

ESF Member Organisation Forum on Scientific Foresight for Joint Strategy Development

Day 1: Foresight Divisions at ESF and its Member Organisations

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Outline

- 1. ESF Science Foresight Division
- 2. Foresight Divisions at Member Organisations



ESF Science Foresight Division

- Corporate Science Strategy Development Unit created in September 2009 to coordinate all strategic activities (FLs, Corporate and SPB, MO Fora) and manage MO Fora.
- 2. Five Standing Committees and five Expert Boards and Committees with support by ESF Scientific Units
- 3. 2010 Science Budget for FL activities 2010: 750 kEUR (covering all costs but excluding ESF staff costs)
- 4. Human resources: Science Officer 0.4 fte and Administrator 0.3 fte per active FL
- 5. Training Modules focusing on methodological support to produce Forward Look activities with the highest impact within the current above mentionned figures.
- 6. Near final Procedures Outline (see below)



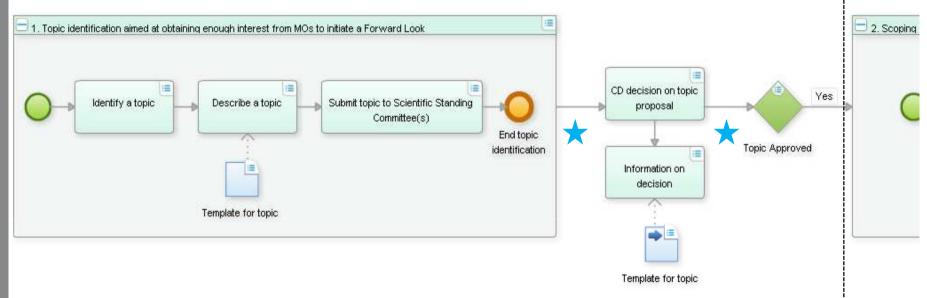
Overall Approach of the ESF Forward Look Procedures Outline

This Forward Look Scheme procedures outline is:

- Based on input from an internal ESF working group and external experts (Manchester University, CNAM, Fraunhofer Institute, NAS-US)
- Coordinated by the Corporate Science Strategy Development Unit which:
 - Made some benchmarking in Europe and US
 - Organised methodological training
 - Drafted the procedures
- The FL process as described is a practical guide for ESF Head of Scientific Unit to manage a FL activity.



1. Topic identification



SUCCESS FACTORS:

- Top-down commitment (support from stakeholders and alignment of initiative with political agendas)
- Ensure topic relevance in terms of visions on science perspectives and novelty
- Bottom-up commitment

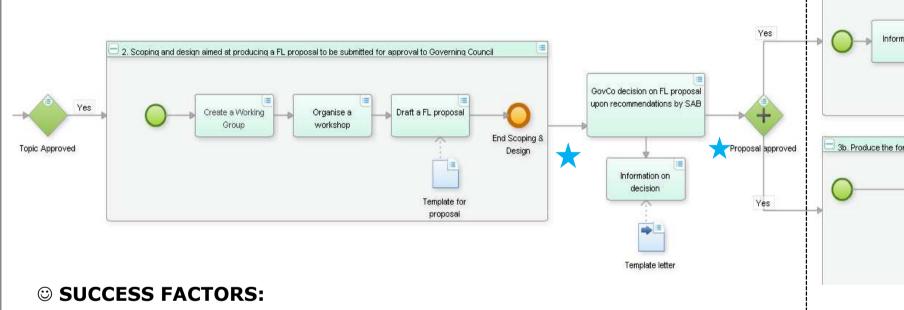


Corporate Science Strategy Development Unit coordination

CD: Committee of Directors



2. Scoping & Design of Forward Look proposal



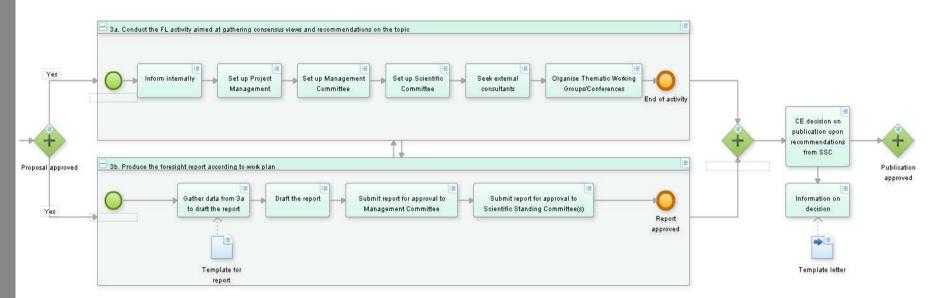
- Sound intelligence mapping: objectives, state of the art, thematic focus, time horizon, stakeholders identification
- Detailed work plan: methodology, timelines, participants, financial needs
- Use of external consultants for specific methodological support

FL: Forward Look SAB: Science Advisory Board GovCo: Governing Council

3a. Conduct the FL



3. Conduct a Forward Look Activity & Produce a FL Report



SUCCESS FACTORS:

- Engage top level scientists in the activity
- Efficient project management
- Fluid information flow between working groups and Scientific and Management Committees
- Participants' motivation
- Use of external foresight consultants in line with topic domain

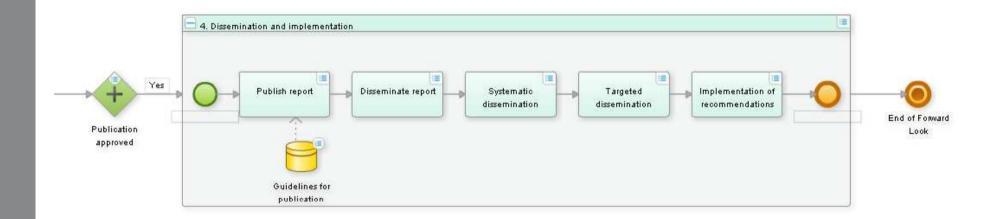
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CE: Chief Executive

SSC: Scientific Committee



4. Dissemination & Implementation



SUCCESS FACTORS:

- Commitment of the Management Committee
- Support from ESF MOs and other stakeholders
- Adequate stakeholders mapping for increased impact



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Preliminary outcome of survey

Member Organisations	Foresight Division
Research Council of Norway (RCN) Ellen Veie	No foresight division but foresight activities
Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences Stefan Nussbaum	A foresight division has been recently set up
Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) Hans Willems	No formal foresight division. However searching for opportunities for long term perspectives are important. FWO writes policy plan every five years including international benchmarking.
Swedish Research Council (VR) Jenny Nordquist	No foresight division at VR