

UNICA – EUTOPIA Train webinar, 17th May
2022

HORIZON EUROPE

Citizen science and societal engagement: a policy and programme priority



Katharina BUSE
Project Advisor
European Research Executive Agency

Why promote citizen science and societal engagement

- **Contributes to excellence**

- Enlarges the scope of R&I, and the quality and quantity of data collected, discussed and analysed
- Leads to – and enables – innovative and creative approaches
- Increases the robustness of the outcomes and reduces the time-to-market of products and services

- **Increases effectiveness**

- Leverages vast societal capabilities and collective intelligence often excluded from contributing to R&I
- Increases the relevance and responsiveness of R&I
- Triggers behavioural changes in institutions and the general public

- **Improves the relationship between science and society**

- Improves transparency, co-ownership and trust of society in the process and outputs of R&I, helping to respond to increased science denial
- Encourages that the outcomes of R&I are more inclusive in nature and less likely to generate opposition
- Fosters mutual learning between science and society (c.f. science-society literacy)

An integral part of EU open science policy

Open science is an approach based on **open cooperative work** and the systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the R&I process

Open science practices include **involving all relevant knowledge actors** such as citizens, civil society and end users in the **co-creation of R&I agendas and contents**

Pact for R&I in Europe

Open Science central to the values and principles for R&I in Europe



Upholding values

- Ethics and integrity
- Freedom of scientific research
- Gender equality and equal opportunities
- Pursuit of excellence
- Value creation



Working better

- Free circulation
- Pursuit of excellence
- Value creation



Working together

- Coordination, coherence and commitment
- Global outreach
- Inclusiveness
- **Societal responsibility**

Horizon Europe Regulation & Specific Programme

The Programme should engage and involve citizens and civil society organisations in co-designing and co-creating responsible research and innovation agendas and contents that meet citizens' and civil society's concerns, needs and expectations (Regulation)

- **Programme principle:** The programme shall promote co-creation and co-design through engagement of citizens and civil society (Regulation)
- **Operational objective:** Improving the relationship and interaction between science and society, including the visibility of science in society and science communication, and promoting the involvement of citizens and end-users in co-design and co-creation processes (Specific Programme)



EU Missions

R&I Missions

Relating EU's research and innovation better to society and citizens' needs; with strong visibility and impact

A mission is a portfolio of actions across disciplines intended to achieve a **bold and inspirational and measurable goal** within a set timeframe, with **impact** for society and policy making as well as relevance for a significant part of the European population and



Adaptation to climate change, including societal transformation



Cancer



Healthy oceans, seas, coastal & inland waters



Climate-neutral & smart cities



Soil health & food

Multi-actor approach favoured in Horizon Europe



Target **real-life needs, problems or opportunities**



Choose consortium partners with **complementary types of knowledge and skills** (for "cross-fertilisation")



Involve **"multipliers"** - people who can bring in practical knowledge and help disseminate the results in the long term

Some food for thought on citizen engagement

- **Level of engagement: starting from scratch or linking-up with existing initiatives?**
- **Types of engagement: consultation, involvement, co-design, co-creation**
- **Measure and monitor impact**
- **Aim at fostering institutional changes**
- **Build-in a feedback loop to respond to citizens and communicate results**
- **Sustainability**
- **Cascade funding = stick to conditions of the Work Programme**

Further information

[Horizon Europe – Funding Programme for Research and Innovation](#)

[Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022. Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area'](#)

[The European Research Area \(ERA\)](#)

[Factsheet 'Open Science in Horizon Europe'](#)

[Cordis Result Pack on citizen science: Inspiring examples of societal engagement for Horizon Europe](#)

[Citizen science and citizen engagement: Achievements in Horizon 2020](#)

[Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#)

[DG RTD's webinar: How to prepare a successful proposal in Horizon Europe](#)



Thank you!

HorizonEU

<http://ec.europa.eu/horizon-europe>



© European Union 2021

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

Image credits: © ivector #235536634, #249868181, #251163013, #266009682, #273480523, #362422833, #241215668, #244690530, #245719946, #251163053, #252508849, 2020. Source: Stock.Adobe.com. Icons © Flaticon – all rights reserved.