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Institutional Changes supporting Citizen Science in Research Performing Organisations

What you will find in this poster:

- an extensive overview of how the concept of institutional roadmap and GA can be applied to stimulate the adoption of CS as researchmethodology in RPOs;
- concrete examples and recommendations;
- the most common expected challenges and suggestions on how to overcome them.

1 - Sustainable institutional changes, essential features :

Irreversibility

Inclusiveness

Comprehensiveness

Contextualisation

2 - Grounding Actions & Institutional Roadmaps:

Grounding Actions are any action aimed at implementing or favouring Institutional Change.

To ensure effective institutional change, the Grounding Actions should be embedded in a broader strategy: the roadmap.



3 - TIME4CS concept:

Implementers:

- Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG), Spain;
- Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele (UNISR), Italy;
- Kaunas University of Technology (KTU), Lithuania;
- Tyndall National Institute, University College Cork (T-UCC), Ireland.



Front-Runners:

- Aarhus University (AU), Denmark
- Competence Center Citizen Science, University of Zurich (UZH), Switzerland
- University College London (UCL), United Kingdom

4 - Examples of Grounding Actions per Intervention Area:

Research:

- Establish connections with CS networks
- Implement changes in organisational structures

Education and Awareness:

- Set up information initiatives for researchers and training programs for students
- Create a working group on CS

Support Resources & Infrastructure:

- Identify an institutional contact point for Citizen Science
- Facilitate the set up of pilots/tests for the methodology

Policy & Assessment:

- Develop Strategic CS guidelines
- Implement reward mechanisms for CS practices

5 - Main challenges & possible solutions :

Challenges	Possible solutions
Lack of interest/time from researchers	 Use effective and clear messages to disseminate events and involve them. Address them individually, stressing what they can bring in and what they can take.
Lack of funding for CS projects	 Apply to other grants adding to the proposal a component of CS. Learn about funding opportunities through CS networks.
Resistances to change	 Importance of framing the actions -> always talk to the best-self of people.

6 - Recommendations:

- ✓ Build a core team of motivated people from your institution
- ✓ Map all the existing (or past) initiatives in Citizen Science, Public Engagement and/or Open Science
- ✓ **Find inspiration** from others (champions in CS, EU-funded projects)
- ✓ Use TIME4CS Reflection tool to develop your Grounding Actions and define your roadmaps
- Monitor the implementation of the actions and measure their impact
- ✓ Keep the whole institution informed of the new actions and the ongoing institutional changes!

Resources











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