

ESF Member Organisation Forum on Science in Society Relationships

WG 1 Capacity Building

1st Forum Workshop Meeting Notes

The process to make SCIENCE as a strong social actor requires full engagement of Researchers and flexibility by Organisations and Agencies (partnerships are better than top down or bottom up approaches).

- 1) Researchers must be trained, supported and encouraged (allowed).

Training for new generation can be done. Skills to communicate and to LISTEN and learn. Seniors must be convinced that Ivory tower means no funding and no future, and that there are benefits to engaging. Genova EASE and Panel (Gulbransen RCN + Chloe Sheppard RC UK)

- 2) Infrastructures

Offices, teams or networks? No bureaucratic approach but creativity and flexibility to adapt initiatives to arguments and targets and have innovative capacity. These structures should support networking and learning sharing best practices.

In case of Offices, new structures or adapting existing (TTO or Press Offices extended)? There is a risk of losing the profile of science & society replaced by pure communication or business approach.

- 3) Money

Fresh money is needed, but a better and more efficient use of existing budgets for dissemination in (e.g. EU) funded projects can be obtained. Start-up funding should be established in a way to encourage future self-sustainability and co-funding also from private sponsors.