



**Hochschulforum**  
Digitalisierung

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# Effects of Peer-to-Peer Strategy Consulting

Key findings of the programme evaluation

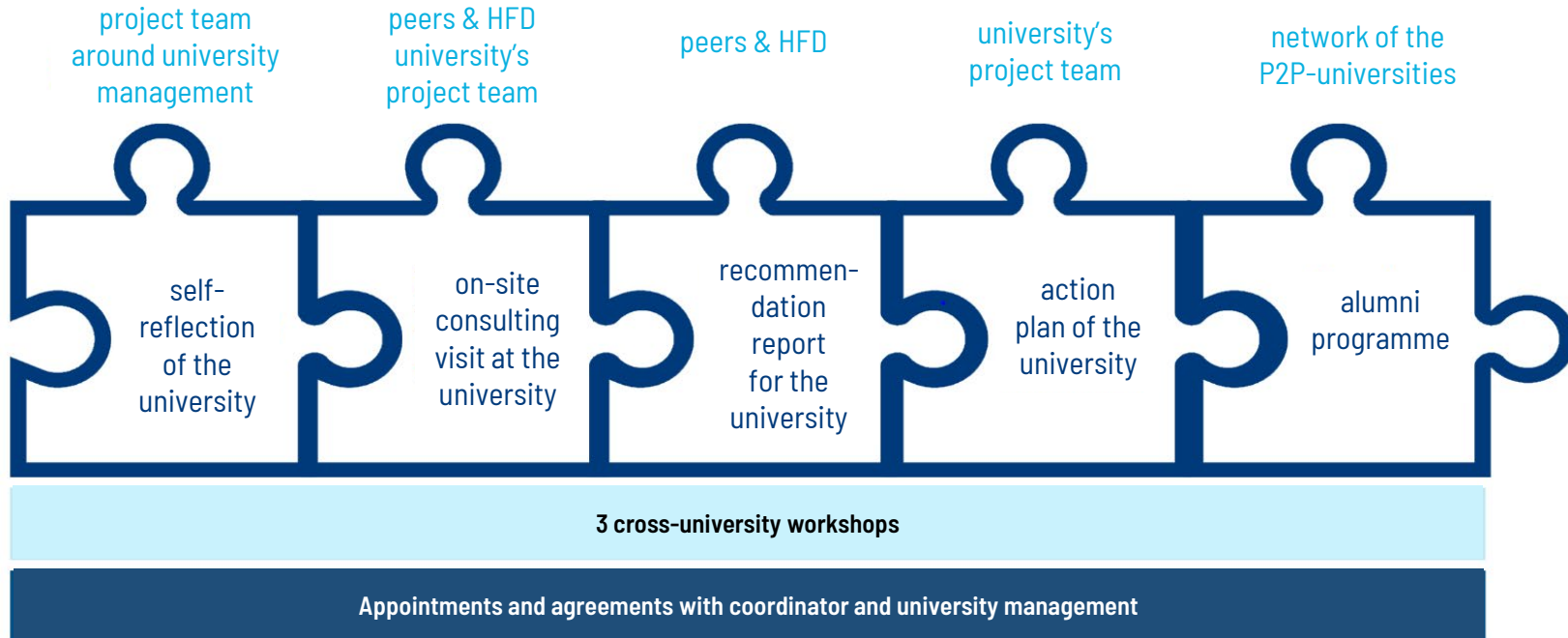
# The Peer-to-Peer Strategy Consulting of the Hochschulforum Digitalisierung

**What?** ... **programme** that supports universities and alliances over the course of a year in dealing with and **(further) developing strategic approaches** to **digitalisation** in teaching and learning.

**How?** ... **strategic support** by **(critically) analysing and discussing** the objectives and measures as well as **development perspectives** for promoting digital change in teaching and learning at the university.

**Who?** ... universities and alliances that want to actively shape the **digitalisation of teaching and learning** and align their strategies and structures accordingly.

# Elements of the Consulting Approach



# Peer-to-Peer Consulting in Numbers

- Since 2017, a total of **205 letters of interest** have been received from **150 universities**.
- **42 universities** and **two university alliances** have already been supported.
- **6 faculties/departments** have been supported through the peer-to-peer faculty consultation.

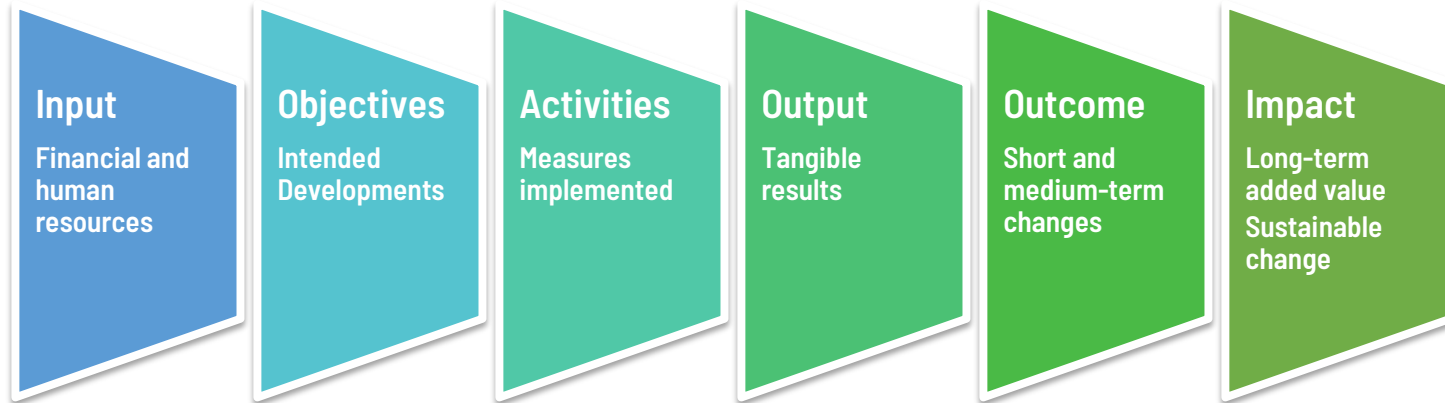


Foto: HTW Berlin, Alexander Rentsch

# Objectives of the Programme Evaluation

- **Effects at institutional and individual level:**
  - What was actually changed or initiated at the universities?
  - What competences have the participating project teams and peers (further) developed?
- **Transfer & further development of the programme**
  - Feedback on the existing format
  - Potential for further subject areas, service areas and target groups

# Evaluation Approach



- Theory-based evaluation approach to reconstruct the impact structure
- Combination of document analysis, qualitative case studies and quantitative surveys

# Data Base

- **Document Analysis:**
  - Programme-specific documents of the first 6 funding rounds (2017/18 - 2022/2023), e.g. calls for proposals, guidelines for universities
  - University-specific documents of the 6 universities selected for the case studies (e.g. Letter of Interest, Recommendation Report)
- **Case Studies:**
  - Guideline interviews at 6 universities, varying by funding round (2017/18 - 2022/2023), university type, size and location
- **Online Survey:**
  - Project teams: 52 valid questionnaires from 27 universities (response rate 75%)
  - Peers: 42 valid questionnaires (response rate 50%)



# Key Findings



# P2P-Consulting as an Innovative Practice

- **Special features:**
  - based on the universities' own initiative and offering peer support
  - supported by the university management and addressing the whole university
- **Success factors:**
  - cross-status group cooperation at the universities
  - acceptance of the peers appointed as critical friends

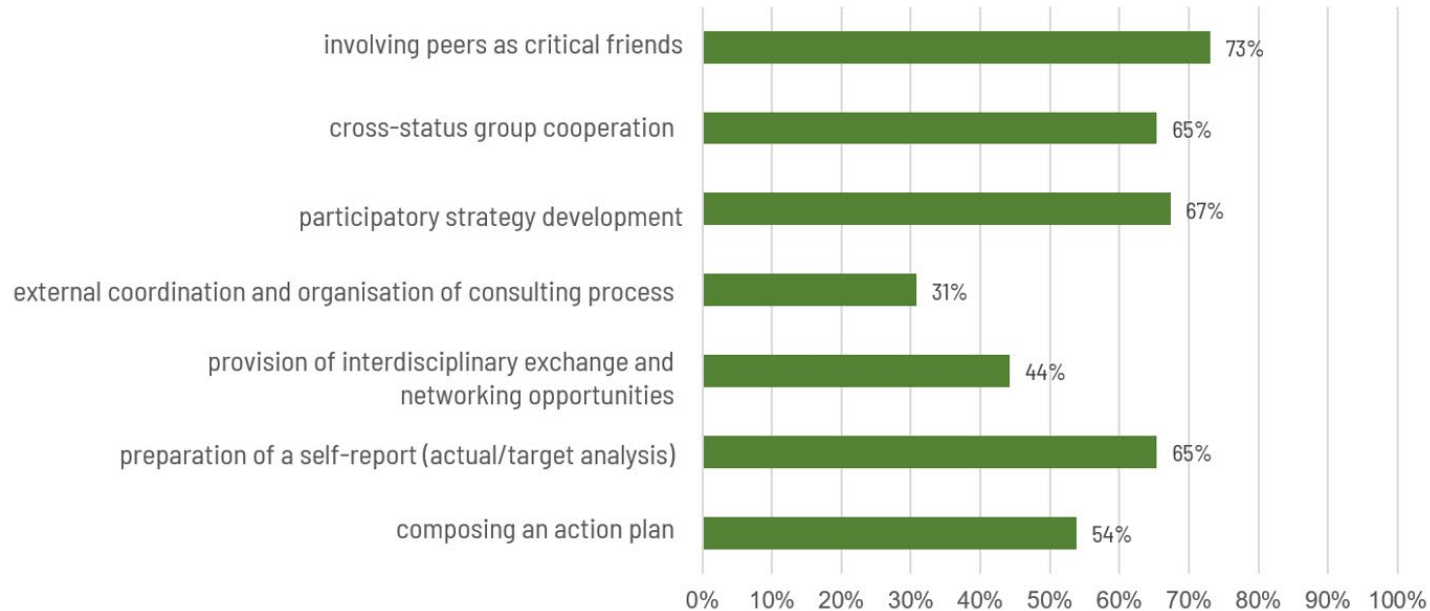
# Most Important Elements

1. Self-Report
2. On-site visit
3. Recommendation report

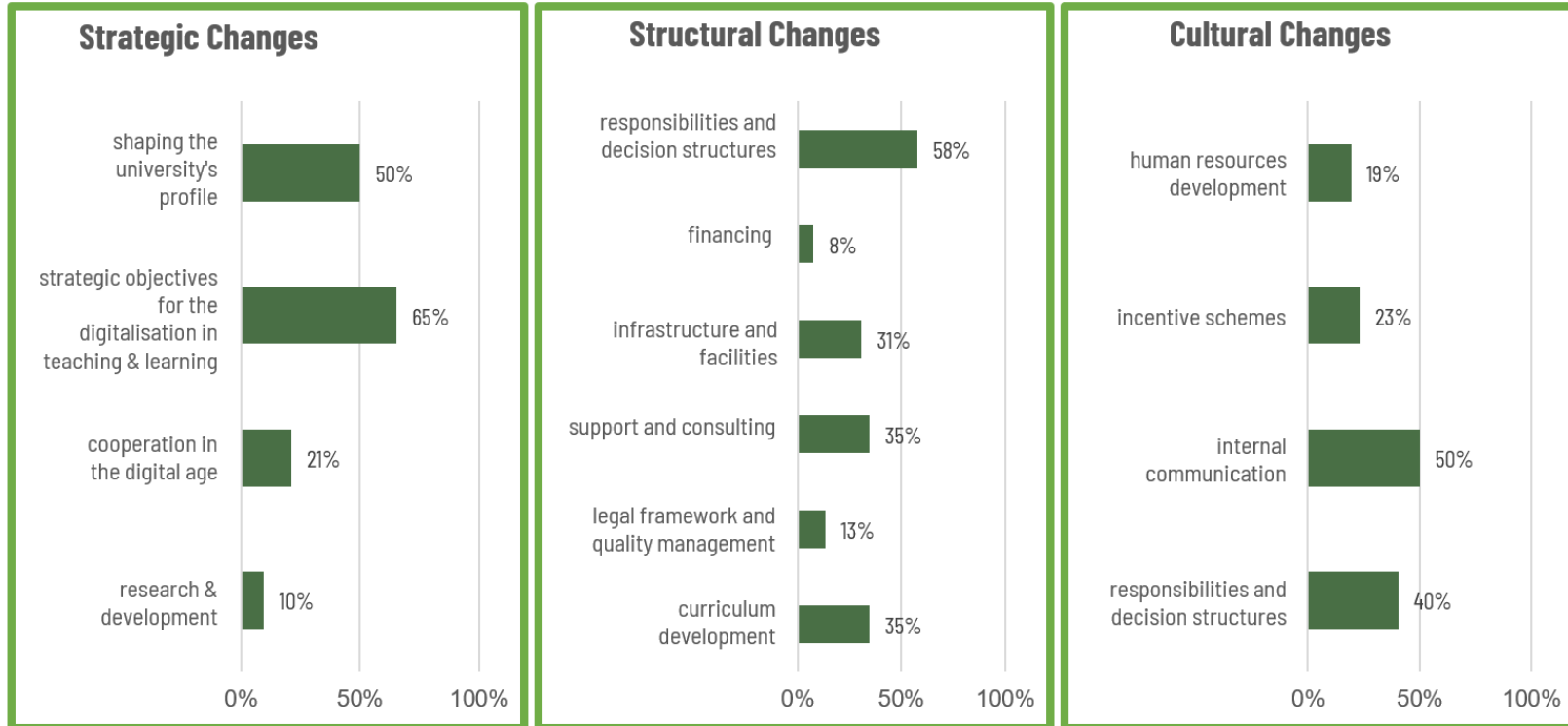
The effectiveness of the consulting approach is also based on the connection to **established procedures and ongoing processes**, resulting in synergies.

# Transferability of Elements

Which elements of the peer-to-peer strategy consulting do the project teams regard as particularly transferable to other university contexts?



# Institutional Changes



# University-Specific and Sustainable Impact

- P2P consulting supports each universities' own goals in specific strategic, structural and cultural fields of action and thus addresses the different starting points and challenges of the universities receiving consultancy.
- The consulting approach can be regarded as sustainable, as participatory processes continue to be used at the consulted universities and in some cases they are transferred to other development processes beyond digitalisation in teaching and learning.

# Individual Competence Development According to Role

- The project managers surveyed see the greatest increase in their competences primarily in reflecting on possible courses of action with regard to digitalisation.
- The peers surveyed have developed their competences particularly in terms of transferring solutions from other universities.



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