RRI Keys Best Practices

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WP15 Key Objectives

- Draw general lessons on RRI barriers and drivers
- Analyse the effects of national and organisational structures and cultures for RRI practices
- Identify good practices and develop strategies for broader implementation

Ethics: summary results

- Not conceptualised and not implemented in a homogeneous manner (national/cultural/organisational differences)

- Evident as scientific integrity (code of conducts) or research ethics (ethics committees), but little reflection

- Often seen as bureaucratic hurdle

- Organisational standard approach is top-down with inadequate education/training

- Lack of definitional clarity and relationship with other key concepts (e.g. reflection, openness, excellency)

Ethics: Best Practices

- Helmholtz: Technology Innovation and Society Programme (cross-cutting research of the environmental, economic, political, ethical and social aspects of new technologies to support decisions in politics, the economy and society)
- Wageningen: Accessible Guidelines and PhD Training on Reflection
- CSIRO: Universal Code of Conduct and training for Staff
- EPSRC: Research Integrity Training of PhD Students

Public Engagement: Summary Results

- Confusing definition incorporating communication and education activities
- Clear split between EU and non-EU partners
- Organisational dimension: large (committed but non-coordinated) vs small (effective but lacking stability); research conducting (well incorporated) vs research funding (not well incorporated)
- Main barriers: lack of funding; absence of rewards and career improvements; absence of training activities for researchers

Public Engagement: Best Practices

- Wageningen: Science Shops (active collaborative projects with public and CSOs)

- CEO: Grenoble Arts Science Workshop (collaborative projects with artists, scientists, local government, and corporations)

- KIT: The Living Lab (cooperation between KIT, the City of Karlsruhe, citizens, private sector and cultural workers)

- UQ: Boomtown Toolkit (monitor socio-economic indicators of the Coal Seam Gas industry on local communities where indicators are chosen by the community)

Gender & Diversity: Summary Results

- Gender issue often incorporated within Diversity
- Institutional embedment in all cases but lack of enforcement (e.g. designated bodies or persons to enforce implementation of policies)
- Main barriers: lack of administrative capacity, lack of national programmes and societal awareness, lack of affirmative actions

Gender & Diversity: Best Practices

- RCN: Gender Balance in Senior Positions and Research Management (direct institutional funding on awareness, knowledge, activities)

- KIT: University Suitable for Families Audit (target committee to keep Federal accreditation)

- Wageningen: Action Plan for Gender Balance (awareness, mentoring, role model visibility)

- DST India: Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing programme (awareness, mobility, women Technology parks, women Universities)

Open Access: Summary Results

- Well received as aspiration with specific initiatives mainly in Europe (Horizon 2020 contracts, cOAlition S initiative)
- Major barriers: de facto academic culture (evaluation criteria); lack of organisational resources (repository functions); lack of awareness
- Lack of comprehensive policy (e.g. researcher incentives)
- Publisher policies add to confusion

Open Access: Best Practices

- Sao Paulo Research Foundation: Scientific Electronic Library Online (covering Brazil/Latin America, sets publication standards)
- Helmholtz: Open Science Coordination Office (information, support, implementation across all 18 Centres)
- OsloMet: OA Campaign (awareness, repository, mandatory OA, OA fund, OA champions)

Science Education: Summary Results

- No frontier in RRI Framework between science education and public engagement

- Science education target: students, teachers and life-long learners

- Societal engagement target: public at large, societal actors, and policy-makers

- SE often regarded as a standalone core activity of universities and not as part of RRI

- Main driver: desire to raise national profile of science

- Main barriers: lack of researcher incentives, lack of training

Science Education: Best Practices

- CASTED: International Research and Training Centre for Science and Technology Strategy (global outreach under UN system)

- CEA: Network of Pedagogical Action (dissemination, communication, NGO involvement, school focused)

- DST, India: INSPIRE programme for R&D talents (scholarships, competitions, talent retention funding)

- RCN: Nysgjerrigper Programme for primary/secondary schools (awareness raising, project competition)

Overall

- There are (very) good practices in various organisations that everyone can learn from
- These refer to both EU and non-EU, advanced and developing economies
- Need to study in detail and disseminate widely

THANK YOU!