



**ESF Member Forum on Peer Review
Brussels 19-20 May 2010**

Survey on Peer Review Practices

Katharina Fuchs-Bodde
ESF Office, Strasbourg

Overview

1. Preliminary work

+ MO Forum Peer Review

+ Requirements resulting from the
ESF/Eurohorcs Roadmap

+ ESF office & consultancy

2. Final content of the survey

3. Pilot launch

4. Full launch

Preliminary work

May 2009: Decision on survey elements by MO Forum

To collect typical procedures for:

- Peer review for ,normal research grants programmes`
- Review panels
- Interdisciplinary research proposals
- Breakthrough research proporsals
- Right to reply
- Incentives

July 2009: Provision of building blocks for survey by MO Forum members

Preliminary work

July 2009: Additional requirement resulting from the Roadmap

- Selection and recruitment of peer reviewers (incl. time burden + conflict of interests)
- Quality assurance of peer review processes
- Facilitating reviewers exchange („Database“)
- Adopting a common classification of research fields

Preliminary work

August – October 2009: Drafting of Survey by ESF office

- Based on building blocks provided by MO Forum members
- Based on requirements of the Roadmap

Preliminary work

November 2009: Decisions MO Forum

Agreement on present structure

January – March 2010: Implementation of the survey in cooperation with a consultancy

Final content of the survey

Introductory questions

- General information on participating organisations
- Identification of funding instruments to be described in Part 2 of the survey

Final content of the survey

Part 1 – General policies

- Organisational aspects
- Research classification system
- Quality assurance
- Managing data on reviewers
- College/Pool of Reviewers
- Incentives
- Right to reply
- Interdisciplinary Research Proposals
- Breakthrough Research Proposals

Final content of the survey

Part 2 – Characteristics of specific funding instruments

- Handling of proposals/office organisation
- Eligibility
- Selection of reviewers
- Conflict of interest
- Preliminary selection
- Remote review
- Panel review

Pilot launch

Duration

29 March – 11 April

Participants:

1. EPSRC, UK
2. INFN, Italy
3. Academy of Finland, Finland
4. ESF, France

Completed perfectly in time by all participants

Total mean time needed (self-reported)

23 hours

Pilot launch

Participants' feedback

- Procedure and instruction very clear
- Questions very clear, with some exceptions; denomination of 5-10 questions that needed clarification
- No shortening of questionnaire suggested, all discussed aspects valued as relevant
- Stronger adaptation for international organisations needed
- Online tool working well

Full launch

Participating organisations

- ESF member organisations
- EUROHORCS member organisations

Invited for participation

- Other European funding organisations
- Other European charities
- Non-European funding organisations

Timeline

Launch: 14.05.

Final submission: 11.06.