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CSIC

chapter3:  
current practice among ESF  
members

Commentator / Laura Ferrando. CSIC  
3<sup>rd</sup> November 2011. Vienna.

MOF Science in Society Relationships. ESF.



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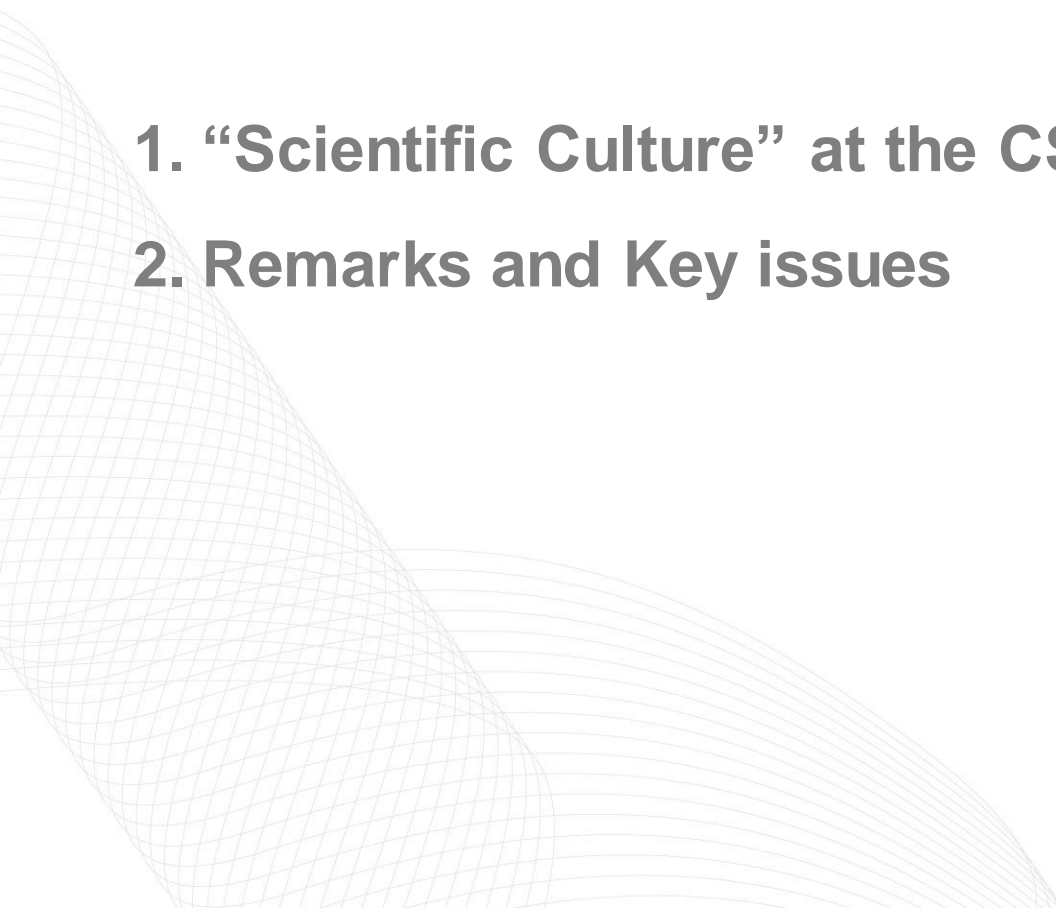
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CSIC

# INDEX

1. “Scientific Culture” at the CSIC
2. Remarks and Key issues





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**CSIC**

# 2. SCIENTIFIC CULTURE

## AT THE SPANISH NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL



# 1 Who we are

- **Main government-funded research organization under the administrative authority of Spain's Ministry of Science and Innovation**
- **Mission:** to develop and foster research that will promote scientific and technological progress, and will bring **economic, social and cultural benefits to society**







## 2 Where we are

Presence in the whole country

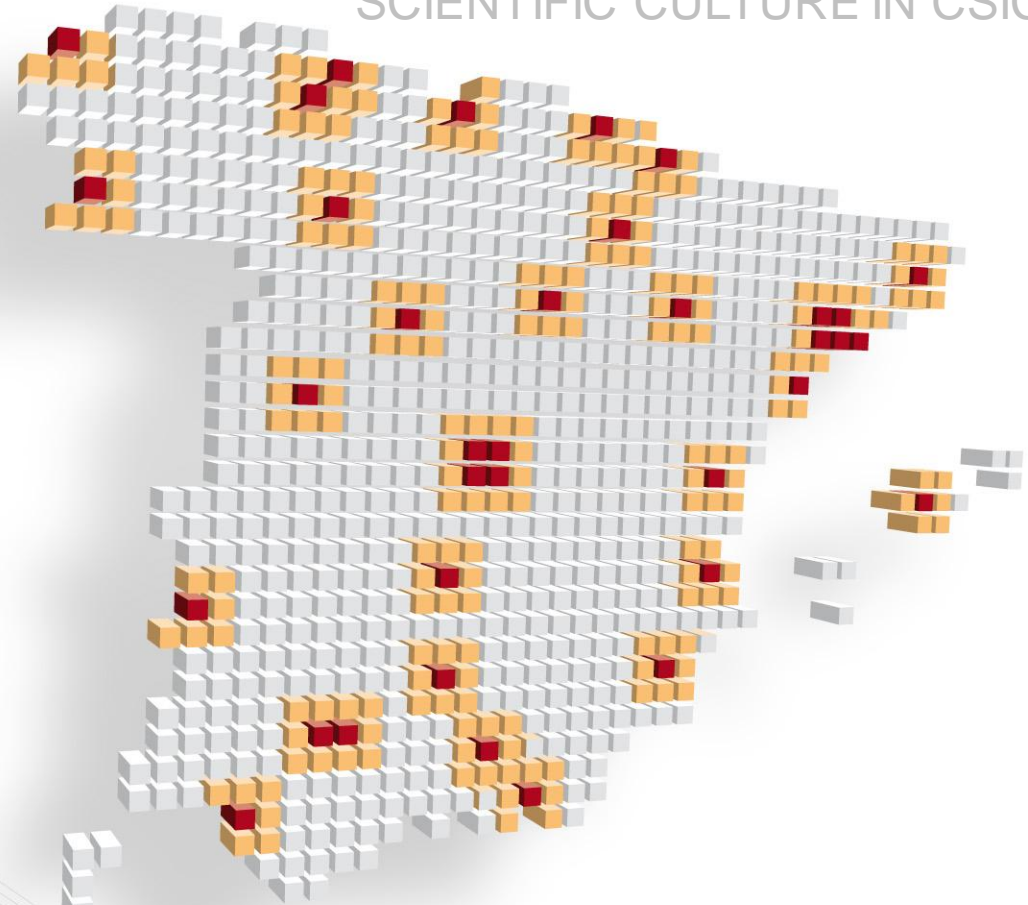
**135**  
research centres  
and institutes

**128**  
institutes

77  
CSIC-only  
centres

51  
joint centres

SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC





### 3 What we do

SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC

CSIC carries out research in **all fields of knowledge.**

**8 areas:**

- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Biology and Biomedicine
- Natural Resources
- Agricultural Sciences
- Physical Sciences and Technology
- Material Sciences and Technology
- Food Sciences and Technology
- Chemical Sciences and Technology





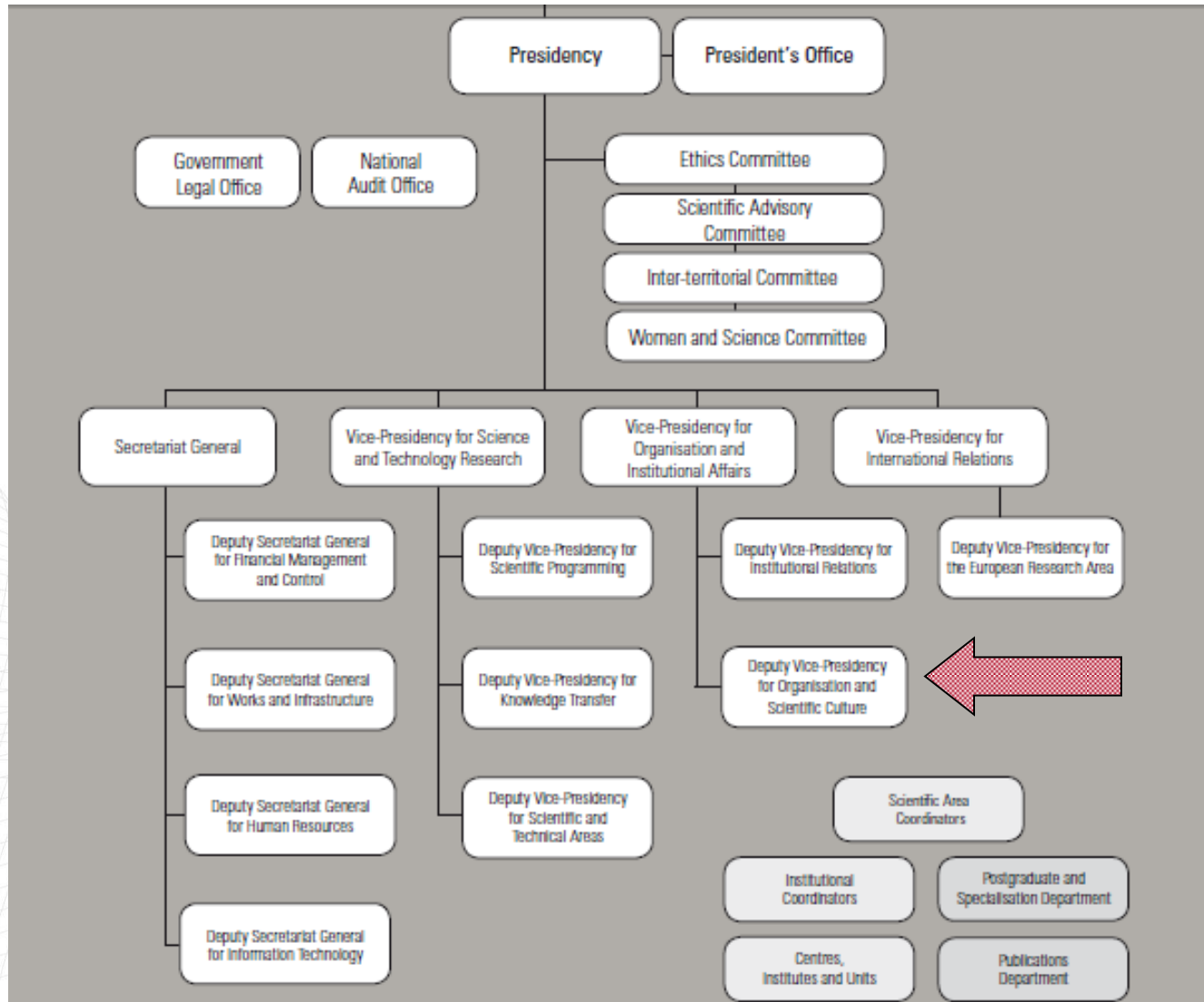
## ③ What we do

1. **Achieve multidisciplinary** scientific and technical research
2. **Provide** Scientific and technical **advice**
3. **Transfer** research **outputs** to business
4. Contribute to the **creation of technology-driven companies**
5. **Train** specialized personnel
6. **Manage infrastructures** and large facilities
7. Promote **scientific culture**



# 4 Organization

## SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC

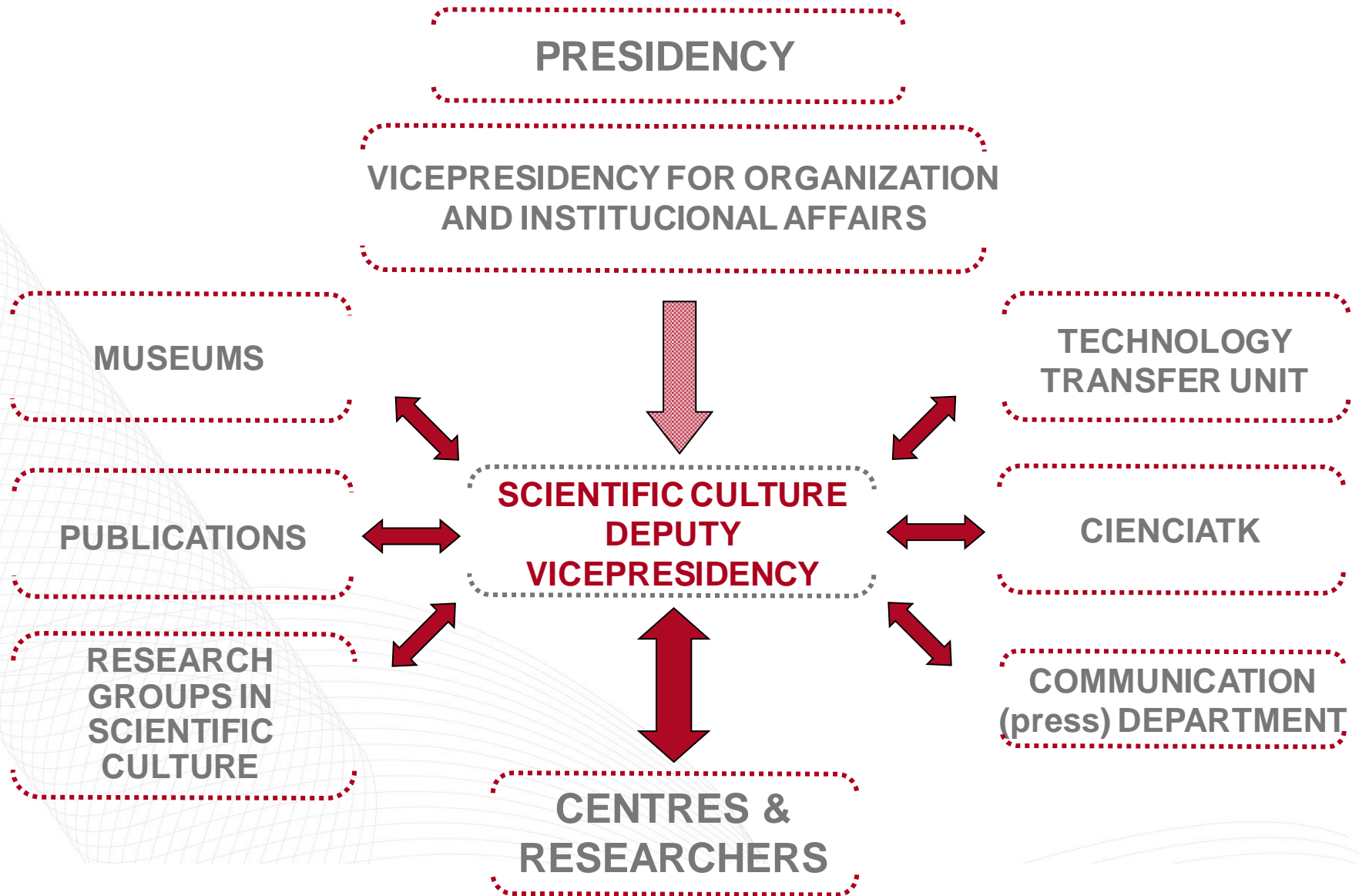






# 4 Organization

SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC





## 5 Goals

### SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC

- To **disseminate** science towards the society
- To **spread** social importance of scientific culture inside CSIC (centres and researchers)
- To **foster** research vocations among young students
- To **establish** information flows between researchers and society (in both directions)
- To promote **public engagement**





## 6 How

### SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC

- **Two directions:**
  - 1) Internal: encouraging scientists
  - 2) External: opening centres and performing activities for and with society
- **Different objectives:**
  - 1) Cultural: improving knowledge of citizens
  - 2) Practical: providing useful information in science issues
  - 3) Social: providing information + ways to participate (public engagement)





## 7 Our activities

### SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC

- **Science Fairs and National Science Weeks.** Labs shows. Stable participation (60% of institutes).
- **Exhibitions.** Itinerant, easy to set up, adapted to facilities and budgets, and downloadable.
- **Contests.** E.g. Fotciencia: National Science Photo Contest; Inspiraciencia: Writing contest.
- **Programs** in primary and secondary education. Short terms stay. “CSIC at the Schools”.
- **Public lectures.**





## 7 Our activities

SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC

- **Training.** Internal course + collaborations in postgraduate courses.
- **Consulting services** in SiS issues.
- **Cienciatk** (CSIC media repository: videos, sound files, pictures).
- **Websites and Social networks.** +40 dissemination and didactic websites. Twitter/facebook profiles by centres and SiS units.
- **Seminars, conferences.**
- **International Conmemorations.** Astronomy, Darwin, Biodiversity, Chemistry...



## 7 Our activities

### SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC

- **Scientific debates (panel session).** Scientists + specialized public + journalists discuss about controversial topics (Stem Cells, History Memory of Spain, transgenics, nuclear energy...)
- **Books.** 4 series adapted to different publics (*Debates científicos*, *Qué sabemos de*, *Divulgación*, *Informes*). 50 titles published.
- **Popular Science's Race.** 10 km. 8.000 runners. Annual.
- **Innovative projects.** Eg. Malaspina, ComScience, Science in the City, Ibercivis (citizen science), Movilab.
- **Agreements.** More than 100.
- **Scientific Culture Network.** Since 2007: 100 people from +30 different centres. "Scientific Cultural Units"



## 7 Our activities

### SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN CSIC

- **The CSIC's Scientific Cultural Network.** First meeting. June 2011. 180 people who organize/ coordinate/ disseminate SiS activities.
- Profile: head executives, directors, managers, scientists and technicians, scientific culture technicians, etc... Equal representation of gender.
- 60 research centres, 14 regions, all fields of knowledge
- 60 posters. 4 debates: Coordination, Evaluation, Education and Communication.
- Minutes and Conclusions in [www.csic.es](http://www.csic.es).


 Search

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### ESTRATEGIAS Y POLÍTICAS PARA LA DIVULGACIÓN



**Once claves para el impulso de la divulgación**  
 Conclusiones, actas y video de la I Reunión de Coordinación de Cultura Científica CSIC (junio 2011).



**La divulgación científica en Iberoamérica**  
 El CSIC colabora con la Organización de Estados Iberoamericanos (OEI) en la Red Iberoamericana de Comunicación y Divulgación Científica, que busca fomentar la comprensión y apreciación por la investigación realizada en Iberoamérica, y fomentar la cultura científica de la sociedad.



**Una Europa con más cultura científica**  
 El CSIC forma parte del grupo de trabajo que está desarrollando, en el seno de la Fundación Europea para la Ciencia (ESF por sus siglas en inglés), una serie de recomendaciones dirigidas a mejorar las estrategias de fomento de la cultura científica entre las instituciones de investigación europeas.

### SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

- headlines
- civic participation projects
- science week
- fairs and conventions
- exhibitions
- events and contests
- science information books
- science education and teaching
- virtual classroom
- dissemination spaces
- dissemination portals
- estrategias de divulgacion**
- I reunión cultura científica

### WEBS DE DIVULGACIÓN

- Biodiversidad 2010  
Año Internacional de la Diversidad Biológica
- Movilab  
Camión de la ciencia
- Cienciatk  
Plataforma multimedia del CSIC
- Digital.CSIC  
Repositorio de cultura científica

### AGENDA

- Sur Polar 3.0. De Antártida a Sevilla**  
Proyección y conferencia · 07/10/2011 - 08/01/2012
- METEORITOS un viaje a través del tiempo y del espacio**  
Conferencia · 15/10/2011
- VESTA: Los orígenes del Sistema Solar**  
Exposición · 15/10/2011 - 22/01/2012
- La ciudadela (The Citadel)**  
Proyección y Coloquio · 13/10/2011



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## ESTRATEGIAS Y POLÍTICAS PARA LA DIVULGACIÓN

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### Once claves para el impulso de la divulgación

Conclusiones, actas y video de la I Reunión de Coordinación de Cultura Científica CSIC (junio 2011).



El 28 y 29 de junio de 2011 tuvo lugar en la sede central del CSIC la [I Reunión de Coordinación de Cultura Científica CSIC](#), a la que asistieron más de 150 personas entre directores de centro, investigadores y técnicos involucrados en la divulgación de la ciencia.

La reunión se organizó en torno a una **sesión de pósteres** y **cuatro debates temáticos** –coordinación, evaluación e indicadores en cultura científica, vocaciones científicas y comunicación y difusión– que contaron con la participación de los asistentes, representantes del Comité de Dirección del Consejo y especialistas invitados de otras instituciones. Las **conclusiones** de dichos debates y los pósteres presentados fueron recogidos en los documentos que se incluyen a continuación.

### Las conclusiones



## 8 Where we're going

### Main conclusions of the I Meeting of Scientific Culture CSIC:

1. **Science law.** The new Science Law reinforces SiS work and the dialogue with society (PE). SiS as part of the scientific career.
2. **Staff.** Study how to cover all centers' needs. Not specific profile, but specific training.
3. **Scientists collaboration.** Encourage them to improve activities, commitment and resources.
4. **Assessment and indicators.** For all kind of activities, performers, contents, contexts...



## 8 Where we're going

Main conclusions of the I Meeting of Scientific Culture CSIC:

5. **Education.** Collaboration with the education authorities: resources, activities and training.
6. **Research** in SiS. Collaboration and improving.
7. **Guidelines.** Libro Blanco de Cultura Científica en CSIC (CSIC's Scientific Culture Consultation Document).







## 9 Director's point of view

1. **Positive.** SiS must be improved.
2. **Wide range.** SiS includes transfer to media, public lectures, exhibitions, public engagement...
3. **Who carries it out?** Responsibility?
4. **Improve SiS network.** Staff in main nodes of coordination.
5. **External funding** increase.
6. **More commitment** from centres in SiS objectives.







# 2. REMARKS and KEY ISSUES

FROM CHAPTER THREE “GOOD PRACTICES”  
COMMENTS AND IDEAS FOR THE DEBATE



# CHAPTER 3\_REMARKS

1. Research councils (CNR, CNRS, IFREMER, CSIC) are **unique** and have SiS tradition. Large staff/Dedicated structure.
2. SiS activities still mostly aligned with the **framework of communications** (one-way, press offices). Some 50% of the actions reported back are one-way information activities. Audiences are not defined.
3. SiS can be seen from different points of view and can be organized in many ways. **Different traditions and interpretations** of the phenomenon.




# CHALLENGES

## MACRO LEVEL

1. MOs as a **lobby** encouraging their governments to include Science in Society issue in their Science laws.

## MESO LEVEL

1. MOs should define SiS and PE activities in their **main rules**.
  2. MOs should create –if they haven't yet- a dedicated structure with permanent **staff**.
  3. MOs should provide **training** for scientists and mediators.
  5. It should be useful to foster arenas for the permanent **exchange** of practices, between Mos.
  6. Increase **research** on SiS activities.
- 



# CHALLENGES

## MICRO LEVEL

1. Keep increasing the number of **scientists involved**. Recognition and commitment.
2. Dedicate **funding** to SiS/PE activities (inside research projects, internal sources...).





# KEY QUESTIONS

1. Clear enough?
2. Could fit performing / funding MOs?
3. Is it anything missing?
  - Description, examples, real cases (PE, good practice)
  - Maybe a definition of good practices?
  - Emphasis on structures, training and SiS research as good practices?



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# Thank you for your attention

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