

SCIENCE & EDUCATION FOR SOCIETY WORKING GROUP

ANNUAL PLAN 2020

WORKING GROUP LEADERS

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OBJECTIVES

The Working Group has the following focus areas:

- The place-based university – the regional approach
- Role of education in S3
- Education and skills for research and innovation
- Engagement with society and citizens

The objectives of the Working Group are to share information, develop knowledge and to build relationships with the EU institutions. The aim is also to facilitate project development among members.

CONTEXT

What key EU level priorities, strategies, and events does the Working Group aim to monitor in 2020?

- The European Research Area and the European Higher Education Area
 - ERRIN's participation in the ERA stakeholder forum
 - Publication of the ERA communication in June 2020
 - German presidency conference in autumn 2020
- MSCA stakeholder forum – synergies with ERDF

Which funding programmes are important for the Working Group and how does the WG aim to facilitate project development?

- Horizon Europe
 - MSCA
- Erasmus+

How does the group support partnership building (e.g. S3 partnerships) and collaborate with other European organisations or networks?

The Working Group will continue to collaborate with other European networks on topics related to the focus areas. The following organisations have been identified as particularly interesting:

- European Universities Association
- IGLO WG on Higher Education
- Science Europe

ACTIVITIES

Priorities for education and the new skills agenda – a regional perspective

3 April

In June 2016, the European Commission presented the Skills Agenda for Europe which consisted of ten actions to tackle challenges related to skills. Four years later, both the European and international context have changed dramatically. Digitalisation, increasingly flexible work patterns, and globalisation call for a renewed skills agenda. In March 2020, the Commission will publish the new agenda which is set to focus more on (developing) workers' skills, tackling the mismatch of skills, and modernise vocational training. It will also include recommendations for vocational training.

This meeting will be organised in collaboration with the Flemish Permanent Representation and VLEVA. It will be organised as an information session with the European Commission on the new Skills Agenda for Europe.

Target audience: Brussels-based representatives

Agenda 2030 – how do we translate the Sustainable Development Goals into operational actions?

Beginning of May

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals provide an overarching framework and commitment to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development by 2030 world-wide, ensuring that no one is left behind. How can research and innovation contribute to achieving these goals? How can we concretely translate the SDGs into actions? And what is the role of place-based universities in doing so?

Target audience: Brussels-based representatives

The future of the European Research Area and links to the European Higher Education Area

June, TBC

With the ERA communication set to be published in June and the German presidency priority of further linking the ERA and the EHEA, this meeting will be organised as a discussion on the regional aspect of the two policies looking specifically at the place-based perspective and the ecosystem approach. It would also include a briefing from the Rome summit on the Bologna process.

Target audience: Brussels-based representatives

European Universities Initiative

Q3

Building on the meeting organised in 2019 (8 November) on the European Universities Initiative, this meeting will further explore the place-based and regional dimension of the alliances funded. How do they plan to work with the local and/or regional authorities? What are the lessons learnt from the work done so far? And what do they aim to achieve?

Depending on the timing, information on the future of the European Universities Initiative will be covered by inviting a speaker from DG EAC.

Project development workshop - Erasmus+ calls

Q4

The focus will be on Key Action 2 and 3. The workshop will depend on the planning of the new programme.