

## WORKSHOP

### Engaging Engineers in Responsible Research and Innovation: Challenges and lessons from RRI training experiences

**Convenors:**

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Responsible research and innovation (RRI), as defined by the Horizon 2020 programme, is an approach that aims to foster inclusive and sustainable research and innovation that anticipates societal impacts and takes into account societal expectations. RRI implies that societal actors (researchers, citizens, policy makers, business, third sector organisations, etc.) work together during the whole research and innovation process in order to better align both the process and its outcomes with the values, needs and expectations of society. Despite the increasing interest in the notion of 'responsibility' in research and the encouragement from the EU institutions to engage with RRI in H2020 funded projects, practical application is often limited to ad hoc practices as adjuncts to the main body of project work. Specifically, there are few examples of RRI being embedded as an intrinsic and coherent part of a large-scale engineering project.

This interactive workshop will start by sharing learning from the RRI programmes developed by the Public Engagement Team of the University of Bristol (UoB) and specifically the programme of reflexivity and engagement they are working on in the H2020 engineering project, Re-Cognition. They will explore their model for bringing together responsibility, reflexivity and engagement to change the way research and innovation is done. In particular, the convenors will engage the participants of the track with two participative exercises that have been tested in Re-Cognition to:

- Anticipate potential positive and negative impacts (relating to health, environment and society) that might arise from the project;
- Engage in challenges that require them to think and make decisions around risk, consequences and future thinking.

After the interactive sessions, the convenors will also explore their own team "manifesto" developed to express their values in relation to doing this work with researchers and innovators, how this drives the reflexive programmes they design, and how when requiring reflexivity of others, we must require it of ourselves. The session, then, will debate other examples of RRI approaches aimed at involving engineers. In particular we invite contributions that address the following topics:

- How to operationalise RRI principles in innovation projects;
- Innovative RRI training programmes e.g. arts, theatre, music etc.

**Information about the convenors:**

**Dr Mario Pansera** ([Mario.pansera@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:Mario.pansera@bristol.ac.uk)): Mario is as a Research Fellow at the UoB. His work focuses on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) and Innovation for Sustainability. He is also particularly interested in the dynamics of innovation in emerging economies, appropriate technologies and grassroots and social innovations.

**Vivienne Kuh** ([vivienne.kuh@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:vivienne.kuh@bristol.ac.uk)): Vivienne is a Lecturer in Responsible Innovation at UoB where she develops RRI/RI programmes for researchers. She is interested in researcher autonomy, wellbeing, social justice and public engagement, in relation to responsibility in science, engineering and innovation.

**Hannah Berg** ([hb12029@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:hb12029@bristol.ac.uk)): Hannah Berg is the Re-cognition Project Coordinator, which involves planning and coordinating the University of Bristol's involvement within the project; a big part of this role involves creating and delivering the RRI training for project members. She has a specific interest in how public participation can meaningfully shape engineering research projects.

**Ellie Hart** ([ellen.hart@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:ellen.hart@bristol.ac.uk)): Ellie works on Re-Cognition, supporting the development of the RRI framework within the project. Her work focuses on RRI and philosophy of science in a public engagement and educational outreach capacity.