



**ESF Member Organisation Fora on
Evaluation:**

ESF MO Forum on Evaluation of Publicly Funded Research

and

ESF MO Forum on Indicators of Internationalisation

Setting the Scene

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Stockholm, 10 May 2010

Outline of the Presentation

What are the ESF Member Organisation Fora ?

Description of current ESF MO Fora

Setting the Scene of the Workshop

ESF Member FORA: Rationale

“ESF Member Organisation FORA” are output-oriented, issue-related venues for ESF Member Organisations, involving others as appropriate, to exchange information and experiences and develop joint actions in science policy.

ESF MO FORUM ON RESEARCH EVALUATION: Rationale

The EUROHORCs and ESF Vision on a Globally competitive ERA and their Road Map for Actions

- Published in 2009
- 10 Actions:

1. strengthen the **relations** between **science, society and the private sector**
2. promote **European research careers**
3. develop **scientific foresight** for **joint strategy**
4. create a **European Grant Union**
5. address **peer review** of proposals
6. develop **common approaches to ex-post evaluation**
7. create **ERA Connect** and **Regional Clusters of Excellence**
8. develop shared funding and exploitation of **research infrastructure**
9. implement common policy on **Open Access**
10. connect **European research to the world**

→ Mandate to MRC

MO Fora Structure

Forum Basis:

- Aim
- Set of Objectives
- Action Plan with deliverables and timeline

Forum Structure:

- Assemblies/Workshops (once or twice a year)
- Working Groups (each dedicated to the development of an Action Plan item)
- A Chair / Chairs for each WG with a group of MO representatives for each one
- A Steering Committee that groups all the Chairs of the WGs.

ESF MO Fora Topics

2 MO FORA completed

- Promoting Internationalisation of Social Sciences in Central and Eastern Europe
- Evaluation of funding schemes and research programmes
- Research Careers

3 MO FORA running on

- Peer Review
- Research Integrity

4 MO FORA launched in 2010

- Research Infrastructures
- Science in Society Relationships
- Evaluation of Publicly Funded Research
- Indicators of Internationalisation

2 MO FORA in preparation

- Research Careers Development
- Foresight

MO FORUM on Peer review



Focus

Provide a platform to exchange experiences and to discuss and promote good practices across Europe.

Objectives

- Exchange and document experiences with current practices
- Identification of good practices
- Working towards Peer Review coordination
- Standardisation of peer review processes
- Development of an European Peer Review Guide

Participation

Over 30 organisations (+ observers)

Action Items

1. Survey to map ESF MOs Peer Review Processes
2. European Peer Review Guide

Implementation of "*EUROHORCs and ESF RoadMap*"

CHAPTER 5: "*Addressing common Peer Review Systems at the European level*"

MO FORUM on Research Integrity

Focus

Platform that addresses both the individual aspects of research integrity and the structural science policy aspects.

Objectives

- Platform to present each other's approaches, to discuss their strengths and shortcomings; exchange of good practices.
- Support and encourage organisations which do not yet have appropriate structures to learn from the experiences of others and to initiate debates in their respective communities on adequate models.
- Channel European input to the 2nd World Conference on Research Integrity (July 2010)

Participation

Over 15 organisations (+ observers)

Action Items

1. Develop an European Code of Conduct
2. Guidelines for Implementation + Check list for Setting up national structures
3. Raising awareness – Survey on activities and identification of good practices



MO FORUM on Research Careers

Focus

Joint platform for the exchange of views and experiences. Interface for ESF Mos, the EC and universities in Europe represented by EUA and LERU.

Objectives

- ❑ To develop a Roadmap for research career development in Europe and by this means
- ❑ to create or improve European-level, including coordinated national, policies and programmes aimed at promoting different career stages and
- ❑ to raise the international visibility of the ERA as a common labour market for researchers.

Participation

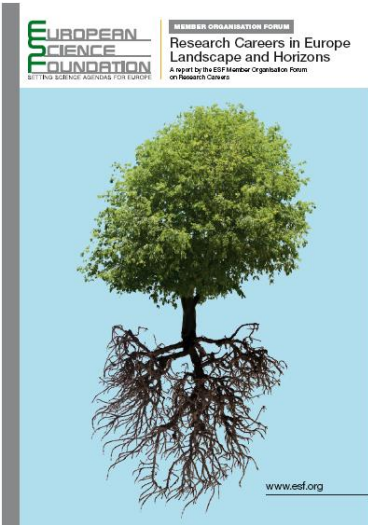
Over 37 organisations (+ observers)

Action Items

1. Report on Research Careers in Europe Landscape & Horizons (Research Career Structure and Development; Gender Issues and Transferable Skills)
2. Policy Recommendations + Final Declaration

Implementation of "EUROHORCs and ESF RoadMap"

CHAPTER 2: "Promote European Research Careers"



MO FORUM on Research Infrastructures

Aim

Platform for discussing joint investments in the creation of, networking, and access to research infrastructures, as well as evaluation and benchmarking.

Objectives

- ❑ Develop comprehensive tools for the adequate treatment of research infrastructure related topics
- ❑ Analyse the impact of the approaches developed by ESF Expert Committees and Boards.
- ❑ Develop into a network by initiating research infrastructure specific user-meetings and interaction with scientists and instrument suppliers
- ❑ Develop recommendations on requirements for research infrastructures and study the merits and applicability of the European legal framework for research infrastructures proposed by the European Commission
- ❑ Update and upgrade the inventory of national research infrastructures with European significance

Participation: 30 MOs (+ Observers)

Actions / WGs

1. Access and Standards
2. Funding and Evaluation
3. Mobility and Networks
4. Mapping

Implementation of "EUROHORCs and ESF RoadMap"
CHAPTER 8: "develop shared funding and exploitation of research infrastructure"

MO FORUM on Science in Society Relationships

Aim

To become a network of Member Organisation representatives aware of science interactions with society.

Objectives

Making the bridge from public understanding to public engagement by:

- Analysing and mapping practices from MOs
- Promoting science at the cultural level by diffusing the “scientific culture” in society
- Raising awareness of the scientific community on the need for dialogue by giving: incentives, support, training, accountability (measuring impact)
- Developing 'listening' practices to other stakeholders

Participation: 29 Organisations (+ observers)

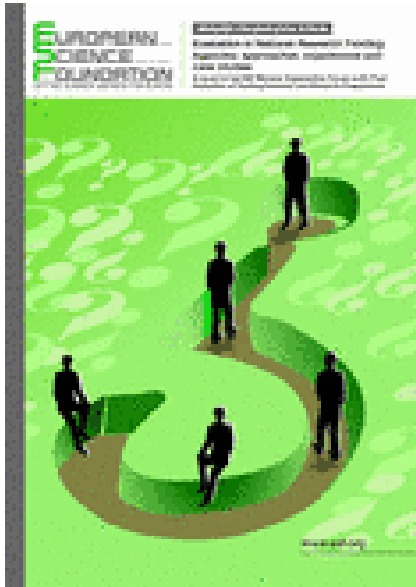
Action Items / Topics to be addressed / WGs

1. Capacity building
2. Recognition, impact and evaluation - provide incentives and indicators (measure scientist involvement)
3. Best practices
4. Existing ideas and pitfalls for audiences

Expected Outcomes

Policy recommendations; Guidelines for MOs to improve their relationships with their publics; Handbook or examples of best practice; Forward Look

MO FORUM on Evaluation of funding schemes and research programmes



Focus:

“Post-Grant” Evaluation i.e. if the funding schemes or the research programmes achieve their stated aims.

Objectives

- exchange and document experiences with current practices
- facilitate networking of science officers engaged in evaluation
- explore needs and possibilities for collaboration in future evaluation exercises.

Participation

38 Organisations (+ observers)

Action Items

1. Mapping study on evaluation of funding schemes –finalised
2. A pilot study on international benchmarks – will continue in a new forum

Final Outcome

1. Report: *Evaluation in National Research Funding Agencies: approaches, experiences and case studies*

Implementation of “EUROHORCs and ESF RoadMap”

Activities developed

1st Workshop

Evaluation of Funding Schemes and Research Programmes: Expectations, Practices and Experiences. Berlin, 22 and 23 October 2007 (hosted by DFG)

2nd Workshop

Quantitative Indicators in ex-post Evaluation of Funding Schemes and Research Programmes: Case studies and Rationales Rome 31 March – 01 April 2008 (hosted by INFN)

3rd Workshop

Quality of Quality Assurance. Striving for Highest Standards in ex-post Evaluation. Vienna, 6 – 7 October 2008 (hosted by FWF)

4rd Workshop

Evaluating socio-economic impact of research funding schemes. Budapest, 27 – 28 April 2009 (hosted by OTKA)

5th Workshop

Evaluation Strategies and Comparative Evaluation Techniques. Dublin, 16 – 17 November 2009 (hosted by HRB and SFI)

Future Perspectives

- ❑ The Forum has been exploring the needs and possibilities for collaboration in future evaluation exercises lead to two MO Fora proposals
- ❑ Alignment with EUROHORCs ESF Road Map:
Chapter 6. Develop common approaches to ex-post evaluation of funding schemes and research programmes
- ❑ **ESF Governing Council 2009** approved both proposals:

Evaluation of Publicly Funded Research

- Towards good practices and joint evaluation exercises

Indicators of Internationalisation

- design a pilot study on "indicators" used to assess the "internationalization" in research performing organisations

The EUROHORCs Mandate

The General Assembly (GA) of EUROHORCs mandates The Medical Research Council, UK as the "Lead Organisation for Comparative Study of Scientific Output Evaluation Amongst EUROHORCs Members".

Goals

- To recommend to EUROHORCs members areas that would benefit from joint action in order to strengthen the evaluation of research, drawing on best practice internationally.

- To improve the accessibility of information on EUROHORCs evaluation programmes between EUROHORCs members.

Objectives of the meeting:

1. To exchange views on evaluation policies
2. To keep updated on the latest evaluation studies and exercises
3. To address the EUROHORCs Mandate
4. To work further on the pilot project and get an update from the experts group
5. To define actions, workplan and time line for each Forum and each of its Working Group for the next 2 years
6. To identify the potential final outcomes of the Fora

Aim

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Objectives

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Participation:

Actions / WGs

1.

2.

Expected Outcomes:

1.

2.

Thank you for your attention

More info at:

<http://www.esf.org/activities/mo-fora.html>