

1st RRI-Leaders newsletter



Welcome to the first RRI-Leaders newsletter! Have a look at the news we have gathered for you and learn more about the project and its implications. Forward the newsletter to anyone in your network who might be interested, and stay tuned! **(You can also download it by clicking here)**

An introduction to RRI-Leaders project

RRI-Leaders explores the relevance of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) to territorial governance in four European territories, which represent different cultural and socio-economic backgrounds, different scope of territorial oversight, different institutional and decision-making infrastructures, different R&I landscapes, and different dynamics among territorial actors: the city of Sofia, Bulgaria; the Region of Western Macedonia, Greece; the city of Sabadell, Spain; and the city of Thalwil, Switzerland. **Read More.**



RRI-Leaders in a nutshell



Check out the new RRI-Leaders video for social media. Let's make it go viral! And stay tuned!!

Four territories are participating in the RR-Leaders project to explore the implementation of territorial policy strategies following the RRI principles: the city of Sofia, Bulgaria; the Region of Western Macedonia, Greece; the city of Sabadell, Spain; and the city of Thalwil, Switzerland.

Throughout these months we will present to you what each of the territories is doing.

in this first newsletter we would like to introduce you to the role of Catalonia in the RRI-leaders project, through its two partners: the Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation (FCRI), and the Economic Promotion of Sabadell (PES).

Listen to the General Director of the FCRI comment on the RRI aspects focused on the territory of Catalonia.



Sabadell RRI strategy development



Innovation appears as a strategic axis to ensure regional development which requires systemic interactions among different stakeholders. The well-known quadruple helix model appears as a key aspect to ensure and accelerate any innovation process. A complex system of interactions, collective learning, networks and linkages that requires for an effective model of governance. Local governments have an important role on its deployment by favouring any institutional arrangement. Thus, through their local economic agencies, they can promote interactions among the different stakeholders and facilitate a solid framework to consolidate regional innovation governance. [Read More.](#)

Council of the elderly people of Sabadell



The Municipal Council of the Elderly is back in action, after a year without being in operation. The last Pplenary of this body was held with the purpose of promoting the participation of older people in the city's public policies. The Council is made up of almost sixty people and will meet quarterly. He will work in commissions. Three have been established to work on three themes respectively: Unwanted loneliness and volunteering; City and Communication and Participation and Leisure. [Read More.](#)

Western Macedonia RRI strategy approach



The participation of the University of Western Macedonia (UoWM) and the Local Government Association of Western Macedonia (LGA-WM) in the RRI-Leaders project has been a great opportunity for the two organisations to practically

implement the concept of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), in favor of the Region of Western Macedonia (RWM). For UoWM, RRI principles are implemented through the Research Ethics Committee, which clearly sets the framework of ethical research. At the same time, UoWM is preparing the Responsible Research Unit, to further strengthen its research footprint and investigate possible scientific approaches and implication of research responsibility. [Read More.](#)

On-demand innovation: harnessing the power of innovation for the common good

INNOAIR is the only Bulgarian project funded by the EU's Urban Innovative Actions initiative, designed to support piloting first-time innovations in the EU. Its overall objective is to improve air quality by introducing a holistic set of tools and a novel paradigm of public transportation – on-demand mobility shifting the way people travel in the cities and dramatically reducing single use vehicles, which are the major contributor to air pollution. [Read More.](#)



RRI and its application on climate challenges



In Denmark, citizens are providing policymakers with recommendations on how to solve the climate crisis. The climate crisis is the biggest challenge of our time and requires fundamental changes across society. To ensure robust solutions that have support and anchoring, citizens must be directly involved in the green transition. One of the obvious ways to get involved is through local climate assemblies. [Read more](#)

SDG innovation accelerator



The Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) Centre for Corporate Responsibility is participating as mentor in the SDG Innovation Acceleration Programme, which engages young professionals from companies participating in the UN Global Compact Network Switzerland & Liechtenstein, to learn how to use the # Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a catalyst for the development of new products and services. [Read more](#) [Read More.](#)

Embedding RRI in Western Balkan countries: enhancement of self-sustaining R&I ecosystems



WBC-RRI.NET aims to foster the application of RRI principles at the territorial level in five (5) Western Balkan -4 region-level and 1 country-level- R&I ecosystems and promote a multi-level steering R&I governance framework in the WBCs. RRI principles will act as enablers to the shared learning and diffusion of R&I governance innovations at territorial level, enhancing R&I planning, including S3 Strategies in the WBCs. The project's approach evolving through an analytical, reflective and implementation thread, will operationally address the 5 WB territories (partners represent all parts of the quadruple helix) and subsequently influence the wider WB region, by activating the embedding of RRI into their R&I ecosystems. [Read more](#)





Events

Find below the past events of the previous quarter and the upcoming ones in regard practical implementation of RRI topics & dimensions:

- **Vegueria Penedès conference.** 1st conference on public-private partnerships in the Vegueria del Penedès, Catalonia. March 2nd
- **New EU project Futuresilience.** How R&I can contribute to create more resilient societies. Keynote at the launching event. March 22nd
- **Repair Café Thalwil.** Example of quadruple helix cooperation. March 25th
- **ZHAW's annual Sustainability Day.** Lecture on grand challenges and insights from the RRI-Leaders project. March 28th
- **Fira Silver Vallès.** 1st meeting dedicated to Silver Economy held by RRI-Leader territorial partner Sabadell. March 31st
- **Triple Helix Association Conference.** Entrepreneurial and engaged universities for sustainable development. June 26th – 29th

Links

In this section you can learn more about other RRI related projects and other interesting topics also in regard to RRI concepts too.

- **TeRRIFICA.** Territorial RRI fostering Innovative Climate Action
- **TetRRIs.** Territorial Responsible Research and Innovation and Smart Specialisation
- **WBC-RRI.NET.** Embedding RRI in Western Balkan Countries: Enhancement of Self-Sustaining R&I Ecosystems
- **RIPEET.** Responsible research and Innovation Policy Experimentations for Energy Transition
- **SUPER_MoRRI.** Scientific Understanding and Provision of an Enhanced and Robust Monitoring system for RRI
- **DigiTeRRI.** RRI approach for transitioning the traditional industry regions into digitalized industry territories
- **RRI2SCALE.** RRI Ecosystems at Regional Scale for Intelligent Cities, Transport and Energy
- **TRANSFORM.** Territories as Responsive and Accountable Networks of S3 through new Forms of Open and Responsible FFdecision-Making
- **RRIstart.** A Responsible Research & Innovation Model for Impact investment & Responsible Startups.
- **CORDIS.** The Community Research and Development Information Service
- **MOOC.** Course on Responsible Research and Innovation