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**How to facilitate evidence informed policy making? Mapping knowledge brokerage across the OECD**

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**Objectives/aims**

The importance of ensuring research evidence is used in policy making and practice is widely acknowledged as critical aspect of good governance. Yet evidence informed policy making is recognized as a messy and complex process. One solution to strengthening the evidence-policy interface is establishing knowledge brokers situated to bridge the divide between researchers and decision makers. This study aims to map knowledge brokers across OECD countries, focusing on those with a social policy remit, whilst also understanding their organizational structures and the ways in which they generate, transmit and facilitate the adoption of evidence.

**Methods**

The study combines three data collection sources. A literature review using systematic methods grounds the work in theory and provides a framework through which to interpret the primary data. Desk based research focused on websites and online resources to understand the functions of the knowledge brokers. This was complemented with semi – structured interviews with key stakeholders involved in the knowledge broker function. The analysis of interview data is analysed using the Framework Method.

**Main findings**

The results demonstrated the range of functions carried out by knowledge brokers in terms of generating, translating and facilitating the adoption of evidence for the purposes of policy making. We find that knowledge brokerage can exist in individuals, organisations and structures, including teams within government departments and autonomous institutions operating independently of government. Despite the growing prominence of knowledge brokerage, its practitioners face challenges including a lack of time and resources, the range and depth of skills needed for effective brokerage and a lack of evidence about which models of knowledge brokerage are effective. By making these results available as a publically available platform, it is hoped that networking and cooperation between brokers in different countries will be strengthened, enabling best practice to be shared.