

» OBJECTIVES

Societal engagement is an important element of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI). However, there is a lack of clarity about what societal engagement actually involves, and to what extent it should be pursued for RRI. There is also insufficient insight in regard to the diverse approaches taken by major institutions contributing to RRI.

The main objective of PROSO is to foster the engagement of third sector organizations (like NGOs) and citizens under the terms of RRI in research and innovation systems in Europe. To this end, the project will produce a policy and practice guide for advancing the use of inclusive participatory

approaches in research and innovation processes. Guidance will be based on a comprehensive investigation within three domains that include nanotechnology, food and health, and bio-economy. A range of meetings and events will be organized to capture the insights and expertise of third sector organizations, policy makers and programme funders in science and technology, researchers, industry/businesses, and citizens.

PROSO is carried out within a European-wide consortium comprised of four research organizations, a research-oriented civil society organization, two strategy consulting firms, and a European industry association. An advisory panel will guide the consortium in any research and policy related issues.

”THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF PROSO IS TO FOSTER THE ENGAGEMENT OF THIRD SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS AND CITIZENS.”

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PROMOTING SOCIETAL ENGAGEMENT IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

» Moving Towards Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)

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PROSO is financed by the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, under Grant Agreement no 665947 and runs from January 2016 to February 2018.

» CHOOSE TOGETHER!

Mutual learning and agreed practices in research and innovation: these are the core ideas of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), the European Union's approach to good governance in research and innovation.

RRI seeks to align the processes and outcomes of research and innovation with the values, needs, and expectations of European society. This requires multi-actor and public engagement initiatives in research and innovation.

» 5 KEYS OF RRI

» Engagement

- » Science education
- » Open access
- » Ethics
- » Gender

» WANT TO JOIN IN?

What must be done to involve third sector organizations, such as NGOs and civil society organizations (CSOs), and citizens in research and innovation activities?

PROSO will carry out an analysis that cuts across three domains of research and innovation: nanotechnology, food and health, and bio-economy. We will deal with some fundamental questions such as:

- » What encourages or hinders citizens to contribute to research and innovation in these fields?

We will carry out citizen panels in five European countries.

- » What encourages or hinders third sector organizations such as consumer organizations or environmental organizations to contribute to research and innovation in these fields?

We will interview these and other relevant stakeholders.

- » What encourages or hinders stakeholders in research (researchers, programme funders, managers) to co-operate with third sector organizations and citizens in these domains of research and innovation?

We will interview actors across the board.

- » What does this mean in terms of policy and governance approaches for promoting engagement of society in research and innovation in these and other fields?

We will use a wide-ranging European conference and expert-workshops to identify incentives and barriers to societal engagement and to discuss policy and governance solutions.

» MAINSTREAMING

PROSO's conclusions will be condensed into a policy and practice guide. This will offer:

- » An overview of incentives and barriers for the engagement of third sector organizations (NGOs, CSOs and others) and citizens in different research and innovation contexts.

- » Best case examples of societal engagement for Responsible Research and Innovation.

- » Policy and governance options for encouraging societal engagement for Responsible Research and Innovation.

