



# SUN

## Steering of universities

May 2004 – December 2007



### GOALS OF THE PROJECT

1. Compare policy evolutions and implementation in the steering of university in Western Europe
2. Analyze micro-level changes in research funding and training in universities
3. Test the validity of the NPM and governance theoretical models for the interpretation of steering, and propose alternative models
4. test the validity of the convergence hypothesis

### COMBINING BOTTOM-UP AND TOP-DOWN APPROACHES

1. First phase is devoted to :
  - National analyses of policy trends
  - International comparisons at the policy macro-level
2. Phase 2 develops field work at the micro-level on two tracers : doctoral schools and labs' funding, to answer questions such as :
  - How much do policy changes impact the articulation between these subunits and their environment?
  - How much do universities as strategic units master the behaviour of these subunits



### SUN COVERAGE

#### Seven Countries :

- France
- Germany
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom

Coverage : 1980 - 2005

### OUTPUT OF THE PROJECT

1. About 10 conference papers
2. About 15 working papers
3. One collective book and/or one journal special issue
4. 7 doctoral dissertations in 6 countries
5. Consolidation of a network in a poorly investigated area, trying to overcome the split between investigation on universities as organizations and research



**THE STEERING OF research in  
UNIVERSITIES**  
(in preparation, 2008)

*Outline*

**3: RECONCEPTUALIZING STEERING**

Ch. 11 - From NPM and governance to a neo-weberian model

Ch. 12 - Convergence hypothesis and local organization

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**1: CHANGES IN NATIONAL STEERING  
PATTERNS**

Ch. 1 - France

Ch. 2 - United Kingdom

Ch. 3 - Netherlands

Ch. 4 - Switzerland

Ch. 5 - Italy

Ch. 6 - Norway

Ch. 7 - Germany

**2: STEERING SEEN FROM THE BOTTOM-LINE**

Ch. 8 - Research labs funding

Ch. 9 - Training for research in Doctoral schools

Ch. 10 - What implementation of macro level  
changes at subunits levels?