ESF MOF on
Science in Society Relationships

Chapter 4
Recommendations

Increasing interaction with society in order to achieve a better society and increased quality of research and innovation

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Researchers are normal people with exceptionally exciting jobs!

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General trends

- **Loss of confidence in authorities incl researchers**
- **Information overload**
- **Increased mobility yields openness to non-scientific perspectives**

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Conclusions - statements

- Science is for the benefit of Society
- Public Engagement is for the benefit of Science
- Two-way dialogue Science – Society is necessary
- ALL sciences must be involved
- Change of attitudes crucial:
  SiS essential part of science
- Researchers must be rewarded
- Patience and urgency
- Respect diversity

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Key recommendations to Member Organisations

- **Make SiS part of science policy and strategy – expressed in Mission Statements, written and spoken**
- **Better SiS practices needed**
- **Coordinate efforts for better impact**
    - A Common Agreement on SiS by ESF/ScienceEurope MOs
    - Exchange of experiences and best practices
    - Develop systems for measuring SiS and their impact
    - Establish a joint group for national and international SiS
- **Reward researchers and institutions**
    - Make SiS an intrinsic part of research funding
    - Introduce evaluation methods and indicators

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Make SiS part of science policy and strategy – expressed in Mission Statements, written and spoken
Include SiS actively in operations
Influence Macro and Micro level Actors

- **Inclusive:** All sciences
- **Recognition:** Individuals and Institutions must be rewarded
- **Structure:** SiS incorporated in MOs operations
- **Variety:** Listen to different actors in society and formulate target groups clearly
- **Inclusive:** Involve all individuals, groups, institutions

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Better SiS practices needed
Key recommendations for Funding Agencies

- **Survey current situation. Does it fit with SiS mission statement?**
- **Identify activities of researchers, consider audience, impact, quality, cost…**
- **Identify ways to increase and enhance researcher participation in SiS relations**
- **Identify gaps in funding, capacities and expertise where extra funding or support could improve the situation.**

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Better SiS practices needed
Key recommendations for Research Institutes

- Survey current situation. Does it fit with SiS mission statement? Identify activities of researchers, consider audience, impact, quality, cost…
- Identify ways to increase and enhance researcher participation in SiS relations
- Identify gaps in funding, capacities and expertise, and plan to provide necessary funding, training or support
- Develop training for stakeholders, researchers, university presidents and publics of different kinds

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Coordinate efforts for better impact

- A Common Agreement on SiS by MOs of ESF/ScienceEurope (and others)
- Exchange of experiences and best practices
- Develop systems for measuring SiS and their impact
- Establish a joint group for national and international SiS

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Reward Researchers and Institutions

- ## Make SiS an intrinsic part of research funding
  - SiS requirements at grant application stage and in reports
  - Use SiS as a differentiator
  - Begin to collect data on SiS
  - Allocate money for SiS in grant awards
  - Allocate money for SiS-promoting activities
- ## Introduce evaluation methods and indicators
  - Activities – time spent
  - Resources – budget and human resources
  - Income
  - Develop impact measurements
  - Indicators should be simple, transparent, easy to collect, generally accepted

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The ongoing

Process

in and among the MOs and with the surrounding society is the most important achievement

What did we miss?

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