



**Empowering societal actors  
through responsible Research and Innovation**



# How to empower societal actors through RRI? What PROSO achieved

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# TASK – MAIN OUTCOME

## » WHY PROSO?

RRI –TARGETS	ACTUAL
<b>ENGAGEMENT</b>	Insufficient involvement of societal actors
GENDER EQUALITY	
SCIENCE EDUCATION	
OPEN ACCESS	
ETHICS	
GOVERNANCE	

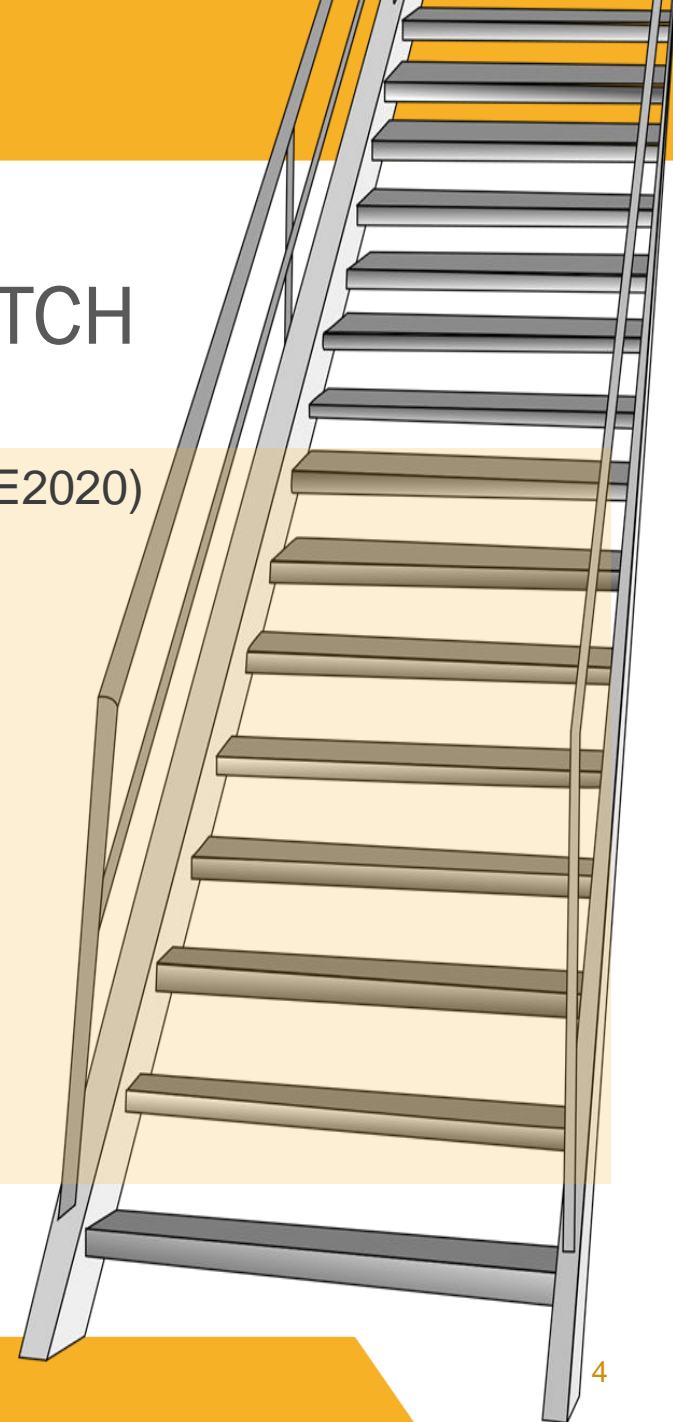
## »WE DON'T START FROM SCRATCH

Much PROGRESS (e.g. RRI tools, PE2020, ENGAGE2020)

CHALLENGES remain:

- Scepticism
- Information prevailing
- Difficulty in recruiting
- ...

NEED FOR DEDICATED POLICIES FOR  
PROMOTING SOCIETAL ENGAGEMENT



## »BACKING FROM PROSO

**Support Tool  
for promoting societal  
engagement in research  
processes**

**[www.proso-project.eu/  
prososupporttool](http://www.proso-project.eu/prososupporttool)**



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# TARGET GROUPS – FOCUS

## »WORKING TOGETHER ON A LONG-TERM PROJECT...

Short-term    Medium-term    Long-term

**Policy makers**  
**Research funders**  
**Research organizations**  
**Third sector actors**


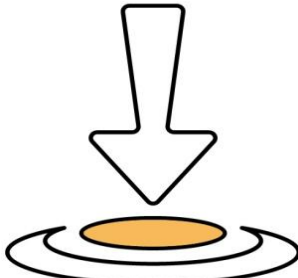

## »...FOR ENGAGING:

- Citizens and third sector actors
- In publicly-funded research
- By invitation





# » LOWERING BARRIERS

## – INNOVATING POLICIES AND PRACTICES



	<p><b>Create Relevance</b></p>
	<p><b>Provide for Impact</b></p>
	<p><b>Build Trust and Mutual Understanding</b></p>

	<p><b>Build Knowledge and Skills</b></p>
	<p><b>Provide and Save Resources</b></p>
	<p><b>Build Legitimacy</b></p>



## POLICY AND PRACTICE OPTIONS TO LOWER/OVERCOME BARRIERS TO ENGAGEMENT: WHO CAN DO WHAT?

BARRIER	POLICY MAKERS AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES	RESEARCH FUNDING ORGANIZATIONS, RESEARCH COUNCILS	UNIVERSITIES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS	THIRD SECTOR ACTORS
<b>LACK OF RELEVANCE</b> 	<p>Including citizens and third sector actors in agenda setting processes</p> <p>Providing funding programmes based around societal challenges or needs</p> <p>Providing open calls for research</p> <p>Opening up advisory boards to third sector organizations</p>	<p>Providing research calls for engagement of citizens and third sector actors in shaping local/regional environments</p> <p>Opening up advisory boards to third sector organizations</p>	<p>Establishing or using processes and structures to connect with society on a more continuous basis</p> <p>Employing scenarios and use cases for engagement about new technologies and research areas</p> <p>Assuring openness of outcomes in engagement processes</p> <p>Being transparent about how engagement is connected with the realities of citizens and third sector actors</p>	
<b>LACK OF IMPACT</b> 	<p>Providing funding for research-based engagement processes the results of which directly feed into policy processes</p> <p>Providing training and support for public authorities in regard to societal engagement</p> <p>Establishing transnational infrastructures for exchanges on good impact practices</p>	<p>Including the requirement to combine online and offline approaches in calls for research involving societal engagement</p> <p>Providing national-level support in regard to good practice in impact</p> <p>Funding research on the impact of the engagement of citizens and third sector actors</p>	<p>Being transparent about expected impacts during the recruitment phase (e.g. co-shaping policies or prompting dialogue and deliberation in civil society)</p>	

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<b>LACK OF TRUST AND CRITICAL VIEWS OF OTHERS</b> 	<p>Committing to transparency on how future policy decisions relate to engagement results</p> <p>Supporting research organizations in regard to engagement</p> <p>Providing funding opportunities for informal encounters and networking among scientists, third sector actors, and other relevant actors</p> <p>Funding for citizen science</p>	<p>Funding support staff to sustain engagement between research organizations and third sector actors, citizens and other research partners during funded research projects</p>	<p>Providing full transparency of the engagement process</p> <p>Using facilitators</p> <p>Offering training for researchers</p> <p>Providing opportunities for informal encounters and networking among researchers, citizens, third sector actors, and other relevant actors</p>	<p>Raising awareness and taking advantage of opportunities for informal encounters and networking</p>
<b>LACK OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS</b> 	<p>Providing national-level support on engagement (also) for third sector actors</p> <p>Opening up advisory boards to third sector organizations</p> <p>Promoting scientific literacy and strengthening science journalism</p> <p>Embedding engagement more widely in the education system</p>	<p>Funding of capacity-building for third sector organizations</p> <p>Funding of research into mechanisms of inclusion and exclusion in dialogues</p>	<p>Combining dialogue and information in engagement processes</p> <p>Using attractive stimuli to support dialogue</p> <p>Strengthening of science journalism</p>	<p>Raising awareness and taking advantage of capacity-building opportunities</p>

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<b>LACK OF TIME AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES</b> 	<p>Recognizing third sector organizations as eligible actors in research</p> <p>Considering and developing new models of compensating engagement efforts</p>	<p>Funding of co-design and consortium-building for collaborative research projects</p> <p>Recognizing financial compensation for the efforts of citizens and third sector actors in engagement processes as eligible costs</p>	<p>Working with citizens in their 'natural habitats' (e.g. targeting schools, or contacting people in the streets)</p>	<p>Pooling of resources among third sector actors</p> <p>Adapting the mission of third sector organizations (include engagement in research/research and innovation policy)</p>
<b>LACK OF LEGITIMACY</b> 	<p>Committing to societal engagement through national strategies and/or guidelines</p> <p>Providing awards for outstanding engagement projects and policies</p> <p>Encouraging research organizations to (visibly) extend their mandate through societal engagement</p> <p>Encouraging the adaptation of how scientific reputation is measured</p>	<p>Joining initiatives for awards in good practice or innovative methods</p> <p>Providing research calls for multi-actor, multi-level engagement processes</p>	<p>Acknowledging the efforts of citizens and third sector actors in research-related engagement processes</p> <p>Providing organizational reward and recognition for engagement with society</p> <p>Inscribing service to the community and/or engagement into the organization's mandate</p>	<p>Launching and joining initiatives for awards in good practice or innovative methods</p>

## TIMESCALES OF POLICY AND PRACTICE OPTIONS TO LOWER/OVERCOME BARRIERS TO ENGAGEMENT

### SHORT-TERM

#### FULLY TRANSPARENT ENGAGEMENT PROCESSES, BEGINNING WITH THE RECRUITMENT PHASE, THROUGH CLEARLY DEFINING:

- How the process links with the realities of citizens and third sector actors
- Roles and responsibilities of all actors involved
- Expected impacts

#### DESIGNING ENGAGEMENT PROCESSES TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT SCARCE RESOURCES AND GAPS IN KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

- Combining dialogue and information in engagement processes
- Employing scenarios and use cases for engagement about new technologies and research areas
- Using attractive stimuli to support dialogue
- Working with citizens in their 'natural habitats' (e.g. schools, streets)
- Pooling of resources among third sector actors

### MEDIUM-TERM

#### (NEW)<sup>59</sup> RESEARCH AND FUNDING POLICIES

- Opening up programme advisory committees and boards to third sector organizations

#### (NEW) FUNDING POLICIES

- Recognizing third sector organizations as eligible actors in research
- Funding of co-design and consortium-building for collaborative research projects
- Funding of capacity-building for third sector actors
- Funding of opportunities for informal encounters and networking among various actors
- Funding support staff to sustain engagement between research organizations and third sector actors, citizens and other relevant actors

#### (NEW) FUNDING PROGRAMMES AND TOOLS

- Funding programmes for research that engages citizens and third sector actors in shaping local/regional environments
- Funding based around societal challenges or needs
- Funding programmes for research that includes multi-actor, multi-level engagement processes
- Funding programmes for research-based engagement processes the results of which directly feed into policy processes
- Open calls for research

### LONG-TERM

#### (NEW) STRUCTURES IN RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS

- Making societal engagement an integral part of research organizations
- Establishing engagement competence and support units within research organizations

#### CHANGES IN THE THIRD SECTOR

- Including engagement in research/research and innovation policy in the mission of third sector organizations

#### CHANGES IN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS

- Promoting scientific literacy and strengthening of science journalism
- Embedding engagement more widely in the education systems

## »WHAT THE SUPPORT TOOL OFFERS

not	✓
Academic text	Information and inspiration for those who can take action
Solely PROSO results	Inclusion of already existing results
Recommendations on removing barriers	Policy and practice options to deal with barriers
Best practice examples	Inspiring policy and practice examples

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# INFORMATION BASE

# »ENGAGEMENT IN PROSO

## **CITIZENS**

National citizen panels  
in five European countries

## **THIRD SECTOR ACTORS**

Interviews  
Deliberation conference  
Workshops

## **OTHER ACTORS – PRACTITIONERS AND EXPERTS**

Interviews  
Deliberation conference  
Workshops



# »OVERVIEW METHODOLOGY

## WP2 - RRI-specific requirements for societal engagement

Three example research fields:  
Food & health, nanotechnology, bio-economy

**WP3 -60 interviews with third sector actors and other actors (9 case studies)**

**WP4 - National citizen panels** in five European countries (90 citizens)

**WP5 - European multi-actor deliberation conference (50 stakeholders)**

3 expert workshops

What motivates/prevents TSOs to engage with research-related activities?

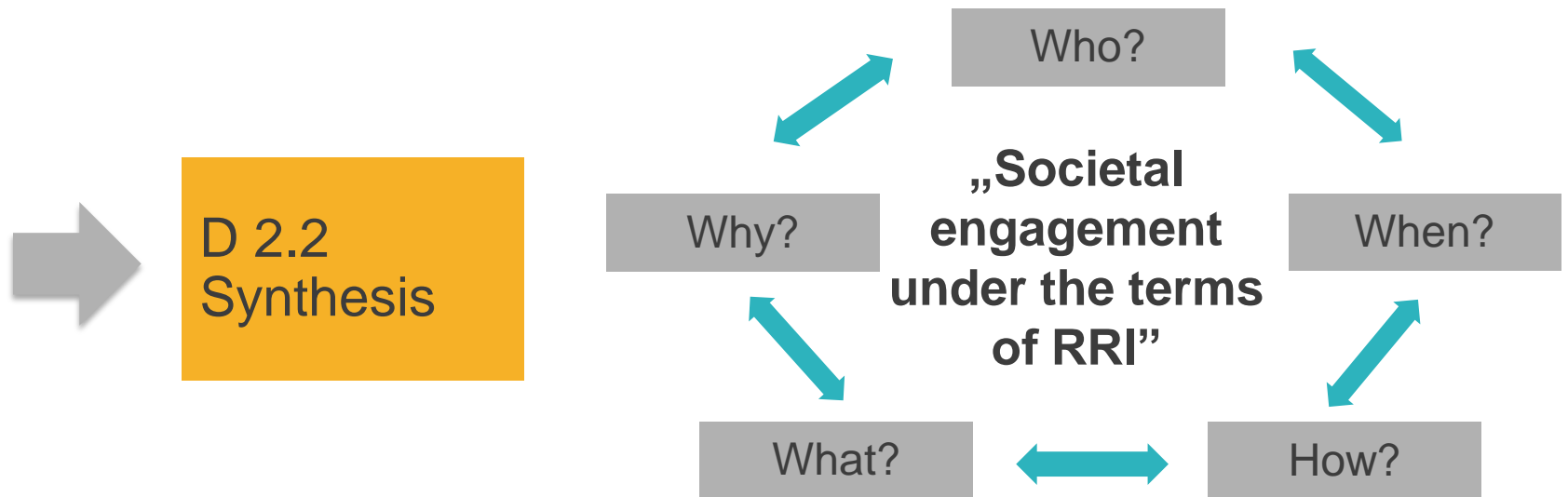
What motivates/prevents citizens to engage with research-related activities?

What does this mean in terms of promising policy and practice options?

## WP 6 - Support tool for promoting engagement

## » LITERATURE REVIEW

- Review of **academic literature** and **policy documents**
- Expert workshop in Vienna, Austria: „Contemporary experiences with societal engagement under the terms of RRI”



## »CASE STUDIES: VIEWS OF THIRD SECTOR ACTORS AND OTHERS

Domain	Project	Objectives
Bio-economy/ (synthetic biology)	Ecover/Solyzyme	Algal oil introduced to replace palm oil in cleaning products and stakeholder engagement carried out to mitigate TSO/consumer backlash
	Synenergene	Aims to initiate and foster RRI engagement on synthbio
	UK synthetic Biology Strategic Plan 2016	To coordinate between a range of stakeholders
Nano-technology	BMU NanoDialog, NanoKommission	Supports the exchanges between CSAs and researchers about the risks and challenges of nanotechnology
	NanOpinion	As above
	Tracing Nano for Downstream Users	To improve the traceability of manufactured nano materials in products and articles for downstream use
Food & Health	A healthy future for the potato	How new developments in potato breeding could change potato farming and what possible implications this could have
	Well Now	Social justice approach to obesity
	EPINET In-vitro meat	Addresses the societal and funding challenges of in-vitro (cultured) meat

## »STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

<i>Stakeholder category</i>	<i>Domain</i> <b>Bio-economy</b>	<b>Nano-technology</b>	<b>Food &amp; Health</b>	<b>Totals by category</b>
Third sector organization	7	6	3	<b>16</b>
Fourth sector organization		3	2	<b>5</b>
Policy	1	1	13	<b>15</b>
Research Funder	1		2	<b>3</b>
Academic	4	2	9	<b>15</b>
Industry	2	1	3	<b>6</b>
Total interviews by research domain	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>60</b>



**D 3.3 Synthesis**

## »CITIZENS' VIEWS

*Oct/Nov 2016*  
**First National  
Citizen Panel  
Meetings**

*Dec 2016*  
**Expert  
workshop in  
Sofia**

*Feb 2017*  
**Second  
National Citizen  
Panel Meetings**

**D 4.3 Synthesis**

n= 18 \* 5

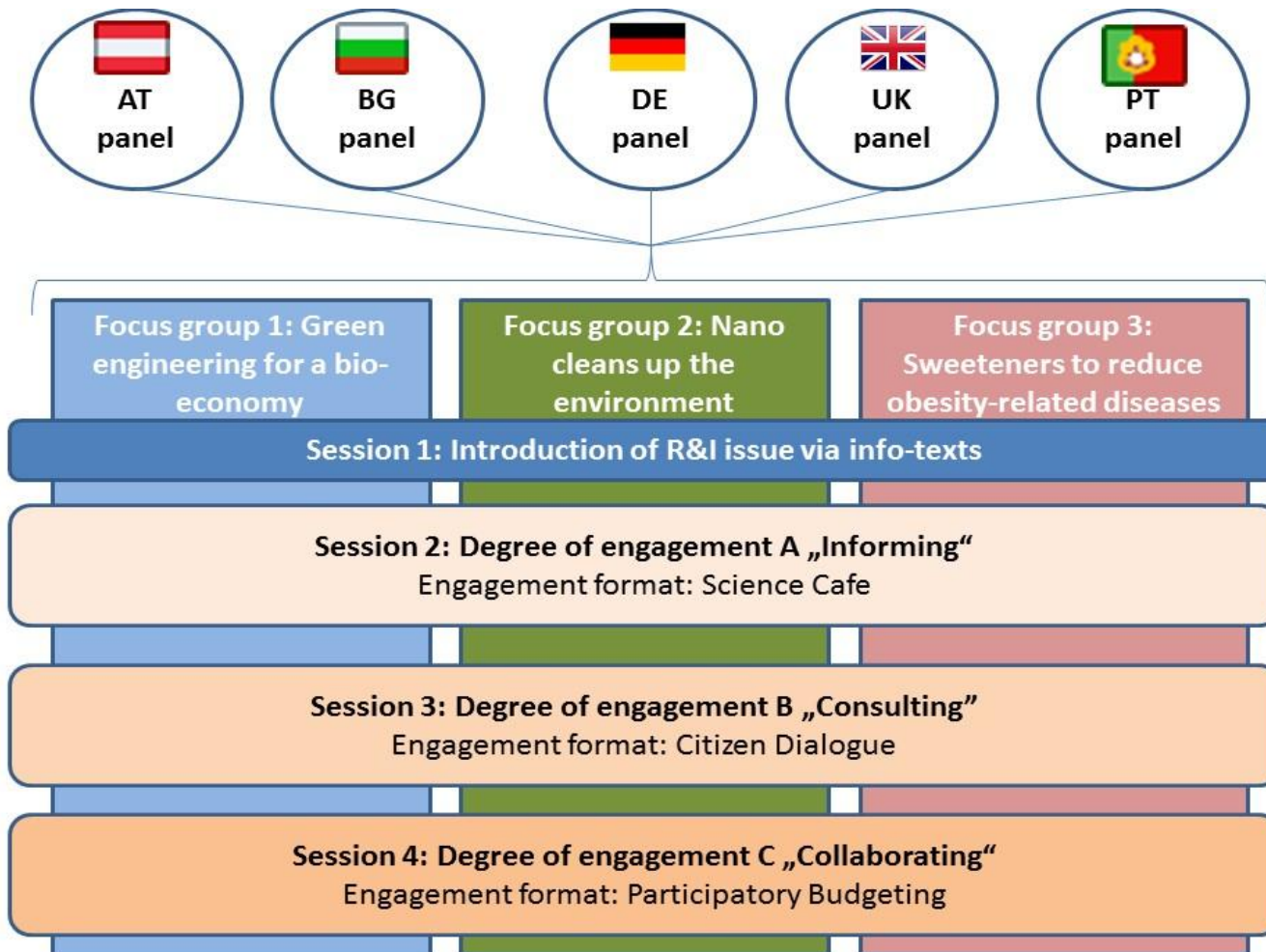
same citizens

**barriers**


**policies & practices**



# »METHODOLOGY FIRST CITIZENS PANEL MEETINGS



## »OPTIONS FOR ACTION: PRACTITIONER AND EXPERT VIEWS

<b>Multi-actor conference</b>	<b>Multi-actor workshop</b>
“Engaging Society for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI): New Options to Move Forward”	“Policies for Reducing Barriers to Societal Engagement in Research and Innovation”
	
<p>n = 50 participants from 15 countries</p> <p>Co-organized by the Royal Flemish Academy of Sciences and the Arts</p>	<p>n = 20 participants from 11 countries</p>



D 5.2  
Conference  
report



D 6.1  
Workshop  
report

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# EMPOWERMENT?



## »EMPOWERMENT

Means what? – differs from engagement in...?  
takes the form of?

Requires what? – specific policies and practices?

Leads to what? – scientific citizenry?



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SHARING INFORMATION  
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