations exist
- ▶ No „natural“ split up into distinct regions
- ▶ Cooperation appears to be most intense in Northern and Western Europe
- ▶ Overwhelmingly the existing institutions focus on market integration
- ▶ To date, top-down initiatives with legal mandate have resulted in more intense forms of cooperation than voluntary bottom-up initiatives

Lessons from the existing institutions (II)

- ▶ Success factors for tangible outcomes include:
 - Political guidance
 - Participation of all relevant stakeholders
 - Pragmatic approach and slender working structures

- ▶ Strengths: valuable as laboratory for pragmatic solutions where Member States agree on a shared objective

- ▶ Risk: fragmentation, regional solutions that are not conform to EU level interests

Looking forward towards 2030

- ▶ The grid and market integration of *existing* RES increasingly shapes the agenda → clear economic incentives for cooperation
- ▶ No comparable ‚natural‘ incentives for cooperating on built-up of *additional* RES capacity – particularly in the absence of national targets or benchmarks

Options for next steps

- ▶ Build on the existing institutions
- ▶ Ensure government-led participation of all Member States
- ▶ Ensure consistency accross regions and transparency
- ▶ Provide guidance for reaping full benefits of addressing integration of RES in a regional context
- ▶ Create additional incentives for cooperation on joint RES projects: benchmarks, financial support tied to regional cooperation, organisational support

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Katharina Umpfenbach

Ecologic Institute, Pfalzburger Str. 43-44, D-10717 Berlin
Tel. +49 (30) 86880-0, Fax +49 (30) 86880-100

katharina.umpfenbach@ecologic.eu

www.ecologic.eu