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Expert Group on Responsible Research and Innovation

NEC Forum, Nicosia, October 2012

14/03/2013
Dias 1





Content:

- RRI background: Science in Society and Horizon 2020
- RRI expert group; background and some key findings
- Way forward



Science in Society:

need for 'co-creation' with society:

- Societal engagement is crucial to ensure that research and innovation are aligned with societal needs and concerns, and that they maintain long-term societal support.
- The approach of researchers and industry working together with stakeholders during all steps of research and innovation is called *Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)*.



Horizon 2020

- Responsible Research and Innovation builds on the lessons learned from the Science in Society programme and extends these activities to innovation
- Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) is proposed as a horizontal action in Horizon 2020



RRI Expert Group

- A Recommendation to the Member States on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) is foreseen for 2013
- In order to assist the EC with identifying current activities in the Member States, key challenges and policy options that are relevant to a Recommendation on RRI, an Expert Group on RRI was established
- This Expert Group is currently finalising its report



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RRI Expert Group Report



RRI Expert Group

Identifying the problem:

- A need to better incorporate social and ethical concerns in research and innovation.
 - *Improving efficiency of research funding, avoiding 'stranded innovation'*
 - *Value requirements as driver of innovation (e.g. privacy technologies)*
 - *Addressing market failure (e.g. incentives for long-term objectives)*
- Currently no coherent approach for RRI criteria or processes among the Member States



RRI Expert Group

Identifying the problem:



RRI Expert Group

The objective:

- To facilitate and improve the consideration of ethical concerns and societal needs in research and in innovation, with a view to the achievement of the EU2020 objectives and the development of the European Research Area (ERA).



RRI Expert Group

The main policy options:

- Funding for RRI (by the EC)
- Improved coordination with the Member States



RRI Expert Group

- ***Funding for RRI (by the EC)***
 - Mainstreaming of RRI in the EU's funding programmes
 - Increased share of funding for trans-/interdisciplinary research
 - A specific funding line for research on RRI



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- *Funding for RRI (by the EC)*
 - Mainstreaming of RRI in the EU's funding programmes
 - **Criteria and principles for Horizon2020 funding schemes, i.e.:**
 - *RRI as (an aspect of a) selection criterion for funding*
 - *An RRI review as an extension of the ethics review*
 - *Include RRI competence as element of training actions like Marie Curie grants*
 - Increased share of funding for trans-/interdisciplinary research
 - A specific funding line for research on RRI



RRI Expert Group

- *Funding for RRI (by the EC)*
 - Mainstreaming of RRI in the EU's funding programmes
 - Increased share of funding for trans-/interdisciplinary research
 - **More Participation of stakeholders in the definition of H2020 Work Programmes ('upstream' engagement)**
 - **Enhancing public participation in individual research projects**
 - A specific funding line for research on RRI



RRI Expert Group

- *Funding for RRI (by the EC)*
 - Mainstreaming of RRI in the EU's funding programmes
 - Increased share of funding for trans-/interdisciplinary research
 - A specific funding line for research on RRI
 - **To further develop knowledge on the theoretical framework and conditions for a successful application of RRI**
 - **Linking RRI better with other relevant research areas**



RRI Expert Group

- Improved coordination with the Member States
 - Improved Coordination of RRI activities in the MS
 - Codes of Conduct for RRI activities
 - Voluntary standards on RRI



RRI Expert Group

- Improved coordination with the Member States
 - Improved Coordination of RRI activities in the MS
 - A voluntary reporting scheme that can be used to set benchmarks and exchange best practise
 - Funding activities for RRI in the MS
 - Setting Incentives for RRI, in particular via public procurement to stimulate demand or RRI
 - Codes of Conduct for RRI activities
 - Voluntary standards on RRI



RRI Expert Group

- Improved coordination with the Member States
 - Improved Coordination of RRI activities in the MS:
 - Codes of Conduct for RRI activities
 - **Either disciplinary or on RRI more generally**
 - Voluntary standards on RRI



RRI Expert Group

- Improved coordination with the Member States
 - Improved Coordination of RRI activities in the MS:
 - Codes of Conduct for RRI activities
 - Voluntary standards on RRI
 - European/Global RRI standards applicable to industry/enterprise contexts
 - In collaboration with standardisation bodies like CEN and ISO
 - Equipped with assessment indicators for benchmarking



RRI Expert Group

Way forward:

- Expert Group to finalise its report early October
- DG RTD will use the report as a major input to the preparatory work for, and drafting of, the Recommendation on RRI



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