

# Citizen Science & Citizen Engagement in Pillar 2 Evaluation Summary Reports

12 October 2023

Nele Nivelde, Research Coordination Office

# The ESR analysis project

- **Value** of Evaluation Summary Reports (ESRs)
- Research Support Staff: **learn** from ESRs
- ESR analysis project
  - Pool available **data** – LERU context
  - Uniform approach
- Goal: optimize **support** to applicants

# The ESR analysis project

- 11 LERU universities: 129 ESRs from 2022 call topics
- CL1, CL2, CL4, CL 5, CL6
- All ranked above threshold

Funded/N	1=yes, 2=re	Overall sc	len	Excellence Criterium	Excellence Positive comments	Positive comment 0=no, 1=yes, 1, 2=y	Positive adjectives (words): word1; w	Number of words positive
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>Objectives</b>	The proposal's objectives are clear and pertinent	1	clear; pertinent	7
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>State of the Art</b>	and push beyond the state-of-the-art in the relevant field, both regarding individual elements and the overall combination of the building blocks into a scalable architecture.	1	relevant; scalable	25
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>Methodology</b>	The methodology and underlying concepts are addressed soundly.	1	soundly	8
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>TRL</b>	The TRL is aligned with the call ambitions.	1	aligned	8
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>Interdisciplinarity/SSH</b>	Multi-disciplinary and technological expertise is adequately addressed.	1	adequately	7
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>Open Science/RDM</b>	Open science practices have been considered satisfactorily.	1	considered satisfactorily	7
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>Gender</b>	Also, the gender dimension has been considered adequately.	1	adequately considered	8
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>DNSH</b>	-	0	0	0
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>AI</b>	The proposed AI techniques and methodologies are used convincingly.	1	convincingly used	9
yes	1	14.5	5	<b>Other</b>	-	0	0	0

# The LERU ESR data – citizen science/engagement

- What do the LERU data tell us about evaluators' take on
  - Citizen science
  - Citizen engagement
- Disclaimer
  - Limited data set
  - Only above threshold
  - Semantics

# Citizen Science in LERU ESRs

- # mentions: 10
- # ESRs: 5
- # topics: min. 4
- # pos. vs. neg. comments: 9 vs. 1

- Division of comments:

Award criterion	#
Excellence	6
Impact	2
Implementation	2

- “Citizen science” written in topic?
  - 1 project without citizen science written in the scope

# Positive comment (CS in topic scope)

- [topic text] Scope: Support emerging relevant citizen science projects at local level (neighbourhoods, towns and cities), conduct hackathons, hold science cafés, and set up a dedicated video channel to display food systems success stories, all with the aim of raising awareness of the need to transform food systems and to co-create citizen-inspired solutions.
- [ESR] OS/RDM: The consortium includes expertise in open science practices. The proposal supports co-creation, citizen science and openness in research data and methods. Open evaluation and open science training are included. FAIR data management, opening data to public scrutiny and joint analysis is pursued. This is excellent.

# Positive comment (CS not in topic scope)

- DEC: The proposed dissemination and communication measures are described in detail and are of excellent quality. Target groups for the measures are identified and adequately selected. For example, the proposal will develop strategies for important aspects such as citizen science, mentoring of young professionals and enhanced dialogue between different level stakeholders. This is excellent

# Negative comment

- [Methodology] The location of follower cities is not provided in the proposal, but the a priori locations in the identified countries indicate that the proposal is overrepresenting south and southwest Europe. This is a minor shortcoming. Moreover, for some pilots, cooperation between different groups of citizens to support various citizen science objectives is insufficiently described. This is a minor shortcoming.



# Positive comment: citizen science vs. engagement

- Cross-cutting issues are addressed in a very detailed manner, including the integration of SSH which aims to develop organically throughout the project, and by including a citizen science partner responsible for societal engagement through co-creation and experimental testing.

# Citizen Engagement in LERU ESRs

- #6: “citizen engagement”
- #6: “public engagement”
- #10: “engagement of citizens, civil society and end users”
- # pos. vs. neg. comments: 20 vs. 2
- Division of comments:

Award criterion	#
Excellence	17
Impact	3
Implementation	2

# Conclusions

- Very limited number of ESRs with CS comments
- Positive CS and CE comments often “tick the box”
- Most comments are positive, also (for CS) when not in the topic scope
- Why so rare?
  - CS has to “make sense” to a certain project
  - Incidence in topic texts?
  - Is the application template clear?
    - Horizon Europe Programme Guide & the RIA proposal template
  - Is the reviewers’ briefing clear?

# Award criterion

Soundness of the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, interdisciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices, including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.

# Template guidance

Open science is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process. Open science practices include early and open sharing of research (for example through preregistration, registered reports, pre-prints, or crowd-sourcing); research output management; measures to ensure reproducibility of research outputs; providing open access to research outputs (such as publications, data, software, models, algorithms, and workflows); participation in open peer-review; and involving all relevant knowledge actors including citizens, civil society and end users in the co-creation of R&I agendas and contents (such as citizen science).

# Reviewers' briefings

**Open Science:** Open science is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process, **including active engagement of society**

Open science practices include:

- [...]
- Involving all relevant knowledge actors including citizens, civil society and end users in the co-creation of R&I agendas and contents (such as citizen science).

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  - Is the reviewers’ briefing clear?
  - Are the concepts’ definitions clear?
  - Are the EC’s expectations towards CS clear?



# Thank you

Nele Nivelde, KU Leuven