



**Global Model and Observatory for  
International Responsible Research and  
Innovation Coordination**

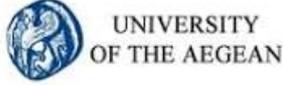
## **D4.5 RESPONSIBILITY Guidelines**



**“This project has received funding from the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 321489”**

<b>D4.5 RESPONSIBILITY Guidelines</b>			
Document No.			
Workpackage No.	<b>WP4</b>	Workpackage Title	<b>Observatory</b>
Start Date:	<b>01 December 2015</b>	Revision Date:	<b>15 February 2016</b>
Author(s)		<b>Fraunhofer IPK</b>	
Editor		<b>Fraunhofer IPK</b>	
Contributors			
Status		<b>R, PU</b>	
Date		<b>17 March 2016</b>	

\* R = Report, P = Prototype, D = Demonstrator, O = Other PU = Public, PP = Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services), RE = Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services), CO = Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services).

No.	Partner Name	Logo
1	Fraunhofer IPK	
2	Signosis Sprl	
3	De Montfort University	
4	University of Namur	
5	Technical University of Berlin	
6	University of Oxford	
7	GeoImaging Ltd	
8	University Sienna	
9	University of the Aegean	
10	University Malaysia Sarawak	
11	Universidad de Chile	
12	Kyushu Institute of Technology	
13	Arbeiter Samariter Bund Wien Gesundheit und Soziale Dienste Gemeinnützige GmbH	

## Table of Contents

List of Figures.....	5
List of Tables.....	5
Abbreviations .....	6
Executive Summary .....	7
1 Introduction .....	8
2 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform as a Multi-Stakeholder Approach .....	9
2.1 Overview of the RESPONSIBILITY Platform Structure .....	10
2.1.1 The Observatory – a common RRI Knowledge Base .....	10
2.1.2 The Forum – RRI Collaboration in Practice.....	12
2.1.3 RRI Caucus Process .....	12
2.1.4 Partnership Initiative Space.....	13
2.1.5 Open Space.....	13
2.2 Challenges of the RESPONSIBILITY Platform Construction Process .....	14
2.2.1 Bridging experts and non-experts .....	15
2.2.2 Bridging different stakeholders.....	15
2.2.3 Constructing technological equivalents of conceptual underpinnings.....	16
3 Specific Guidelines .....	17
3.1 Policy Makers .....	17
3.2 Researchers.....	19
3.3 Civil Society .....	20
3.4 Business and Industry .....	22
4 Implementation of Guidelines: How does the Platform support RRI Stakeholders?.....	24
4.1 Using the RESPONSIBILITY Platform as RRI Knowledge Base .....	24
4.2 Using the RESPONSIBILITY Platform as a Contact Point .....	26
4.2.1 The Observatory .....	26
4.2.2 The Forum .....	27
4.3 Using the RESPONSIBILITY Platform as an Amplifier .....	28
4.3.1 The Observatory .....	28
4.3.2 The Forum .....	29
5 Wrap-Up: A Platform for All.....	30
5.1 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform for Policy Makers.....	30
5.2 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform for Researchers .....	30
5.3 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform for Business and Industry.....	30
5.4 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform for Civil Society.....	30
6 Conclusion.....	31
7 References .....	32

---

## List of Figures

Figure 1: Structure and Main Features of the RESPONSIBILITY Platform .....	14
Figure 2: RRI Packages for different Stakeholder Groups.....	25
Figure 3: Discussion Dossier .....	26
Figure 4: Comment Function.....	27
Figure 5: Open Space.....	28
Figure 6: Stakeholder Tagging.....	28
Figure 7: Partnership Initiative Space .....	29

## List of Tables

Table 2.1: Observatory Content Types.....	11
---	----

---

## Abbreviations

Term	Explanation
EC	European Commission
CSO	Civil Society Organization
RRI	Responsible Research and Innovation
SwafS	Science with and for Society

---

## Executive Summary

The deliverable sets out specific guidelines that provide orientation for different actors to develop strategies for future RRI engagements. The formulated recommendations, instead of being rigid instructions, should be understood as practical impulses on how to foster and support Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) from different points of departure. Guidelines in this sense constitute a code of conduct for a multitude of RRI actors on how to orientate within an increasingly dense and complex jungle of ethical standards and codices using the RESPONSIBILITY Platform components **Observatory** and **Forum** as RRI-Tools.

Based on a reflection of articulated challenges, the present RESPONSIBILITY Guidelines have been developed in order to provide directions and hints for different RRI stakeholders, taking into account their specific potential, needs and experiences. They address a multitude of actors to support the further enactment of the RRI concept and its practical uptake. RESPONSIBILITY Guidelines are specifically targeted at the four primary RRI stakeholder groups, i.e. “Policy Makers”, “Research and Education Community”, “Business and Industry” and “Civil Society”. This supports the establishment of an RRI community, which through the RESPONSIBILITY online platform, could continue working towards a common understanding of RRI and could also further develop variety of forms and solutions for the practical implementation of RRI.

The deliverable introduces conceptual underpinnings of the RESPONSIBILITY platform (Forum and Observatory), before briefly outlining the platform’s design and functionalities, as developed within the project phase. A discussion of the main challenges that have been encountered with regard to the construction and design process reflects the preconditions and ambiguities of such an endeavour. The main body of the deliverable involves the formulation of specific stakeholder-centred guidelines as well as an illustration of corresponding features of the virtual platform that enable the implementation of those recommendations. Emphasis is put on the community aspect of an RRI platform that serves the multitude of stakeholders to integrate the RRI concept into their work and future projects. Hence, platform and guidelines are affiliated. The deliverable finally concludes with a wrap-up summarizing how the RESPONSIBILITY platform serves as a toolkit of features, supporting the very different types of actors to find individual access to a wide-ranging network of stakeholders.

## 1 Introduction

A declared goal of the FP7 program is to create and improve processes of development and research in terms of guaranteeing a generation of outcomes that are meaningful and purposeful to society as a whole. The concept of RRI has been developed in order to support the overall of this. As a core governance concept it found substantial expression in **Horizon 2020**, as the new European framework for research and innovation 2014-2020. RRI has been adopted as a cross-cutting issue that all European Horizon 2020 projects will have to address increasingly. Consequently, RRI is the central guiding framework for 'Science with and for society' (SwafS) in Horizon 2020.

Given the interpretively flexible status of the RRI discourse, the coordinative action RESPONSIBILITY aims to contribute to the orientation and alignment of RRI related activities that comprise varying stakeholders and societal fields.

While varying definitions of RRI including the European six key pillars (European Union 2012) provide in particular theoretical-normative accounts on current research and innovation activities, practical steps to render RRI accessible and malleable are underdeveloped. RESPONSIBILITY takes its point of departure from here. It addresses the procedural conditions of the implementation of RRI in order to foster the overall sustainability of the notion of RRI and its future as a framework for responsible governance of innovation in Europe and beyond.

The RESPONSIBILITY project had the scope to set up a virtual Observatory including a Forum as an interface between politicians, business and industry, researchers and civil society actors. Its objective is to enhance a common understanding of RRI, in particular through the deployment of practical tools to implement RRI in all relevant spheres. In doing so it will provide deliberative fora for discussion and international cooperation, involving the societal, policy and research stakeholders to these activities.

At its core are practical means such as case studies and training materials in order to provide advice in a common repository for diverse RRI stakeholders from the realm of research, business and industry, from civil society as well as policy makers and governance bodies.

Such tools, however, miss their potential, if not applied effectively. Guidelines introduced within this document are meant to supplement current activities with practical recommendations that we consider necessary for a consistent and productive uptake of RRI into activities concerned with research and innovation development. They constitute a code of conduct for a multitude of RRI actors on how to orientate within an increasingly dense and complex jungle of ethical standards and codices using the RESPONSIBILITY Plattform components **Observatory** and **Forum** as RRI-Tools. Notably, such activities comprise a range of actors directly and indirectly involved with RRI, from funding and governance, representation of interests, innovation and commercialization, to the immediate conduct of basic or applied research. Guidelines below include brief excerpts of RRI stakeholders' pertinent activities that are imbued with issues of Responsible Research and Innovation and provide an overview of how the various standards and related specifications should be applied to achieve interoperability.

The deliverable comes in 4 sections. It introduces conceptual underpinnings of the RESPONSIBILITY platform (Forum and Observatory), before briefly outlining the platform's design and functionalities, as developed within the project phase (2). A discussion of the

main challenges that have been encountered with regard to the construction and design process reflects the preconditions and ambiguities of such an endeavour. The main body of the deliverable involves the formulation of specific stakeholder-centred guidelines (3) followed by an illustration of corresponding features of the virtual platform that enable the implementation of those recommendations (4). Emphasis is put on the community aspect of an RRI platform that serves the multitude of stakeholders to integrate the RRI concept into their work and future projects. Hence, platform and guidelines are affiliated. The deliverable finally concludes with a wrap-up, summarizing how the RESPONSIBILITY platform serves as a toolkit of features, supporting the very different types of actors to find individual access to a wide-ranging network of stakeholders (5).

## 2 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform as a Multi-Stakeholder Approach

Multi-stakeholder governance approaches aim to improve the democratic character of governance by encouraging and fostering participation of all societal actors, in particular those affected by particular decisions. Multi-stakeholder approaches emphasize transparent, deliberative and consensus based decision making and hence, have been considered in the RESPONSIBILITY project to serve the requirements of constructing an RRI platform<sup>1</sup>. It implies to distinguish and identify different types of stakeholders that might participate in the forum and use, enrich and refine the document repository of the Observatory. In RESPONSIBILITY, a multi-stakeholder approach has been adopted regarding both the *process* of co-constructing the platform, carried by multiple perspectives and expertise and second, with regard to the *outcome*, where the approach underpins the modalities and functions of the online platform (Forum and Observatory). The project followed an ‘open’ multi stakeholder approaches where self-selection generates a representative composition of stakeholders/users. As outlined in the Forum Descriptive Report, the justification for the multi-stakeholder approach is twofold, taking into account both moral and epistemic reasoning: “Morally, multi-stakeholder approaches can be justified in terms of the principle that all those (potentially) affected by a decision have a right to participate or at least influence the process of making the decision. Epistemically, it can be argued that including a range of perspectives improves the quality of decision making processes.” (RESPONSIBILITY deliverable D3.1: 15)

The underpinning multi-stakeholder approach led to the target to integrate materials and tools that attract a range of stakeholder (including researchers and academics, business and industry, political administration and decision makers, as well as civil society actors) with an interest in RRI. Stakeholder groups have been mapped with the ambition to mirror such diversity, ensuring that different stakeholders contribute different interpretations of a particular innovation issue or of the potential functioning of a particular RRI tool. However, it must be kept in mind that RRI does not provide a definite answer on what should be the institutional actor arrangements that would allow a true responsible and inclusive innovation process. Rather, RRI inherently seeks to bridge expertise horizontally. Therefore, the Observatory and the Forum offer a variety of materials for different stakeholders to choose and adopt what might be relevant for the specific contexts they operate in.

---

<sup>1</sup> See for further elaboration on the approach, RESPONSIBILITY deliverable D3.1 and D4.1.

The implementation of a multi stakeholder approach to the platform has been pursued in the Forum, but also in the Observatory of the RESPONSIBILITY platform on several levels:

### **Observatory**

1. Most basically, the Observatory contains materials for all four stakeholder groups interested in RRI, provided by a sophisticated tagging system that categorizes and clusters the available material towards the specific interests and needs of stakeholders.
2. Simultaneously, the Observatory essentially lives from the continuous input and update, discussion and critique of materials such as case studies, guidelines, and training materials. Those materials have to be provided and shared by all stakeholders of RRI.

### **Forum**

1. The Forum contains modules of discussion that encourages yet not obliges a multi-stakeholder participant group in order to obtain the best results out of the discussions.
2. The participating groups are asked to prepare document and statements which depicts the topic or case study under discussion in the point of view of the respective stakeholder. This aims to enrich the discussion and assist the aim of the Forum to foster multi-stakeholder cooperation. Those materials have to be provided and shared by all stakeholders of RRI.

## **2.1 Overview of the RESPONSIBILITY Platform Structure**

The RESPONSIBILITY platform integrates an Observatory as a repository of valuable information related to several of ongoing RRI issues and their implications; and a Forum as a tool to hold constructive debates related to these issues. While both are independent entities which are constructed and are consistent in their own, they are intertwined both in a functional way and content-wise. What follows is an overview of the most important features of the Observatory and Forum.<sup>2</sup>

### **2.1.1 The Observatory – a common RRI Knowledge Base**

The RESPONSIBILITY Observatory is intended to be the hub to the multitude of RRI and related content spread all over the internet. The central feature is the collection and categorization of materials on RRI which makes it a comprehensive and useful resource repository for the entire global RRI community. In an open source fashion, the Observatory builds on both the active commitment and the heterogeneous interests of an emergent RRI community who continuously uses, assesses and modifies the assembled materials. The resources on RRI are bundled into RRI packages, four pre-compiled and one self-compiled package.

---

<sup>2</sup> For a more detailed description on the specific functions, see the RESPONSIBILITY Observatory and Forum Descriptive Reports (D3.1 and D4.1).

The four pre-compiled packages have been compiled for “Policy Makers”, “Research and Education Community”, “Business and Industry” and “Civil Society” and hence target at those stakeholder groups primarily engaged in or affected by RRI. Within each package, it is possible to select materials of particular content types, around particular RRI Issues, focused on a particular Region or Country, relevant to a particular Stage of Implementation, or relating to a particular Domain/Field (e.g. industrial sector, type of technology, type of initiative). Further content is being added to the Observatory, and the pre-compiled packages may grow or shrink dynamically, by adding or removing tagged materials. For the self-compiled package, the search and browse facility also enables to compile an own personalized bundle of resources with further fine-grained selection of relevant material from the database, including material that is not within the four pre-compiled packages.

**Table 2.1: Observatory Content Types**

Content Type	Description
Assessment guideline	Assessment guidelines introduce a methodology, strategy or program that could be followed in order to assess whether a research and innovation project has been conducted in a responsible way. Such guidelines should provide concrete practical tools as well as tangible results. They should comprise some step by step description of the procedures and at best some practical examples.
Briefs	Briefs contain information on the desires, requirements and action recommendations of one or several groups of stakeholders that should be reconciled and accommodated by another group of stakeholders.
Case Study	Case studies should provide first-hand experience of RRI in practice. Therefore, they should provide an overview on the lessons learned in regard to practical problems as well as regarding the expertise that was gained during a specific project.
Code of Conduct	A Code of conduct comprises principles, values, standards, or rules of behaviour outlining the practices of conducting RRI in general or for specific stakeholder groups. In comparison with a guideline, a code of conduct is something an organization is committing to publically.
Conceptual article on what RRI is	“Conceptual article on what RRI is” explain the concept of RRI in general. These articles should be suitable for users who haven’t heard much of RRI.
Conceptual paper on selected values or impacts	“Conceptual paper on selected values or impacts” addresses certain RRI specific values and do explain the issues and consequences related to them.
Design guideline	Design guidelines should provide practical information on how to conduct research and development in a responsible way? They introduce a methodology, strategy or program that could be followed in the conduct of an RRI program. A design guideline comprises sort of step by step description of the procedures and at best some practical examples.
Governance arrangements suitable for addressing RRI	Articles concerned with governance arrangements suitable for addressing RRI provide information on the necessary circumstances that need to be arranged in order to be able conduct an RRI project. Such circumstances

Content Type	Description
	might either include organizational or technical means.
Guide to funding sources	Information on funding sources for RRI at different levels will be provided. The reader should get an overview on the latest ongoing calls along with information on how to apply and what to consider.
Guideline for review processes	Guidelines for RRI related institutional or organizational review processes should provide information to researchers and innovators on how to pass such processes. They shall provide practical instructions and information on what is necessary to do along with information on experiences of other researchers on what aspects one has to pay specific attention to.
Media training for RRI stakeholders	Media training documents introduce concepts and material that should enable RRI stakeholders to present their RRI projects or innovation in an appealing way. It should enable its user to convince the media that an RRI project has been conducted in a responsible way.
Technology assessment and foresight	Technology assessment and foresight reports should comprise analysis of current and emerging technologies regarding their potential to raise RRI related issues and the impact they might have on different stakeholder groups.
Training material	Information on training material should comprise programs or courses that are able to teach stakeholders why it is important and how to conduct responsible research and innovation. Such material should be of great value especially to people who want to convince other (e.g. in their company) to conduct research and innovation in a responsible way.

### 2.1.2 The Forum – RRI Collaboration in Practice

The Responsibility Forum is a virtual interaction place for stakeholders and members of the RRI community. It is a place to deliberate and discuss aspects of responsibility in research and innovation and the central reference and contact point for those who wish to collaborate and contribute to RRI.

The Forum comprises a number of specific functional modalities in order to facilitate and guide RRI stakeholders' interaction in a structured way.

### 2.1.3 RRI Caucus Process

The RRI Caucus Process has been developed as the core modality of the Responsibility Forum. It is designed to ensure that a wide range of stakeholders can participate in addressing Responsible Research and Innovation issues, and to design tools and functionalities that can apply RRI principles. It is a modality that provides the means to discuss RRI related issues in a formal and structured way.

The RRI Caucus is the core two-step modality of the Responsibility Forum.

- Step 1: In a **Dynamic Coalition** RRI material (like guidelines, training materials, code of conduct, etc.) and future scenarios for research or innovation topics will be prepared by a group of expert stakeholders who represent different perspectives on the topic at hand.

- Step 2: Thereafter, in an **Innovation Café** all material prepared in the Dynamic Coalition can be discussed and assessed by a broader audience of expert and lay stakeholders. Based on these discussions the members of the Innovation Café can not only provide a quantifiable rating of possible decision options but will eventually decide on further action recommendations based on those scenarios.

The final outcome of the RRI Caucus Process is a Discussion Dossier on the public opinion landscape in regard to the topic at hand. It is prepared by the RRI Government<sup>3</sup>. By providing equal descriptions of the different perspectives and assessment of all relevant stakeholder groups it avoids to privilege stakeholder groups only based on their material advantage or their stronger social network.

As the Responsibility Forum is open to everyone, all members are invited to participate in the determination of future topics. Therefore the **Caucus Suggestion Board** has been provided, where all members of the community could provide, rate and discuss topics they deem relevant.

All discussion outcomes are stored and available through the search link on the Forum homepage. That way easy accessibility to all past discussion is guaranteed and interested stakeholders are able to comprehend the different perspectives, arguments and final outcomes of the RRI Caucus processes.

#### **2.1.4 Partnership Initiative Space**

In order to foster transdisciplinary collaboration and an exchange of opinion among versatile RRI actors, the Responsibility Forum offers the Partnership Initiative where participants can either introduce their project proposals in order to find partners or introduce themselves with their interests and expertise.

#### **2.1.5 Open Space**

The Open Space provides space for all people interested in RRI to raise general questions, express fears or state opinions on all RRI related issues. It particularly covers issues falling outside the scope of the RESPONSIBILITY Caucus Process.

---

<sup>3</sup> The RRI Government refers to the organization responsible for running and maintaining the Responsibility Forum. It consists of the Secretariat (an individual or organization with overall responsibility) and the Advisory Board (consisting of expert stakeholders and senior RRI researchers). The RRI Government is initially chosen by the project partners and possibly the partners from the other FP7 projects, and eventually replaced by a secretariat nominated by the stakeholders. The duty of the RRI Government is to identify the topics for upcoming Caucuses, to initiate the process and to monitor the quality of the outcome. For a detailed explanation on the tasks and function of the RRI Government, see the *RESPONSIBILITY Deliverable Forum Descriptive Report (deliverable D3.1)*.

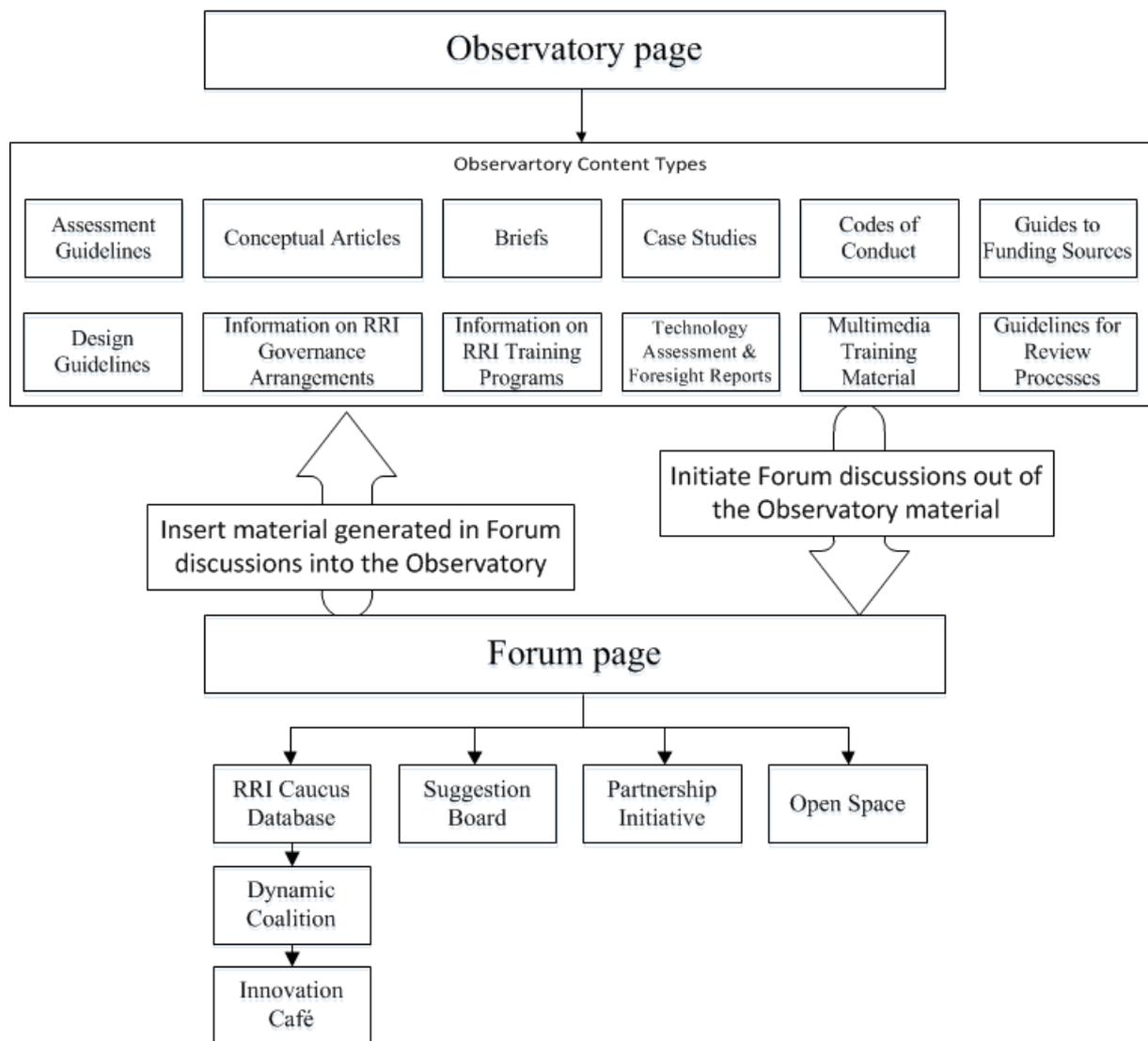


Figure 1: Structure and Main Features of the RESPONSIBILITY Platform

## 2.2 Challenges of the RESPONSIBILITY Platform Construction Process

The RESPONSIBILITY platform is expected to contribute to the development of RRI on three different levels: first, by providing a space for a wide range of research and innovation stakeholders to reflect on the purposes and implications of research and innovation; second, by contributing to the development and dissemination of RRI governance tools and methods, and third, by contributing to the more detailed practical application of the key RRI action points (von Schomberg, Scientific, and Unit 2011) and norms (Grunwald 2011; Owen, Macnaghten, and Stilgoe 2012; Von Schomberg 2013).

The construction process of the RRI platform as the central outcome of the RESPONSIBILITY project, involved a heterogeneously composed consortium comprising of technical experts, engineers, social scientists and philosophers who worked in close collaboration during the project phase.

Procedurally, the platform creation involved the sound theoretical conception as well as the subsequent technical implementation of those conceptual underpinnings. The collaboration took place in a manner of division of work that must have been conflated iteratively. The

interdisciplinary approach has been very valuable for the articulation of different notions, interests and expectations regarding RRI. In fact, this diversity arguably strengthened the construction process by introducing different perspectives and requiring co-learning among the consortium members. The latter in particular challenged the project consortium since there were few if any examples of online applications of RRI methodologies at the time the RESPONSIBILITY platform, in particular the novelty of the Forum, has been developed.

Furthermore, the concept or approach of RRI is an emergent, and subject of contestation and adaption. In this vein, the platform is in particular interesting, since it embodies one of the first concrete manifestations of RRI principles that have been set out so far. The technical operationalization of theoretical underpinnings into this actual platform is hence, an attempt to make RRI practical.

Certainly, such a construction process doesn't come without frictions. It entailed a process that has been ridden with prerequisites, while the effectiveness of the process could not be guaranteed. Rather, the multidisciplinary approach attempted to make this innovative tool more robust and reflexive, while being aware it is not capable of imposing a certain vision - but rather ultimately reliant on bottom up engagement of the targeted actor groups.

### **2.2.1 Bridging experts and non-experts**

The consortium took into account the problem of how to include both, expert and non-expert knowledge in the Forum discussions. One of the key issues identified was a perceived divide between experts and non-experts when assessing the ethical implications of new technologies. However, simply providing expert input into discussion processes would potentially serve to reinforce the divide between experts and non-experts, fail to acknowledge the complexity of issues, or undermine reflexive discussion of the issues at stake. For this reason, consideration of more nuanced ways of including expert opinion was a major theme of the discussions of the RESPONSIBILITY platform designers.

### **2.2.2 Bridging different stakeholders**

The different target groups have very different needs and expectations towards such a platform, including different epistemic cultures, diverging understandings and habits of dealing with specific repositories. Not least, the platform had to align different intrinsic motivations and attract stakeholders to attempt the platform. For example, assumptions about democracy, deliberation, expertise and reflexivity found expression in the conception of discussion formats (open spaces, restricted spaces, Innovation Café, and Dynamic Coalition).

The online platform required the reconciliation of a complex set of practical and normative requirements. On the one hand, developing the responsibility platform aimed to apply core RRI principles such as stakeholder participation, deliberation, reflexivity, and anticipation. On the other hand, with the intention to include decision makers, research and innovation practitioners, civil society and the public in discussion about RRI and related issues, it required the consortium to formulate technical translations of those requirements that enable RRI stakeholders to collaborate productively in the anticipated way. Thus, it has been tested iteratively with heterogeneous stakeholder groups in a number of assessments.

---

### **2.2.3 Constructing technological equivalents of conceptual underpinnings**

The operationalization derived from theoretical considerations, subsequently had to be “translated” into technical terms and inscribed in technical modalities. User studies and iterative ongoing assessments with potential user groups mirrored the fragmented landscape of stakeholders’ interests and actors’ preferences. While the project’s technical experts continuously integrated the feedback from user studies it became obvious that expectations on functions and modalities of the Forum and the Observatory are very diverse and even conflicting and therefore, difficult to integrate in a manner that serves all sides. Basically, ongoing iterative assessments were indispensable to understand user expectations and different needs or interests. Simultaneously, the findings from assessments required considerable discussion and prioritization how to integrate the findings, also in the context of available resources.

### 3 Specific Guidelines

What follows is a set of practical recommendations derived from lessons learned from the process of constructing the RESPONSIBILITY platform with its two components “Observatory” and “Forum” from its conception (see deliverables D3.1 and D4.1) into the implementation (D3.2 and D4.3) towards its iterative assessments (D5.2) .

These guidelines are meant to support a multitude of actors in further developing the RRI concept and its practical uptake. Taking into account the very different needs and starting points of stakeholder groups (see section 2.3), instruments such as the RESPONSIBILITY platform, might fail to develop their full potential, if not adopted in contexts.

Against this background, guidelines are meant to be an orientation for different actors to develop strategies for future RRI engagements. Recommendations below, instead of being rigid instructions, should be understood as practical impulses on how to foster and support Responsible Research and Innovation from different points of departure. This supports the establishment of an RRI community, which through the Forum and the Observatory, could continue working towards a common understanding of RRI and could also further develop variety of forms and solutions for the practical implementation of RRI.

#### 3.1 Policy Makers

The EU has been a major driving force in constructing an RRI community. The EU’s recent policy documents on RRI provide a set of policy options for developing RRI. Furthermore, the funding schemes for RRI within the Horizon2020 program promote attention on RRI and create a sense of common purpose that contributes to the development of an RRI network. Institutional support for RRI, on all scales, is vital for the further proliferation and adoption of RRI.

#### Three Guidelines for Policy Makers

##### Integrating all relevant “publics”: Construction of stakeholders

The culture of perceiving, defining and prioritizing problem diagnoses and policy missions gets directly connected with the practical, organizational dimension of the governance regime by naming the “relevant” stakeholders to be considered in the agenda. Frequently, relevant actors are limited to business and industry and the research organizations, while civil society (organizations) is dismissed.

A promising response to the challenge of RRI is true inclusion of all relevant stakeholder groups. The genuine opening up for the diversity of perspectives, concerns and expertise of all stakeholders may unfold potential risks and pitfalls of science and technology policies and therefore, contribute to more robust governance. If actor groups are included that many members of the society trust to work on their behalf, e.g. NGOs, it may support the formation of governance arrangements in productive ways that reflect societal values and concerns about risk, safety and the benefits of innovation and technology. Participatory approaches are elaborated and increasingly exploited; nevertheless they still lack institutionalization in the European science and technology governance. This participation bias is constraining to the realization of RRI. In order to construct the right RRI publics, policy makers should be advised to:

- Learn who is affected by innovation
- Take all potentially affected stakeholders into consideration
- Use the available range of elaborated deliberative formats to increase inclusion
- Democratize political agenda-setting

### Promote the generation of interdisciplinary communities

It is important to acknowledge, that the diverse actors involved in innovation processes have different and sometimes diverging or even conflicting aspirations and interests to learn about and implement RRI principles. Moreover, the diverse actors are bound to very different organizational settings that enable or constrain their capabilities and interest to integrate RRI principles. The recognition of the complex actors' landscape and underlying interaction dynamics may call for different ways to facilitate through policy programs and funding. For example, future research funds could request that scientists are liable to involve other perspectives into their research activities, notably from the social sciences and humanities whose contribution still lack acknowledgement. Hence, it is vital for policymakers to clarify how they want to achieve the institutionalization of RRI with regard to different societal actors, by

- Disseminate the RRI concept
- Promote campaigns, initiatives and programs that facilitate interdisciplinary cooperation
- Recognize the complex nature of RRI

### Create funding schemes conducive to participation of all relevant actors

Current funding and project schemes have not taken sufficient account of the tensions RRI stakeholders face when applying to funding. Frequently, they are not flexible enough to tackle unforeseen issues, uncertainty, differences in epistemic and organizational cultures and knowledge gaps. The lack of projects' responsiveness is thus closely related to the lack of institutional responsiveness and capacities on part of the funding institutions.

Policymakers need to understand the organizational and epistemic life worlds of these actors in order to establish intervention/passage points for their active participation in research and innovation processes. Create programs and funding structures that are sensitive to RRI principles. This includes the fostering of collaboration environments that is conducive to all actors relevant for societally robust research and innovation. While there is need to meet political and economic goals through funding schemes, these may emerge as constraining to various stakeholders' goals, e.g. funding schemes suitable for SMEs are not necessarily favourable for the inclusion of civil society organizations (CSOs).

- Learn about the organizational and epistemic differences of RRI actors
- Improve the funding schemes literacy of all RRI actors
- Create flexible funding modalities which serve diverging needs

## 3.2 Researchers

Research can be understood as the systematic investigation into problems and study of data, materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions. There are manifold reasons to include principles of RRI into research. They may span from aligning research outcomes to societal challenges, the provision of opportunity for participatory research with the communities of interest, an interest to translate research results back into society (acceptance), to the fundamental increase of robustness and innovation potential through the expansion of the boundaries of scientific knowledge towards other societal perspectives.

### Three Guidelines for Researchers

#### Seek for external impulses and feedback

Scientific expertise can have both enabling and constraining effects. The narrow focus on rather isolated scientific or technological aspects impedes the recognition of their societal embeddedness. Potential wider implications of a particular innovation may lie beyond researchers' scope of knowledge since expertise is always limited in scope. The notion of RRI therefore implies to use the complimentary specific expertise and knowledge of other RRI stakeholders.

Research developments and innovative technologies mean that it is not possible to easily foresee and anticipate the outcomes of actions. Rather, anticipation may require a richer epistemic community based on a range of stakeholders. An early and precautionary examination of potential (objective) risk exposure or (subjective) public perception of uncertainties not only increases public acceptance to research outcomes but also mitigates possible irreversible complications (e.g. after lock-in effects). Hence, in order to broaden their anticipatory capacity, researcher should seek to

- Learn from other experts and projects
- Learn about the public's risk perception and fears
- Bundle up competences and information
- Engage not only professional experts but also societal stakeholders from early on
- Actively involve social sciences and humanities in research processes

#### Get your epistemological merits out of the ivory tower

What is presented today as innovations to the public often is perceived to emerge from an invisible backstage, produced behind closed doors in the laboratory. A prevailing lack of communication results in growing estrangement between science and society. In an information and knowledge-based society we need an increased dialogue between society and research. Both sides are interdependent.

RRI is at its core driven by the recognition and experience of insufficient and failed communication between innovators and civil society that impedes projects and improvements or leads to inadequate developments and innovations. On the other hand, it features the belief that science, in particular in high risk fields and technologies, should

become societally embedded. Researchers therefore should

- Make scientific research, data and dissemination accessible to all levels of an inquiring society
- Promote the communication about your scientific field
- Identify and address the blind spots of specialized knowledge
- Consider the societal meaning and concrete value of scientific curiosity

### Provide capabilities for adaptations

Research not only follows its own methodologies, ways of interaction and ethos, but also the trajectories and routines. The independence of science and research, is not only a crucial cornerstone, but often lies at the heart of researchers' identity. However, this attitude also constitutes shielding in a way that blinds researchers for aspects their research might influence or be influenced by. This phenomenon is a substantial starting point also for the rise and meaning of RRI. In order to broaden the capability of research to consider the manifold implications of their activities, spaces for reflexion and adaptations have to be provided. Hence, researchers are invited to

- Consider the societal meaning and concrete value of scientific curiosity
- Tolerate simplification for the sake of better communication towards society
- Institutionalize reflection loops throughout the entire research process
- Identify and address the blind spots of specialized knowledge

### 3.3 Civil Society

The term civil society isn't clearly defined, however generally used with reference to organisations and groups acting on behalf of public interest, such as non-governmental or non-profit organization, campaign groups, trade unions, or religious organisations. Following von Rooy, civil society can be framed as 'the population of groups formed for collective purposes primarily outside of the state and marketplace'.<sup>4</sup>

As stated within the RESPONSIBILITY Network of Networks report, limited evidence of direct involvement of civil society actors in Responsible Research and Innovation could be found: "Of course, civil society actors such as trade unions, NGO campaign groups, or religious organisations all have a potentially very strong interest in specific RRI issues. Furthermore, the (often underestimated) power of these groups to block innovations using campaigns and protests is one of the main reasons for the present interest in RRI. Nevertheless, it is hard to find evidence of involvement or even awareness in RRI among these groups. This may be because RRI is still a new approach, but we still need to reflect on how to include civil society actors." (See RESPONSIBILITY deliverable D 2.1: 21)

---

<sup>4</sup> See Rooy, 1998: 30

Civil society actors can benefit by learning about RRI as a concept not only to foster Responsible Research and Innovation, but also to increase dialogue between societal actors in their entirety.

### Three Guidelines for Civil Society

#### Grow your skills by learning from external fields

Although civil societal actors and organisations usually rather emphasize on specific themes or particular projects, it can be worthwhile for them to also seek for case studies and best practice examples on external topics. Acting in public interest, civil society actors often prove high awareness of ethical concerns and a strong sensibility.

Responsibility, however, is a cross-sectorial issue tangled to various areas of subject. In order to particularly increase responsibility in interdisciplinary projects, civil society can bring in their skills even better, when learning from a wider range of fields, including external examples, success stories and challenges. Civil society actors are well advised to

- Stay informed about current debates and future issues
- Seek for case studies on various responsibility subjects
- Understand responsibility as a cross-sectorial task
- Stay aware of multi-stakeholder perspectives

#### Be a mediator

Industry, research and politics often miss opportunities to include civil society as a forth key actor to be engaged in research and innovations projects. Such projects risk a lack of competences with regard to practical and everyday knowledge.

Civil society should become aware of its importance and play an intermediary part in these projects. Doing so, civil society actors are able to take a two-folded role, engaging as advocate on behalf of their own interests and contributing societal knowledge in order to avoid failures of future developments. Civil society actors should

- Open for cross-sectorial actors and increase their network
- Participate and Co-Design research and innovation projects
- Become an equal partner in research and innovation projects
- Intermediate between industry, research and politics
- Contribute everyday knowledge gained from field work and practical experiences

#### Raise your presence

The notion of inclusion shouldn't be restricted to a unidirectional understanding of fostering participation from the top-down. Civil society actors should enhance their opportunities to directly influence research and innovation by participating more often in ongoing debates and events, increasing the amount of publications and sharing field work experiences with an interdisciplinary public. In order to do so, civil society actors should

- Display their competencies

- Engage in interdisciplinary activities
- Become an initiator
- Publish about practical experiences
- Attend ongoing events and share your experiences
- Start RRI discussions

### 3.4 Business and Industry

As outlined in the RESPONSIBILITY Network of Networks report, business and industry (with some exceptions) demonstrated low interest in RRI so far: “Businesses have made some contributions to funding RRI networks, and a few businesses have taken up the RRI concept as part of their approach to ethics. However, awareness seems to be low.” (RESPONSIBILITY deliverable D2.1: 32)

“Compared to the level of interest in other forms of ethical governance (including corporate social responsibility, human rights obligations for business, international framework agreements etc.), few businesses have shown explicit interest in RRI and there have not been many attempts by businesses to develop their own RRI codes. (...) Business has also played a limited role in funding RRI projects. (...) One reason for this low level of uptake may simply be that RRI is a relatively new concept, has not been widely disseminated, and even lacks a clear, widely accepted definition.” (Ibid: 18 f.)

Business and industry, however, are well-advised to increase interest in RRI as the concept provides considerable advantages over internal forms of ethical principles.

#### Three Guidelines for Business and Industry

##### Benefit from becoming an RRI-funder

Although there are manifold guidelines and concepts regarding ethical behaviour in business and industry, these actors can benefit from explicitly fostering RRI engagements in terms of affiliating to a responsibility discourse which is specifically interdisciplinary and constitutes itself across sectors. The RRI concept, as responsibly developed by policy makers and widely up taken in research, opens doors to build up reliable networks and to interact with cross-sectorial actors more closely. Business and industry benefit from fostering RRI projects and initiatives by gaining external impulses and building public-private alliances. In order to design the future as a collective, business and industry are well advised to:

- Understand responsibility as a common task
- Interact more closely with research, policy makers and civil society actors
- Foster RRI engagements, initiatives and projects
- Establish RRI think tanks
- Make use of public-private partnerships

##### Keep commercial and societal concerns aligned

Future technologies and innovations risk rejection if not developed with respect to actual demands and public acceptance. Business and industry should treat the process of

generating future-looking ideas as both, a commercial and a societal concern. Although these intentions are sometimes argued to be contradictory, it is desirable to keep them aligned by integrating future stakeholders at an early stage of development. In doing so, business and industry benefit from raising acceptance connecting themselves to a wider range of societal actors. In concrete, this means to:

- Map all potential stakeholders relevant to future decisions
- Open for participators and foster inclusion
- Generate multi-directional canals for communication
- Enter the dialogue with civil society actors and organisations
- Raise awareness of public concerns and remain in line with public demands
- Stay aware of the complexity of societal needs and demands

### Take advantage of the multifaceted nature of RRI

One characteristic of RRI may be its incomplete state of definition, which can be both, a challenge to reach agreements and a chance to benefit from a richness of perspectives. Especially when it comes to questions about how to increase responsibility in research and development, there are various approaches rather than one best way to act. This complexity is often said to be obstructive, but can be surprisingly fruitful in terms of seeking for creative solutions on how to tackle future issues and grand societal challenges. By gaining insights from various perspectives, business and industry increase their creative and innovative potential. In order to enter new markets and follow unusual paths, business and industry should:

- Engage in ongoing debates about responsibility and future development
- Gain future-looking ideas by learning from both, advocates and critics
- Seek for feedback, impulses and new perspectives
- Find project partners with contradictive views

---

## 4 Implementation of Guidelines: How does the Platform support RRI Stakeholders?

The RESPONSIBILITY platform is meant to serve all relevant RRI stakeholders as a virtual meeting place to discuss RRI related issues and inform about ongoing developments. This approach, however bridging, entails the major challenge of equally addressing different stakeholders driven by different motivations.

The following section aims to illustrate how the community aspect of an RRI platform serves the multitude of stakeholders to integrate the RRI concept into their work and future projects. Thereby, the RESPONSIBILITY Forum and Observatory as both, conceptually linked but contextually separated, facilitate different tasks of the overall goal to foster future processes of innovation and research.

In core, the use of the RESPONSIBILITY Platform is three-fold, serving RRI stakeholders as

1. Knowledge Base
2. Contact Point
3. Amplifier

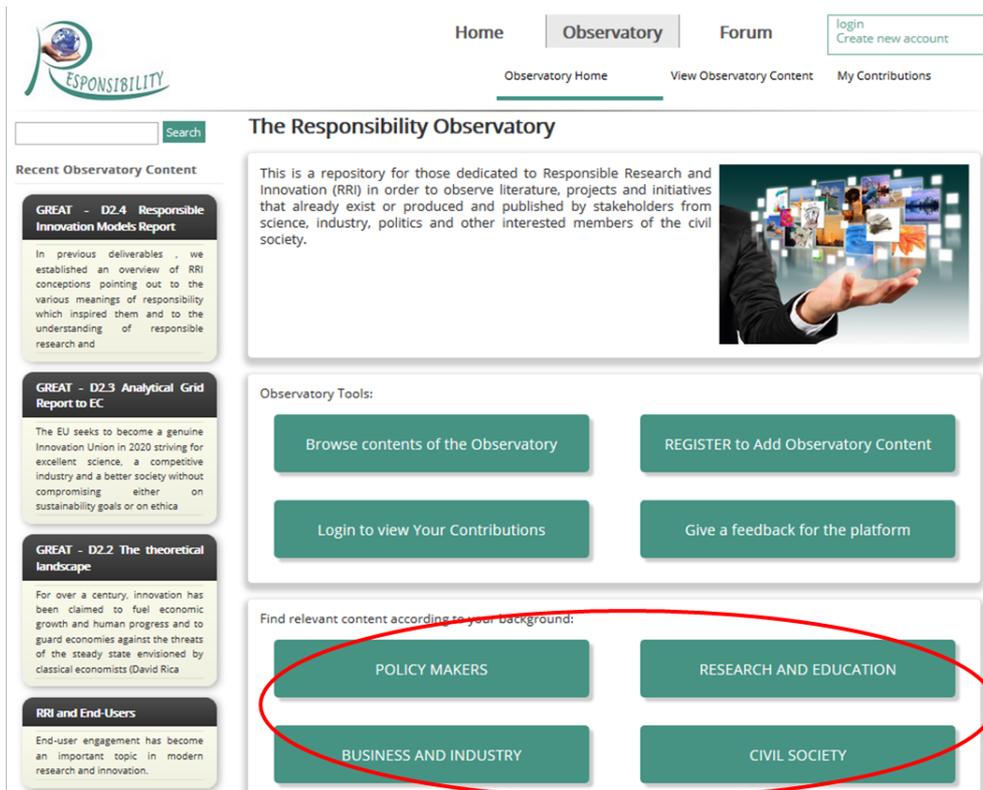
It is crucial to mention that these benefits jointly build a toolkit to strengthen the RRI community and simultaneously each of its stakeholders. Nonetheless, several features of the platform might be of particular use for specific groups. Below, some advices are given how actors from politics, research, business and industry and civil society can take advantage of the RESPONSIBILITY platform and can be supported by implementing the above-mentioned guidelines.

### 4.1 Using the RESPONSIBILITY Platform as RRI Knowledge Base

The RESPONSIBILITY Platform serves as a knowledge base in two ways, first by providing a repository of different materials within the Observatory and RRI packages and second through its prepared and structured outcomes of the Forum debates and caucus processes.

The **Observatory** is meant to be a community-based compilation of materials for Responsible Research and Innovation. All types of stakeholders are invited to grow their skills, seek for information and, moreover, to help this repository grow by contributing own materials and perspectives. A core concept and declared goal is to build up a multi-faceted knowledge base, balanced with respect to the various scholars and views of RRI. It is this provision of documents from a broad community that allows all stakeholders to take advantage of its cross-sectorial impulses. The Observatory content is in principle relevant for all types of stakeholders. Nonetheless, several materials address specific target groups and can be marked as such.

In order to particularly support stakeholders gaining a quick orientation on those materials that are specifically interesting for their fields of work, RRI packages for the above-mentioned stakeholder groups have been implemented as an integral part of the functionality. Logged-in users also have the possibility to compile own packages by using the systems 'bookmark' function. This way, users can search the Observatory with an interest-specific focus and take up the RRI concept for their work and future projects.



**Home** **Observatory** **Forum**

[Observatory Home](#) [View Observatory Content](#) [My Contributions](#)

**The Responsibility Observatory**

This is a repository for those dedicated to Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in order to observe literature, projects and initiatives that already exist or produced and published by stakeholders from science, industry, politics and other interested members of the civil society.

**Observatory Tools:**

- Browse contents of the Observatory
- REGISTER to Add Observatory Content
- Login to view Your Contributions
- Give a feedback for the platform

Find relevant content according to your background:

- POLICY MAKERS**
- RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
- BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY**
- CIVIL SOCIETY

**Recent Observatory Content**

**GREAT - D2.4 Responsible Innovation Models Report**  
In previous deliverables, we established an overview of RRI conceptions pointing out to the various meanings of responsibility which inspired them and to the understanding of responsible research and

**GREAT - D2.3 Analytical Grid Report to EC**  
The EU seeks to become a genuine Innovation Union in 2020 striving for excellent science, a competitive industry and a better society without compromising either on sustainability goals or on ethics

**GREAT - D2.2 The theoretical landscape**  
For over a century, innovation has been claimed to fuel economic growth and human progress and to guard economies against the threats of the steady state envisioned by classical economists (David Rica

**RRI and End-Users**  
End-user engagement has become an important topic in modern research and innovation.

**Figure 2: RRI Packages for different Stakeholder Groups**

Content that can be found within these RRI Packages is manifold. For **policy makers**, documents about governance arrangements can be especially useful, providing information on the necessary circumstances that need to be arranged in order to be able to conduct an RRI project. Moreover, case studies about the impacts of current governance structures, as well as design and assessment guidelines for RRI projects can be a fruitful source of information for policy makers. **Researchers** can use the Observatory as a tool to expand their focus and take advantage of the expertise and knowledge of a whole community. Using the Observatory as a knowledge base, researchers particularly profit from different types of RRI reports, embracing an outlook what sort of problems they might be confronted with when they utilize or apply a certain technology or conduct a certain research. Also design guidelines, providing practical information on how to conduct research and development in a responsible way, might be helpful for researchers. **Business and industry** can use the Observatory content to learn about current RRI issues from the cross-sectorial community, using the *wisdom of the crowd* to better align their work with societal benefits and current demands. Especially case studies, comprising stories of success and failure, might serve as informative past experiences that help to facilitate an understanding of how to increase trust and acceptance in future products and innovations. RRI stakeholders from business and industry should also have a look at assessment guidelines, analyzing current and emerging technologies regarding their potential to raise RRI related issues and the impact they might have on different stakeholder groups. **Civil society actors** are particularly invited to use the Observatory as a central place to inform about specific developments in the field of RRI. In order to take up external impulses, civil society actors can benefit from case studies, which provide first-hand experience of RRI in practice and encourage mutual learning of current approaches and practices, illustrating more or less successful application (or its absence) of RRI. Moreover, information on funding sources for RRI at different levels might help civil

society actors to get an overview on the latest ongoing calls along with information on how to apply and what to consider.<sup>5</sup>

In addition to materials provided within the Observatory, the **Forum** builds a second source of information, providing structured Discussion Dossiers derived from the Forum Caucus Process. These Papers are characterized by being particularly profound and balanced as regards the contribution of different type of stakeholders and their quality achieved through the Forums' Government structure. Generated by a cross-sectorial group of experts, Discussion Papers add a multi-faceted value to existing RRI materials and deliver holistic insights into current issues related to technology, science and development.



Figure 3: Discussion Dossier

Although the Forum's Caucus Process cannot make binding decisions, it is intended to determinate outcomes to the discussion process that can be used as possible information to guide and direct further decision making processes. For **policy makers** and developers from **industry** or **research** it is particularly interesting to gain results generated by those actors, they eventually make decisions for. **Civil society actors**, on the other hand, might uptake these outcomes into practical field work.

## 4.2 Using the RESPONSIBILITY Platform as a Contact Point

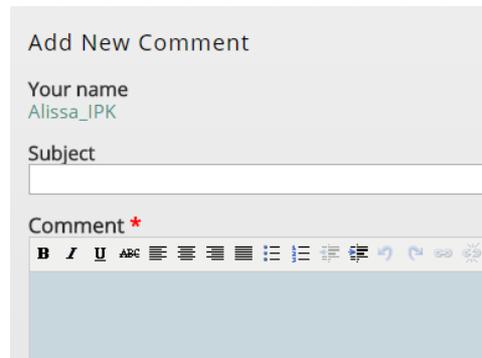
Providing a contact point for the wide-ranging RRI community means to offer incentives for the many different kinds of stakeholders to increase their scope and networks. In order to pursue such an integrative approach, specific functions of the RESPONSIBILITY Platform have been conceptualized to equally support all types of stakeholders in further RRI engagements. It is this bridging effect that facilitates processes of responsibility research and innovation regardless differences in demands and needs of the various stakeholder groups. Contact point, in this sense, means to open doors for those, who might feel excluded from decision making and to facilitate access to contradictive perspectives and feedback. RRI Stakeholders are invited to use both, the RESPONSIBILITY Observatory and Forum, as a central contact point on their behalf.

### 4.2.1 The Observatory

The **Observatory** is a contact point in terms of offering occasions to discuss outcomes of work with a broader community. This way, the materials provided by various RRI stakeholders turn into binding elements, connecting the contributors with an interdisciplinary community of commentators. For example, **researchers** and **developers** can

<sup>5</sup> A more detailed description of different materials provided in the RESPONSIBILITY Observatory can be found within the Observatory Handbook (RESPONSIBILITY deliverable D4.6).

use the Observatory to introduce intermediate results of current developments in order to gain reflected feedback and get in touch with other societal actors.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Add New Comment". It includes a "Your name" field with the value "Alissa\_IPK", a "Subject" field, and a "Comment" field with a rich text editor toolbar. The toolbar contains icons for bold, italic, underline, text color, background color, bulleted list, numbered list, link, unlink, and image. The comment field is currently empty.

Figure 4: Comment Function

### 4.2.2 The Forum

More importantly, the **Forum** serves as contact point in terms of inviting all stakeholders to seek for exchange within the interdisciplinary RRI community. Several functions have been implemented for this purpose:

Firstly, the Partnership Initiative Space supports those, who want to develop interdisciplinary projects. All types of RRI stakeholders can seek for research collaborators with a search function for projects and people. In doing so, **civil society actors** can open up to a broader community and increase their network with partners from research and industry. Vice versa, **researchers, developers** and **policy makers** should take the chance to include those, who are able to contribute expert knowledge gained from practical field work and proximity to citizens.

Furthermore, the Forum is meant to be a central hub for content-related discussions and debates, giving birth to holistic insights into current issues of technology, science and development. All types of Stakeholders are invited to bring in their views and help common moods and concerns to become visible. Thereby, the horizontal structure of the forum reduces the top down imperative form often prevalent between decision makers and broader society. It supports genuine engagement and rich dialogue, enabling all kinds of stakeholders to become represented adequately. This vitally fosters two-way interaction: **Decision makers** benefit from getting in touch with those, who finally experience the impacts of top down decisions. Simultaneously, **civil society** as well as **industry** and **researchers** are able to learn contexts and encouraged to interact with politics. As a final goal, everyday realities of cross-sectorial partners may become more tangible and gaps become bridged.

A second modality to support this bridging effect is the Forum Caucus Process, which ensures that a wide range of stakeholders can participate in addressing Responsible Research and Innovation issues, and to design tools and functionalities that can apply RRI principles.

RRI stakeholders, regardless their field of work, can join a Caucus Process, either by taking part in the Innovation Café, discussing coalition outcomes within the interdisciplinary community or by becoming an RRI expert, engaging directly in Forums' Dynamic Coalitions.

Eventually, for those issues outside the scope of the RRI Caucus, the Open Space serves as third point of contact, where all community members can ask questions, express their hopes and fears or state their opinion.

The **Responsibility Forum** offers an **Open Space** where all community members could ask questions, express their hopes and fears or state their opinion on issues that fall outside the scope of the RRI Caucus. The following discussions have been started recently:

Click a topic to join the discussion ?	Comment count
What is an Innovation Cafe?	0
Fracking	1
Automated cars	0
Proximity Marketing	0
Can water be a substitute fuel	2
Why is there everything being ICT based in 21st Century?	0
How much can hybrid vehicles help to save fuel and money?	0

Browse the list of previous discussions or start a new one

Figure 5: Open Space

### 4.3 Using the RESPONSIBILITY Platform as an Amplifier

Features of the RESPONSIBILITY Platform should be used as an amplifier both, on behalf of users' interest and, more importantly, in order to help the RRI concept being continually refined and applied with respect to contextual peculiarities. Stakeholders are invited not only to increase the RRI compilation, but to act as agents on behalf of what is relevant to them and should be relevant to others. Thereby, different groups of stakeholders are expected to set different emphasizes. In doing so, the RRI concept will be iteratively refined and gain its practical significance within the multitude of contexts.

#### 4.3.1 The Observatory

The **Observatory** invites users not only to contribute materials which are relevant for them, but also to make decisions on which content might explicitly attractive for other stakeholder groups. Users should take this chance to contribute insights and materials related to topics or views, which they feel underrepresented in other areas.

Useful for \*

- Civil Society (persons)
- Future People
- Industry/Business (persons)
- International Governmental Organisations
- Local Population
- Media (persons)
- National Governments
- Other
- Policy Makers (persons)
- Regional Governance
- Research/Academic (persons)
- Scientific Projects

Figure 6: Stakeholder Tagging

**Civil society actors** can raise their say by contributing RRI related content as an incentive for innovators and developers to get in touch with what is relevant from a citizen or practical field position. In contrast, **policy makers** might rather want to communicate their agendas, problem framing and challenges to those who experience the impacts.

Stakeholders, who are already experienced with an integration of responsibility into their projects, can be an amplifier themselves by utilizing training materials provided within the Observatory content. These materials include programs or courses that are able to teach stakeholders why it is important and how to conduct Responsible Research and Innovation. For example, **researchers** can take an intermediary role, demonstrating others how to conduct research and innovation in a responsible way, while for stakeholders in **business and industry** such material can be of great value especially to convince other actors in their field to conduct research and innovation in a responsible way.

### 4.3.2 The Forum

Here again, the **Forum** helps various stakeholders to amplify their voice in a second sense. It bridges gaps, not only between different kinds of stakeholder groups, but also between experts and lay-people, supporting the latter to amplify their influence. This way, the Forum serves as an amplifier, for those who might not be heard by key players and decision makers. Lay-people can strengthen their influence by taking part in the Forum’s Dynamic Coalitions or by suggesting future RRI Caucus topics and expressing worries and opinions within the Open Space.

Besides lay-people, especially organized bodies of **civil society** often feel excluded from cross-sectorial activities and projects. Here, the Partnership Initiative serves as an amplifier, allowing stakeholders such as NGOs to introduce their projects, events and conferences and search for future collaborators.

The **Responsibility Forum** provides the **Partnership Initiative space**. It is the central reference and contact point to introduce projects proposals and to find partners. All Forum members could get in contact with each other in order to facilitate collaboration and mutual learning in regard to the actual implementation of RRI related projects.  
The following partnership or project proposals have been issued recently:

Click to learn more on these partnership/ project proposals ?	Project submission deadline
Join a project on integrating RRI in Fusion Reactor	30.04.2016
Can the scientific community help in preventing ne	29.05.2015
Androids Programming	29.05.2015
Proximity Marketing	29.06.2015
Cloud Computing, including security aspects	28.08.2015
Preserve natural resources	31.12.2015

[Show all proposals](#)
[Or find a partner for your project](#)

**Figure 7: Partnership Initiative Space**

---

## 5 Wrap-Up: A Platform for All

### 5.1 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform for Policy Makers

Policy makers particularly benefit from using the platform as

- Knowledge base to find documents about governance arrangements, case studies and design- and assessment guidelines.
- Knowledge base to find Forum Discussion Dossiers that can be used as possible information to guide and direct further decision making processes.
- Contact Point to gain insights from those, policy makers finally take decisions for.
- Amplifier to announce current policy agendas and programs.

### 5.2 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform for Researchers

Researchers particularly benefit from using the platform as

- Knowledge base to find RRI reports embracing what sort of RRI problems researchers might be confronted with.
- Knowledge base to find RRI design guidelines about how to conduct research in a responsible way.
- Contact Point to introduce intermediate results and gain feedback.
- Contact Point to open up for public and to interact with politics more directly.
- Amplifier to introduce research to the broader society.
- Amplifier offering support in becoming an RRI trainer.

### 5.3 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform for Business and Industry

Business and industry particularly benefit from using the platform as

- Knowledge base to find case studies facilitating an understanding of how to increase trust and acceptance in future products and innovations.
- Knowledge base to find assessment guidelines analysing current and emerging technologies regarding their potential impacts.
- Contact Point to increase citizen proximity.
- Contact Point to gain feedback and add further levels of iteration.
- Amplifier to demonstrate other actors in business and industry a responsible working culture.

### 5.4 The RESPONSIBILITY Platform for Civil Society

Civil society actors particularly benefits from using the platform as

- Knowledge base for mutual learning of current RRI approaches and practices.
- Knowledge base to find information on funding sources.
- Contact Point to increase their network and find future collaborators from business and industry, research and politics.
- Amplifier to highlight commonly underrepresented topics and contents.
- Amplifier to initiate own ideas and projects.

---

## 6 Conclusion

The above-mentioned guidelines have been compiled as a set of practical recommendations on how future projects in innovation and research can demonstrate responsibility, while simultaneously increasing transparency, accountability and responsiveness. The added value is an impulse for relevant RRI stakeholders, helping them to raise awareness of responsible behaviour in their fields. Guidelines, however, do not comprise binding rules or rigid instructions. As it has been stated above, the community aspect is crucial to enhance significance and meaning of the RRI concept given an ever more interdisciplinary nature and complexity of working contexts.

Taking this into consideration, practical hints given in this deliverable can be only a first step to encourage further engagements. It's the activity of stakeholders themselves, which is vital for an uptake and noticeable impact of RRI in practice. Business and industry, researchers and policy makers are well-advised not only to get in touch with public and citizens, but to include these insights into ongoing decisions and developments. Vice versa, those acting on behalf of civil society should initiate the cross-sectorial dialogue more often, raising their presence and say.

It has been illustrated how, for these purposes, the RESPONSIBILITY platform serves as a toolkit of features, supporting the very different types of actors to find individual access to a wide-ranging network of stakeholders. By accumulating materials and actors, the platform offers incentives to experience the notion of responsibility in its multi-faceted sense and to bring forward not only the definition of what is meant by Responsible Research and Innovation, but also the processes itself. It helps stakeholders both, to promote and to reflect upon their notion on responsibility within a broader community.

As a result, a reliable RRI network can grow, which will be beneficial for all parties, either in terms of gaining public acceptance and legitimacy (research and policy makers), by avoiding products and innovations rejected through society (business and industry), or by increasing influence in current developments (civil society).

---

## 7 References

- European Union. 2012. "Responsible Research and Innovation: Europe's Ability to Respond to Societal Challenges." Retrieved December 6, 2015 ([https://ec.europa.eu/research/swafs/pdf/pub\\_public\\_engagement/responsible-research-and-innovation-leaflet\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/swafs/pdf/pub_public_engagement/responsible-research-and-innovation-leaflet_en.pdf)).
- Grunwald, Armin. 2011. "Responsible Innovation: Bringing Together Technology Assessment, Applied Ethics, and STS Research." Retrieved December 4, 2015 (<http://run.unl.pt/handle/10362/7944>).
- Owen, Richard, Phil Macnaghten, and Jack Stilgoe. 2012. "Responsible Research and Innovation: From Science in Society to Science for Society, with Society." *Science and Public Policy* 39(6):751–60.
- Rooy, A. Van. 1998. *Civil Society and the Aid Industry: The Politics and Promise*, The North-South Institute. Earthscan Publications Ltd, London.
- von Schomberg, René, Europäische Union Europäisches Parlament Scientific, and Technological Assessment Unit. 2011. *Towards Responsible Research and Innovation in the Information and Communication Technologies and Security Technologies Fields*. Publ. Office of the European Union.
- Von Schomberg, Rene. 2013. "A Vision of Responsible Research and Innovation." *Responsible Innovation: Managing the Responsible Emergence of Science and Innovation in Society* 51–74.