



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Directorate A - Policy development and Coordination  
A.4 - Unit A4 "Reforms and economic impact – country intelligence"

Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility (PSF)

**Mutual Learning Exercise (MLE) on  
"National Strategies and Roadmaps for International Cooperation in R&I"**

**Country visit to France, 3-4 June 2019**

**Venue:** Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation  
25 rue de la Montagne Sainte-Geneviève – 75005 Paris

## **Agenda**

### **3 June 2019**

**14:00 - 14:10**

**Welcome from the Chair**

Gunnel Gustafsson

**14:10 - 14:20**

**Welcome from France and brief overview of the relevance and importance of the MLE in the French context**

Denis Despréaux (Director for European and International Affairs, MESRI) *or*  
Rozenn Saunier (Deputy Director for European and International Affairs, MESRI)

#### **THEME 1: Strategic objectives and Theories of Change**

**14:20 - 14:30**

**Introduction to theme 1\***

Klaus Schuch (Rapporteur)

**14:30 - 15:00**

**Illustrative cases from France and the Research Foundation - Flanders**

• The approach of France in international cooperation for Higher Education, Research and Innovation

Olivier Steffen (Deputy Head of Unit in charge of bilateral R&I cooperation, MESRI)

- ✓ What are the specific objectives targeted by the strategy?
- ✓ What is the theory of change behind the strategy?
- ✓ What were the main drivers for this strategy?

• The strategy for international cooperation of the Research Foundation–Flanders (FWO)

Isabelle Verbaeys (Head of International Affairs, FWO)

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- ✓ What are the specific objectives targeted by the strategy?
- ✓ What is the theory of change behind the strategy?
- ✓ What were the main drivers for this strategy?

**15:00 - 15:30**

**Open discussion**

Led by Klaus Schuch (Rapporteur)

- ✓ Which other objectives are relevant?
- ✓ Which theories of change are relevant for STI internationalisation?

**15:30 – 16:00**

**Coffee break**

**THEME 2: Futures thinking – scenarios for international R&I cooperation**

**16:00 – 16:10**

**Introduction to theme 2\***

Klaus Schuch (Rapporteur)

**16:10 - 16:25**

**Food for thought: foresight as an input for STI internationalisation strategies (Norway)**

Kari Steenstrup Vaalund (Senior Adviser, Section for European Affairs/ Department for Higher Education, Research and International Affairs)

Julie Christiansen (Senior Adviser, Division for international cooperation/ The Research Council of Norway)

**16:25 - 17:25**

**World Café: Horizon scanning**

Each of the three tables in the World Café will discuss the following core questions:

Table 1: *Geopolitics and STI-policy-related framework changes (incl. governance for managing challenges jointly)*

- ✓ What geopolitical considerations and STI policies drive the internationalisation of higher education, research and innovation until 2030?
- ✓ What dangers and obstacles might occur and need to be tackled?
- ✓ How should international R&I cooperation be shaped and designed to make positive contributions?

Table 2: *The global biosphere challenge to secure a planet worth living (incl. climate and energy; environmental protection, resources and eco-systems; health)*

- ✓ How does the global biosphere challenge drive STI internationalisation strategies until 2030?
- ✓ What dangers and obstacles might occur and need to be tackled?
- ✓ How should international R&I cooperation be shaped and designed to make positive contributions?

Table 3: *The global social needs challenge to sustain or improve quality of life (incl. security and resilience; innovation dynamics; urbanisation and socio-economic developments)*

- ✓ How does the global social needs challenge drive STI internationalisation strategies until 2030?
- ✓ What dangers and obstacles might occur and need to be tackled?
- ✓ How should international R&I cooperation be shaped and designed to make positive contributions?

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*\*Participants will be split in three groups for a livelier discussion and move after 20 minutes to the next World Café table (2x)*

**17:25 – 18:00**     **Presentations from the World Café table chairs and discussion** of the forward-looking insights

*\*The chairs of the three World Café tables will provide feedback to the group. Comments and questions by participants will be expected.*

### **THEME 3: Assessing progress - indicators, benchmarks, monitoring**

**18:00 – 18:10**     **Introduction to theme 3\***  
Klaus Schuch (Rapporteur)

**18:10 - 18:45**     **Open reflection and discussion**  
Led by Klaus Schuch (Rapporteur)

- ✓ Inspiring examples and lessons learnt from the participating countries
- ✓ Which indicators are used and how are benchmarks set?
- ✓ Examples of monitoring practices

**18:45 - 19:00**     **Stocktaking by the Chair**  
Gunnel Gustafsson

**19:30**             **Dinner** §

## **4 June 2019**

**09:00 - 09:10**     **Review of the first day of the workshop**  
Klaus Schuch (Rapporteur)

### **THEME 4: The embedding challenge**

**09:10 – 09:20**     **Introduction to theme 4\***  
Klaus Schuch (Rapporteur)

**09.20 – 09:35**     **Illustrative example from Finland**

• The embedding challenge – the quest for the perfect fit between the overall national STI strategy and the strategic STI internationalisation dimension  
Tiina Vihma-Purovaara (Senior Ministerial Advisor, Ministry of Education, Science and Culture)

Hanna Vuorinen (Senior Specialist, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment)

**09:35 – 10:00**     **The international dimension in EU’s Framework Programmes for research**  
Efthymios Sakellariou (European Commission, Unit C1 – “Strategy, EFTA and enlargement countries, Russia, Asia and Pacific”)

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§To be covered by the participants

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**10:00 – 11:00 World Café: embedding and value creation**

Each of the three tables in the world café will discuss the following core questions:

Table 1: Improving research excellence (incl. research infrastructures)

- ✓ How can the R&I internationalisation strategy create added value for the national R&I strategy in the area of research excellence (and what is better done at EU level)?
- ✓ How to connect the national R&I strategy in the area of research excellence with bilateral or multilateral internationalisation approaches?
- ✓ How should the EU strategy consider national R&I internationalisation priorities in the area of research excellence? How to make sure that MS/AC adjust their own international R&I strategies with the EU internationalisation approach in the area of research excellence?

Table 2: Supporting international market development and innovation exploitation (outward/inward)

- ✓ How can the R&I internationalisation strategy create added value for the national R&I strategy in the area of international market development and innovation exploitation (and what is better done at EU level)?
- ✓ How to connect the national R&I strategy in the area of market development/innovation exploitation with bilateral or multilateral internationalisation approaches?
- ✓ How should the EU strategy consider national R&I internationalisation priorities in the area of market development/innovation exploitation? How to make sure that MS/AC adjust their own international R&I strategies with the EU internationalisation approach in the area of market development/innovation exploitation?

Table 3: Tackling global challenges

- ✓ How can the R&I internationalisation strategy create added value for the national R&I strategy in the area of global challenges (and what is better done at EU level)?
- ✓ How to connect the national R&I strategy in the area of global challenges with bilateral or multilateral internationalisation approaches?
- ✓ How should the EU strategy consider national R&I internationalisation priorities in the area of global challenges? How to make sure that MS/AC adjust their own international R&I strategies with the EU internationalisation approach in the area of global challenges?

*\*Participants will be split in three groups for a livelier discussion and move after 20 minutes to the next World Café table (2x)*

**11:00 – 11:20 Coffee break**

**11:20 – 11:50 Presentations from the World Café table chairs and discussion of the embedding approaches**

*\*The chairs of the three World Café tables will provide feedback to the group. Comments and questions by participants will be expected.*

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## **THEME 5: Governance and processes for strategy development**

- 11:50 – 12:00**    **Introduction to theme 5\***  
Klaus Schuch (Rapporteur)
- 12:00 - 12:15**    **Illustrative case from Austria**
- Governance and processes for establishing a new STI internationalisation strategy  
Martina Hartl (Deputy Head of Department, Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research)
- 12:15 – 13:00**    **Open discussion**  
Led by Klaus Schuch (Rapporteur) – open discussion in 3 parallel sessions
- Group 1
- ✓ How to govern the process of development of a new STI internationalisation strategy?
  - ✓ Which are the most common governance challenges and what are the best ways to overcome them?
- Group 2
- ✓ What evidence base is needed and how to map the existing status quo (existing programmes, instruments, cooperation approaches and patterns)?
  - ✓ Which formats and processes of consultation have proven to work?
- Group 3
- ✓ How to balance bottom-up desires with top-down prioritisation (expectation management)?
  - ✓ How to gather/align all stakeholders behind a common strategy?
- \*Participants will be split in three groups for a livelier discussion.*
- 13:00 – 14:00**    **Lunch**
- 14:00 – 14:30**    **Presentations from the Working groups and discussion** of the governance and processes issues for establishing a new R&I internationalisation strategy
- \*The chairs of the three working groups will provide feedback to the group. Comments and questions by participants will be expected.*
- 14:30 – 14:45**    **Stocktaking by the Chair**  
Gunnel Gustafsson
- 14:45 – 15:05**    **Coffee break**
- 15:05 - 15:30**    **Finalising the scope of topic 2**  
Patries Boekholt (Expert)
- 15:30 – 15:45**    **Preparation of next meetings**  
Ioana Petre (European Commission, Unit A4 - "Reforms and economic impact – country intelligence")
- 15:45 - 16:00**    **Closure of the workshop**  
Gunnel Gustafsson (Chair)

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