



Policy Conference **Territories as Leaders in Responsible Research and Innovation**

Brussels, 19 October 2023



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101006439.



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This publication has been produced within the framework of the RRI-LEADERS project, funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, under grant agreement No 101006439.

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Territories as Leaders in Responsible Research and Innovation

Policy Conference organised by the consortium of the RRI-LEADERS project in the European Committee of the Regions (Brussels) on 19 October 2023.



With contributions from the projects



With the support of



European Committee of the Regions



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ABSTRACT

TERRITORIES AS LEADERS IN RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Nowadays megatrends, such as climate and demographic change, accelerated dual digital and energy transition, urbanisation, to mention some, pose huge challenges to European cities and regions. They need to find a proper balance between sustaining economic growth and transition to a low-carbon/climate neutral economy, while at the same time ensuring social inclusion and preserving social cohesion.

Why focus on territories?

Territories, i.e. to say – cities and regions, and local and regional authorities respectively, are the critical link between policies at the EU and national levels and citizens, who are the main beneficiary but also the main actor in making the foreseen transitions work. Territories have a specific advantage to address the complexity of challenges set by the interplay between science and society. Indeed, local stakeholders have an intimate knowledge of the physical territorial setting and local ecology, i.e. of the complex relationships between cultural, social, economic and political actors, of the local dynamics, history, expectations and requirements, as well as of specific concerns.

Why Responsible Research and Innovation?

The European Commission has been supporting the Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) approach since 2011. RRI aims to encourage societal actors to work together during the whole research and innovation (R&I) cycle to align R&I and their outcomes with the values, needs and expectations of society.

RRI and the territories

Within the 2018-2020 period, under Horizon 2020, DG Research and Innovation of the European Commission placed a strong focus on supporting the application of Responsible Research and Innovation approach in territories. Following three consecutive calls for proposals, a rich portfolio of projects were supported by Horizon 2020. These projects aimed at integrating the RRI approach in regional policymaking, such as spatial planning, land-use and coastal planning, urban development activities, energy transition, healthy ageing, smart specialisation, to mention just a few policy areas. An important aspect of these projects was close collaboration with the territorial Quadruple Helix Stakeholders, and particularly mobilisation of citizens, irrespective of their age, gender, ethnicity and socioeconomic background.

RRI-LEADERS Policy Conference brings together diverse participants from across Europe: project partners in ongoing or recently completed RRI-focused projects – RRI-LEADERS, RIPEET, WBC-INCO.NET, tetRRIS, as well as ENTRANCES, stakeholders from the city of Sofia (Bulgaria), the region of Western Macedonia (Greece), the municipality of Thalwil (Switzerland), the city of Sabadell (Catalonia, Spain), RRI policy supporters, regional development agencies, business and industry associations, decision-makers in STI at different levels of governance (local, regional, national), as well as representatives of the Research Executive Agency of the European Commission, DG Research and Innovation, the Committee of the Regions (list not exhaustive).

Conference participants will learn about the diverse experience of European territories in integrating Responsible Research and Innovation in territorial policymaking.

Zoya DAMIANOVA

Applied Research and Communications Fund (Bulgaria)
Coordinator of RRI-LEADERS



AGENDA

8:30 – 9:30

Registration, coffee and refreshments

9:30 – 10:00

Opening of the conference

Zoya DAMIANOVA, Applied Research and Communications Fund, Bulgaria

Keynote addresses

- **Open and Responsible Research and Innovation in the EU**
Dr. Georgios PAPANAGNOU, DG Research and Innovation
- **General implementation aspects of RRI**
Silvia ABAD, European Research Executive Agency

10:00 – 10.30

Introduction to the Conference

- **RRI-LEADERS project: challenges, achievements and impact**
Zoya DAMIANOVA, Applied Research and Communications Fund, Bulgaria
- **Vision for responsible territorial policymaking**
Marko HAJDINJAK, Applied Research and Communications Fund, Bulgaria

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee break

11.00 – 12.45

RRI in territorial policymaking: the experience of RRI-LEADERS

Moderator: Edward ANDERSSON

- **Challenges in the implementation of the RRI-AIRR framework in energy transition: The case of Western Macedonia**
Dr. Pavlos KILINTZIS, Local Government Association - Region of Western Macedonia, Greece
- **Using a Delphi Study to develop consensus-based policy proposals for the energy transition in Thalwil**
Dr. Gabriel HAPPLE & Dr. Martin SCHMITZ, Municipality of Thalwil, Switzerland



- **The experience of Sabadell with the citizen review panel on Active Ageing**
Anna PUIGGRÒS, Promoció Econòmica de Sabadell SL, Spain
- **Smart Culture: Leveraging RRI-AIRR Principles in the Design of Cultural Policies**
Dr. Snezhina GABOVA, Sofia Development Association, Bulgaria

12.45 – 14.00 **Buffet lunch - Atrium 6, Committee of the Regions**
Video session in Atrium 6

14.00 – 15.30 **RRI in territorial policymaking: the wider picture**
Moderators: Zoya DAMIANOVA and Edward ANDERSSON

- **Transition Labs: putting responsible innovation into practice**
Wolfgang HAIDER, RIPEET project coordinator, Centre for Social Innovation, Austria
- **Main achievements of the WBC-RRI.NET project and its impacts on Western Balkan region**
Prof. Goran STOJANOVIC, WBC-RRI.NET Coordinator, University of Novi Sad (UNS), Serbia
- **Social Aspects of Transition to Clean Energies in Europe**
Prof. Ricardo GARCIA MIRA, ENTRANCES Project Coordinator, University of A Coruña, Spain
- **Implementing RRI: Paths to reach responsible and sustainable regional innovation**
Dr. Nina RILLA, Senior Scientist in Ethics and responsibility of innovations, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland
- **The Citizen Review Panel: A public engagement method for supporting territorial policymaking**
Maya Bidstrup, The Danish Board of Technology, Denmark



15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break
16.00 – 17.20	Recommendations to policymakers at different levels of governance Moderator: Edward ANDERSSON <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy recommendations Lars KLÜVER, Danish Board of Technology, Denmark Panel discussion – participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Svetlozar ANDREEV, Head of the Research and Innovation policy sector, Committee of the Regions• Prof. Ellen-Marie FORSBERG, Managing Director, Norwegian Institute of Sustainability Research (NORSUS), Norway• Dr. Claire NAUWELAERS, independent Policy Analyst and Governmental Adviser, specialised in research and innovation policy, Belgium• Dr. Miltos LADIKAS, Senior Researcher at the Institute for Technology, Assessment and Systems Analysis, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany• Lars KLÜVER, Former director and currently Senior Advisor, the Danish Board of Technology• Bogdan CHELARIU, President, European Association of Development Agencies (EURADA)
17.20	Closing remarks Zoya DAMIANOVA, Applied Research and Communications Fund
17.30 – 18.15	Cultural event, Atrium 6, Committee of the Regions Elite Ensemble Orchestra, Italy “Leonardo 4 Children 2023: Climate, Equality & Peace”



SPEAKERS, PANELLISTS AND ABSTRACTS (In order of intervention)

Keynote addresses

Open and Responsible Research and Innovation in the EU

Georgios PAPANAGNOU

DG Research and Innovation (Belgium)

Policy Officer on Open Science at the European Commission. He has worked for a number of years at DG Research and Innovation, with previous stops at UNESCO and academia, focusing on issues of participation in science, democracy, fairness, etc. He holds a PhD in Political Science.

General implementation aspects of RRI



Silvia ABAD

European Research Executive Agency (Belgium)

Spanish agronomist by background, Silvia has been serving as a Project Officer at the Research Executive Agency (REA) since 2011. Her journey within the European institutions began with Marie-Curie Actions in DG RTD, after which she moved to REA to further contribute to this programme until 2017. Subsequently, Silvia embarked on a new role within Horizon 2020's Societal Challenge 2 (Cluster 6 of Horizon Europe now) where she acted as a Call Coordinator for a 5-year period. Since 2022, she started a new chapter in her career, assuming the position of Project Officer within the ERA (European Research Area) programme. She is in charge of projects spanning a diverse range of fields, including Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), gender equality and the advancement of researchers' careers.



Introduction to the Conference

RRI-LEADERS project: challenges, achievements and impact

The main goal of RRI-LEADERS was to facilitate the adoption of RRI principles within territorial governance objectives in four European territories: the Region of Western Macedonia, Greece; City of Sabadell, Spain; Municipality of Thalwil, Switzerland; and Sofia Municipality, Bulgaria. RRI-LEADERS partners have focused on different policy areas, which are important for each territory. They range from energy transition to healthy ageing and smart specialisation, to support to innovation, to sustainable development, to digitalisation and youth entrepreneurship. To attain the established objective, the partners developed and applied a novel multi-actor and multi-stage co-creation approach, which encompassed: RRI audits of the four territories, a Delphi study, citizen review panels and transformative outlooks. Major achievements of the project are the territorial Transformative Outlooks, the Vision for Responsible Territorial Policymaking and Policy Recommendations to Different Levels of Governance.



Zoya DAMIANOVA

Applied Research and Communications Fund (Bulgaria)

Director of the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Programme at the Applied Research and Communications Fund. She has more than 25 years of experience in developing and managing projects in research and innovation, as well as foresight and technology assessment studies. Zoya has directly coordinated or contributed in an expert capacity to more than 100 projects during her tenure with ARC Fund, focused on diverse topics among which responsible research and innovation in territorial governance, public engagement in policy design, sustainable innovation and climate change, energy transition, energy citizenship and energy communities, sustainable food systems, workplace innovation. Zoya has been regularly invited as an external expert by DG RTD of the European Commission (focus on energy and environment). She has been a member of several expert groups, established by DG RTD. Zoya holds a MSc in power generation and MBA in corporate finance.



Vision for responsible territorial policymaking

The Vision for Responsible Territorial Policymaking has been developed by the RRI-LEADERS consortium. It is based on the experiences of four territories with integrating Responsible Research and Innovation principles into territorial policymaking in selected policy areas. The Vision proposes a pathway towards transformative changes in territories to help them meet the challenges of sustainable development and enhance resilience.

Responsible territorial policymaking considers different societal and ethical issues, addresses the needs and expectations of society and citizens, and corresponds with the societal values. Responsible territorial policymaking incorporates the main principles of the Responsible Research and Innovation approach into the policymaking process, thus making it anticipatory, inclusive, reflexive and responsive. In addition, the responsible territorial policymaking is future-oriented, it supports the attainment of the long-term EU policies and of the Sustainable Development Goals, is based on co-creation and co-implementation, and builds upon the combined knowledge of all territorial stakeholders.



Marko HAJDINJAK

Applied Research and Communications Fund (Bulgaria)

Senior analyst at ARC Fund, MA in Nationalism Studies from Central European University, Budapest, Hungary. He has over 20 years of experience with participation and management of international research projects on a wide range of topics, including Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), energy citizenship, energy efficiency in the residential sector, green transition, socio-economic impacts of science and research, gender issues, inclusion of disadvantaged communities, and safe and responsible use of digital technologies among children and young people.

RRI in territorial policymaking: the experience of RRI-LEADERS



Edward ANDERSSON

Independent expert (Sweden)

Participation and engagement expert based in Malmö (Sweden), with over twenty years' worth of experience. He was a founding staff member of the London based Involve Foundation, served as Involve's deputy director for five years and also worked for many years with the UK Government's Sciencewise programme for public dialogue in Science and Technology issues. Edward has worked widely as a trainer, facilitator and process designer in Sweden and internationally. He had worked closely with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions and has contributed to numerous EU-supported projects on the topic of Responsible Research and Innovation.

Moderator



Challenges in the implementation of the RRI-AIRR framework in energy transition: The case of Western Macedonia

Western Macedonia for years was considered as the main energy provider of Greece, producing the majority of the country's energy output, in the form of lignite-based electricity. Nowadays the region is implementing the mega-task of energy transition, from a lignite to a sustainable RES-based production model. RRI is considered an effective science/policy framework that may promote the principles of responsibility through the implementation of its keys / dimensions. However, it often lacks adaptability to advanced policy issues such as energy transition. In Western Macedonia, RRI is partially implemented as a guiding framework for energy transition policies. Major keys / dimensions are already implemented such as open access to policy material and gender equality in the fulfillment of just transition organisations and mechanisms. However, other prominent RRI keys/dimensions such as inclusiveness of all societal sectors in transition governance and anticipation in shaping potential positive or negative outcomes are only partially applied. The transformation of the current decision-making mechanism of the just transition plan, by being more inclusive in terms of citizens' inclusion in the decision making, more participatory in citizens engagement in policy / science activities and more responsive in quickly adopting implementation measures for coping with the negative effects of lignite abandonment, accrued from the findings of the RRI-LEADERS project.



Dr. Pavlos KILINTZIS

Local Government Association of Western Macedonia (Greece)

Graduate in Electronic Engineering, holder of two master degrees and Doctor in Technology Entrepreneurship from the University of Western Macedonia (UoWM). He currently works as a senior researcher at the Local Government Association of Western Macedonia, having many years of experience in the management and implementation of European and national research projects (H2020, Interreg, Erasmus+, RIS3, H.F.R.I.) in areas related to entrepreneurship, innovation, sustainable and regional development. He has a sound university teaching experience in related disciplines such as Total Quality Management, Strategic Management, Financial Management, among others.



Using a Delphi Study to develop consensus-based policy proposals for the energy transition in Thalwil

A Delphi Study and a World Café workshop were important steps in the co-creation process that enabled the Municipality of Thalwil in Switzerland to develop policy proposals for the energy transition. First, through a multi-round online Delphi questionnaire, expert stakeholders rated the importance of solutions, barriers, and ways to integrate RRI-AIRR into the municipal energy transition policy. At this stage, the main focus was the exploration of consensus among different policy options.

As a second step, a World Café workshop was organised, where stakeholders prioritised the policy options that reached consensus in the Delphi study further and gathered ideas to move forward with their practical implementation.

The presentation discusses the challenges of the process and exemplarily illustrates how the results shaped the final policy proposals in Thalwil. Although some results were integrated into the transformative outlook, others were changed or replaced by the citizen review panel that followed.



Dr. Gabriel HAPPLE

Municipality of Thalwil (Switzerland)

Scientific associate for energy planning in the environment and sustainability division in the municipal administration of Thalwil. He has a background in energy science and sustainable development. He obtained his PhD from ETH Zürich working in the transdisciplinary project “multi-scale energy systems for low-carbon cities” at the Future Cities Laboratory in Singapore.



Dr. Martin SCHMITZ

Municipality of Thalwil (Switzerland)

Head of the environment and sustainability division in the municipal administration of Thalwil. Martin is a biologist and geographer. He obtained his PhD in Environmental Sciences at the University of Zürich. He has a Master of Advanced Studies in environmental technology and management.



The experience of Sabadell with the citizen review panel on Active Ageing

Population ageing is one of the greatest challenges of contemporary societies. Policies aimed at Active Ageing could create opportunities for technological design, innovation and experimentation. At municipal and regional level, universities, companies, public administrations and citizens (the quadruple helix) need to come together to create a valuable innovation ecosystem. However, the voice of civil society is still missing in Sabadell's innovation ecosystem. That is why the Economic Development Agency of Sabadell decided to join the RRI-LEADERS project: to explore a more systemic way of integrating principles such as public engagement, ethical considerations, and promotion of gender equality and diversity into policymaking.

During the reviewing stage of the project, the involvement of the citizens was performed through the celebration of the Citizen Review Panel (CRP). Citizens were given the opportunity to voice their opinions while suggesting improvements to the experts' objectives and actions of the Transformative Outlook for Sabadell in Active Ageing. The event was an incredible opportunity to learn and exchange knowledge from different points of view and daily experiences. However, the CRP also faced challenges and barriers to be addressed in future editions.

The inclusion of citizens' opinions in the city matters is without a doubt an important subject to look at in all territories, since it is one of the pillars for a responsible governance. Therefore, the resilience of a territory can be measured through its capacity to overcome societal challenges, what is more, through its social implication.



Anna PUIGGRÒS

Economic Development Agency of Sabadell (Catalonia, Spain)

Graduate in Geography (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), master in Contemporary Urbanism (London School of Economics) and postgraduate in Circular Economy (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya). She has been working in strategic planning at local and metropolitan scale for more than 15 years, participating in several international projects and working for different international organisations such as UNESCO and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), with the aim to promote sustainable development in the territory.



Smart Culture: Leveraging RRI-AIRR Principles in the Design of Cultural Policies

Embedding RRI-AIRR principles into territorial development policies and urban planning tools is a complex and dynamic process that requires careful coordination among multiple actors and governance levels. The RRI-LEADERS project has played a significant role in facilitating this shift in the governance of research and innovation in Sofia, and has helped establish responsibility as an institutionalised ambition and a priority for city authorities. One notable outcome of this shift is the transformative policy proposals that were co-created during the project period and synthesised in the city’s transformative outlook. These proposals exemplify Sofia’s commitment to incorporating RRI-AIRR principles into its governance practices. A particularly noteworthy achievement is the integration of these principles into the city’s new cultural strategy, titled “Culture and the Arts - New Energy for Sustainable Development of Sofia 2023-2033”. The presentation examines various aspects of public engagement in this process and compares the potential of RRI-AIRR to influence local transformation strategies across different policy fields.



Dr. Snezhina GABOVA

Sofia Development Association (Bulgaria)

Researcher at Sofia Development Association (SDA). Prior to joining SDA, Snezhina worked as European Programmes Coordinator for Risk Monitor Foundation, Sofia, and Director of Development at the Bulgarian School of Politics. She has considerable experience in project development and management, in the areas of education, good governance, social innovations and inclusion. Her area of expertise also includes EU programmes for lifelong learning (all actions under Erasmus +), acquired in her career as director of the National Erasmus+ Agency in Bulgaria. Snezhina holds an MA in philosophy from Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” and PhD in Philosophy from Villanova University, PA (USA), where she has also taught undergraduate courses in ethics and philosophy.



RRI in territorial policymaking: the wider picture

Transition Labs: putting responsible innovation into practice

RIPEET project implements Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) policy experimentations for energy transition in three European territories - in Extremadura (ES), Highlands and Islands of Scotland (UK) and Ostrobothnia (FI). In these three regions Transition Labs are set up a) to co-create common visions based on the potentials and priorities of the territorial eco-systems, b) to generate transition pathways and innovation needs, launching a call for immediate bottom-up solutions to these and c) to anchor the process on organisational as well as policy level. The presentation will share the RIPEET experiences with "Transition Labs" as anticipative and inclusive vehicles for territorial energy transitions.



Wolfgang HAIDER

Centre for Social Innovation (Austria)

Researcher and project manager at the Centre for Social Innovation in Vienna, where he has been working since October 2015. With a Master's degree in International Development Studies from the University of Vienna and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, Wolfgang has built a strong foundation to address complex societal challenges from a transdisciplinary perspective. Currently he is pursuing a PhD at the University of Utrecht's Copernicus Institute for Sustainable Development, in which he combines his expertise in the fields of transformative (social) innovation, multi-level governance, regional development, and sustainability transitions. Notably, Wolfgang also coordinates the H2020 project RIPEET (Responsible Research and Innovation Policy Experimentation for Energy Transition). This initiative aims to drive needs-based regional innovative policies and foster collaborations that accelerate sustainable energy transitions, ensuring a just and sustainable future for communities in the EU and beyond.



Main achievements of the WBC-RRI.NET project and its impacts on Western Balkan region

WBC-RRI.NET project aims to boost R&I in the WBCs by adopting a sustainable development framework based on responsible research and innovation principles at the local level. The ambition is to enhance R&I planning, including smart specialisation strategies in the WBCs, and foster strong socioeconomic development while informing R&I policy and enabling the region to address its needs. WBC-RRI.NET fosters the application of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) at the territorial level in five Western Balkan Research and Innovation (R&I) ecosystems and promotes a multi-level governance framework for steering R&I in the Western Balkans (WB): Province of Vojvodina (Serbia), Kune-Vain-Tale ecosystem (Albania), Republic of Srpska (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Country of Montenegro, and Skopje planning region (North Macedonia). The presentation focuses on the main achievements of the project.



Prof. Goran STOJANOVIC

University of Novi Sad (Serbia)

Full professor at Faculty of Technical Sciences (FTS), University of Novi Sad (UNS), Serbia. He received a BSc, MSc and a PhD degree in 1996, 2003 and 2005, respectively, from FTS-UNS, all in electrical engineering. He has 27 years of experience in R&D. He is an author/co-author of 145 papers in peer-reviewed journals with impact factors, 5 books, 5 patents, 1 chapter in monograph. H-index: 23, Citations: 1992 (Google Scholar, July, 2023). Currently, Prof. Stojanović is the Head of the Laboratory for nano and printed electronics. He was a General Chair of IEEE International Symposium on Design and Diagnostics of Electronic Circuits and Systems (DDECS2020) and General Vice-Chair of the IEEE East-West Design & Test Symposium (EWDTS2017). He was a member of a Jury of the biggest regional festival of innovation and patents "Tesla Fest", organised annually in Novi Sad, Serbia. He also participated in the organisation of the Festivals of Science, held in Novi Sad every year. He has more than 17 years of experience in coordination of EU funded projects (Horizon Europe, H2020, EUREKA, ERASMUS, CEI), with a total budget exceeding 18.86 MEUR. He was engaged by Science and Technology Park Belgrade as an expert for providing consultative support to SMEs, as well as helping them to prepare project proposals for national and EU funded open calls. He has delivered more than 150 trainings for project proposal writing for institutions from both academic and industrial sectors.



Social Aspects of Transition to Clean Energies in Europe

ENTRANCES advocates the impact of Clean Energy Transition on societies. It analyses processes of de-territorialisation and re-territorialisation in 13 European coal and carbon intensive regions from a socio-economic, socio-technical, socio-cultural, socio-political, socio-ecological, socio-psychological and gender perspective. It aims at developing understanding from scientific evidence and knowledge based on interdisciplinary and inter-organisational dialogue. The project addresses coping strategies and challenges faced by these regions taking into account these multidimensional perspective involving different key players at territorial, regional, national, European, and global levels. Hinging on the idea that the transition to clean energy should not be considered only as a technological change or an industrial shift but also a socio-economic-psychological process that affects the daily life of local communities. The project will integrate, in a single research framework and in a cross-European study focused on these regions, socio-economic factors, political dynamics and deep territorial transformations linked to the energy transition.



Prof. Ricardo GARCÍA MIRA
University of A Coruña (Spain)

Full Professor of Social Psychology at University of A Coruña, Spain, specialized in Environmental Psychology. He is also an Honorary Professor of the Institute for Policy Research of the University of Bath, UK (2015-2024). Coordinator of the H2020 ENTRANCES project on ENergy TRANSitions from Coal and carbon: Effects on Societies. He was the Coordinator of the GLAMURS project (2014-2016) Sustainable lifestyles, and also the coordinator of the LOCAW project (2011-2013) on Low Carbon at Work. He was granted as Doctor Honoris Causa by the 'Alexandru Ioan Cuza' University, Iasi (2018). Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo, Japan (2021). Visiting Scholar at the College of Human Ecology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York (2020). He was the President of the International Association for People-environment Studies -IAPS- (2014-2018). He was elected Fellow of the International Association of Applied Psychology -IAAP (2018-). He is the European Editor of the Journal of Architectural and Planning Research and a member of the Editorial Committee of a few scientific journals as Sustainability, Journal of Environmental Psychology, Journal of Sustainability Research, among others. During the period 2016-2019 he was a Member of the Parliament of Spain in the XI and XII legislatures (Climate Change Spokesperson). He has published more than 140 papers as articles, book chapters or research reports, on the field of people-environment studies.

Implementing RRI: Paths to reach responsible and sustainable regional innovation

The presentation introduces the outcomes of tetRRIS project that concentrated on building RRI capabilities in four European regions: Tampere, Karlsruhe, Cantabria, and Szeged-Timisoara. It discusses drivers and barriers in adopting responsibility and sustainability in the regional innovation systems and concludes with lessons learned and major pitfalls.

The ambition of tetRRIS is to bring Responsible Research and Innovation in alignment with the Smart Specialisation paradigm and governance within 4 pilot regions from the European Union: Tampere, Karlsruhe, Cantabria, and Szeged-Timisoara. The project explored how regional implementation context affects development of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), and what should be considered when introducing social and environmental values besides economic value in regional or local innovation and business ecosystems.



Dr. Nina RILLA

VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland (Finland)

Senior Scientist in Ethics and Responsibility of Innovations team at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland. Nina has 20 years of experience in science, technology and innovation (STI) research and development in national and international projects. Currently, she is interested in responsibility-driven change and social sustainability and works in projects related to RRI in regional innovation context, gender equality and inclusiveness in STI, and social economy in post-growth for example.

The Citizen Review Panel: A public engagement method for supporting territorial policymaking

The Citizen Review Panel is a method that has been developed within the RRI-LEADERS project for citizens to review and validate territorial action plans. By including citizens in the policymaking process, the RRI-LEADERS project aims to represent citizens in the policy debate and obtain a common-sense view on policy actions.

The method is a four-step process where citizens 1) assess actions, 2) improve actions, 3) write a statement, and 4) prioritise actions. The outcome feeds into the process of finalising territorial action plans that implement an RRI perspective.

Throughout the presentation, the different steps of the method will be explained, drawing on an example from the Municipality of Thalwil. By use of these examples, reflections will be made on how RRI is reflected in the citizens' review of territorial policies, answering to the question on how the method can be used for integrating RRI into territorial policymaking.



Maya VESTERGAARD BIDSTRUP

Danish Board of Technology (Denmark)

Project Manager at the Danish Board of Technology, she is experienced with designing and implementing citizen and stakeholder engagement activities, trainings in citizen engagement, and RRI projects. She has a teaching degree and a master's degree in social science with a focus on socially marginalised groups.



Recommendations to policymakers at different levels of governance

Policy recommendations

The RRI-LEADERS consortium has developed a list of policy recommendations for integrating the RRI-AIRR framework into territorial policymaking processes. These policy recommendations have been identified on the basis of the project results as well as the experiences of the RRI-LEADERS partners gathered during the project implementation. The policy recommendations address the most pressing issues in territories and target mainly territorial policymakers, although they might be of interest to representatives of national and EU-level institutions as well.

One general recommendation that summarises the proposed policy recommendations is that any regional or municipal plan that aims to contribute to sustainable territorial development requires identification of those RRI aspects that are most commonly neglected by policymakers or misunderstood by stakeholders. Furthermore, such plan should put forward concrete measures for strengthening the capacity of territorial policymakers to begin implementing them.

Open and Responsible Research and Innovation in the EU



Lars KLÜVER

Danish Board of Technology (Denmark)

Senior Advisor at the Danish Board of Technology (DBT), he has been the Director of DBT in the period 1994-2022. He has more than 35 years of practical and theoretical work in technology assessment (TA), foresight and Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), with special focus on engagement and interactive methodologies including processes, which involve representatives from societal groups, such as experts, stakeholders, politicians, citizens, users, local communities, etc. The DBT is a front-runner on policy analysis that involves interactivity and participation, and the toolbox of the DBT includes a wide range of methods for public participation, stakeholder processes, interdisciplinary collaboration, and policy discourse.



Panel discussion



Svetlozar ANDREEV

European Committee of the Regions (Belgium)

Head of the Research and Innovation policy sector of the European Committee of the Regions, where he has been working since 2008. He has a PhD from the European University Institute (Florence, IT) in comparative political science. He used to be a visiting lecturer at New York University (US), the University of Sienna (IT), the University of Westminster (UK), Sofia University (BG) and many others. He was also a research fellow at St. Anthony's College, Oxford (UK) and at CEPC, Madrid (ES). He has more than 30 refereed publications in international scientific journals and collective volumes.



Prof. Ellen-Marie FORSBERG

Norwegian Institute for Sustainability Research (Norway)

Managing Director of the Norwegian Institute for Sustainability Research (NORSUS), she has a minor research component at the institute. She has a doctorate in applied ethics from the University of Oslo in 2007. She coordinated the European Commission Horizon 2020 project Responsible Research and Innovation in Practice (RRI-Practice www.rri-practice.eu) and has led several other Norwegian and international projects in the RRI field. Her research has mostly focused on ethics and governance of emerging technologies, responsible research and innovation, agricultural and food ethics, and research ethics.



Dr. Claire NAUWELAERS

Independent Policy Analyst (Belgium)

Independent Policy Analyst and Governmental Adviser, specialised in evaluation of research and innovation policy, working in an international environment. She has 30 years of experience in this field and a wide network of contacts with experts, academics and policy-makers. She has been working as a policy analyst in the Regional Development Policy Division at OECD; as Research Director at UNU-MERIT, the University of Maastricht and United Nations University, and as researcher within two academic teams (the Interdisciplinary Centre in Regional Development, and the Interdisciplinary Centre Law-Economics) at the University of Louvain in Belgium.



Dr. Miltos LADIKAS

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (Germany)

Senior researcher at the Institute for Technology, Assessment and Systems Analysis, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany. He has studied Social Psychology (London School of Economics) with a focus on Societal Aspects in Technological Developments. Since 1996, he has held research positions in UK and Germany specialising in Science and Society issues. He has coordinated a number of international projects in the areas of science and technology policy, technology assessment, ethics of scientific developments, public perceptions in science and technology, genetically modified foods and access to pharmaceuticals.



Bogdan CHELARIU

European Association of Development Agencies, EURADA (Belgium)

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101006439.