

The Energy & Strategy Think Tank (ESTT) at WU's Institute for Strategic Management (ISM) (<https://www.wu.ac.at/en/ism/energy-strategy-think-tank/>) invites applications for a master thesis.

Working Title: *Types and Activities of Meta-Organizations for Health Care Innovation*

Scope, Aims, Methods, and Initial Literature: Meta-organizations are organizations in which other organizations participate (Ahrne & Brunsson, 2005; Berkowitz & Bor, 2017; Valente & Oliver, 2018). In light of recent events, there is increasing interest in meta-organizations that specialize in health care innovation, such as the EIT Health. This thesis aims to

- cluster and identify use cases of meta-organizations for health care innovation (e.g. ownership and scope) including use cases
- detail the activities (i.e., "how") that constitute high-performing meta-organizations for different actor groups (e.g. start-ups, general public, investors, national politics, regional politics, etc.)

Insights from 1) a systematic review of the scientific literature (Denyer & Tranfield, 2009), 2) selected grey literature (Adams, Smart, & Huff, 2017), as well as 3) expert interviews (Cassell, 2009) should be combined.

Thesis Language: English

Corporate Partner: None

Expectations and Support: Constant feedback and regular meetings with faculty will facilitate a high-quality thesis with impact on management practice that is completed in a timely fashion. You will be provided with a guideline that details the supervision and writing process, expected deliverables beyond the final thesis, and grading as well as a package to kick off your thesis.

Targeted Students: Excellent and ambitious students of all MSc and MBA programs at WU Vienna University of Economics and Business are eligible and encouraged to apply. In principle, it is possible to write the thesis together with another student.

Interested? Send CV and grade certificates of all your studies to georg.reischauer@wu.ac.at

Initial References:

- Adams, R. J., Smart, P., & Huff, A. S. 2017. Shades of Grey: Guidelines for Working with the Grey Literature in Systematic Reviews for Management and Organizational Studies. ***International Journal of Management Reviews***, 19(4): 432-454.
- Ahrne, G., & Brunsson, N. 2005. Organizations and meta-organizations. ***Scandinavian Journal of Management***, 21(4): 429-449.
- Berkowitz, H., & Bor, S. 2017. Why Meta-Organizations Matter: A Response to Lawton et al. and Spillman. ***Journal of Management Inquiry***, 27(2): 204-211.
- Cassell, C. 2009. Interviews in Organizational Research. In D. A. Buchanan, & A. Bryman (Eds.), ***The Sage Handbook of Organizational Research Methods***: 500-515. Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Denyer, D., & Tranfield, D. 2009. Producing a systematic review. In D. A. Buchanan, & A. Bryman (Eds.), ***The Sage handbook of organizational research methods***: 671-689. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Valente, M., & Oliver, C. 2018. Meta-Organization Formation and Sustainability in Sub-Saharan Africa. ***Organization Science***, 29(4): 678-701.