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Responsible Research and Innovation

Responsible Innovation in Messy Trans- disciplinary Projects

3rd European Technology Assessment conference

19th May, 2017

Brookfield, UCC, Cork

Some project based views

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Some Background

The PACITA Initiative

- The aim is to strengthen the institutional foundation of European technology assessment and establish and improve their (P)TA
- PACITA is a four year pan-European initiative funded by the EU Commission, commenced in 2008
- Parliamentary Technological Assessment (PTA) are (generally) national entities that provide impartial advice to policy makers on the interplay of science and society.
- PTAs are already established in the Netherlands, France, Germany, Denmark, Finland, Switzerland, Austria and Flanders and Catalonia).
- Ireland is viewed as a 'laggard' with no PTA

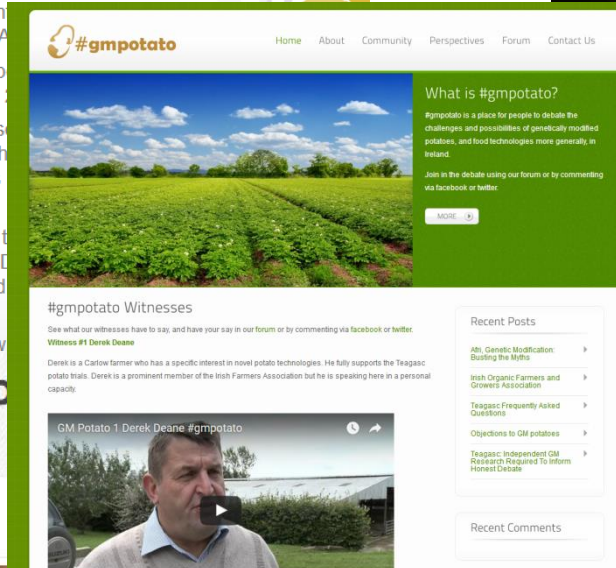
Irish National Workshop

IRISH NATIONAL WORKSHOP

Connecting Society and Technology



Frédéric Adam and Páidí O'Reilly (University College Cork)



was the first Irish national workshop. For the purposes of the event technical and democratic practice which aims to be by comprehensively analysing the social, economic and environmental technology.

An

introduction



Why LEANBH is important



- Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy affect up to 8% of all gestations and remain major causes of maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity worldwide.
 - The most adverse events are attributable to the preeclampsia syndrome, which carries with it significant risks of morbidity and mortality for the mother and fetus.
- Pre-eclampsia causes 70,000 deaths in women and over 500,000 infant deaths worldwide annually.
 - In Ireland and internationally preeclampsia complicates 2-3% of all pregnancies (5-7% in nulliparous women).
 - Pre-eclampsia can be asymptomatic until the later stages, with serious consequences if it goes unrecognised.
 - A UK report estimated that 46% of maternal deaths and 65% of fetal deaths due to preeclampsia occurred due to **a failure to identify and act on known risk factors during pregnancy.**

Innovation and Wicked Problems?



Figure 2 (How to recognize a wicked problem (based upon Rittel and Weber, 1973, 1984))

Including, anticipating and adapting ...?



Using voices to design near futures ...

What is RRI ...?



EC *now*:

RRI is an inclusive approach to research and innovation (R&I), to ensure that societal actors work together ensuring the whole research and innovation process. It aims to better align both the process and outcomes of R&I with the values, needs and expectations of European citizens.

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/en/h2020-section/science-and-society>

RRI is not an Approach but a Mindset ...



Faculty of
Earth and
Life Sciences



Few throwaways

RRI Means ...?



RRI Tools | **RRI means...**

Be sensitive to research biases, seek originality, include diverse perspectives and make results beneficial to a wider community
Diversity & Inclusion


Think on the purposes and possible implications of research and its results, and consider alternative methods
Anticipation & reflection

Share objectives, methods and results, be realistic about limits and mistakes, and inform about conflicts
Openness & transparency

Be flexible to change and external inputs, adapting your research plans to changing circumstances and expectations
Responsiveness & Adaptive change

We call these the RRI process dimensions!

It is about being 'Sufficiently Responsible' ...



Few throwaways

Obstacles to RRI ...?



Some opinions ...?



What is it that RRI is hoping to achieve?

Learning outcomes	R&I outcomes	Impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Engaged PublicsResponsible actorsResponsible institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Essentiallysocially desirable innovations	<p>Contribute to solving societal challenges</p> <p>e.g. 7 Grand Challenges (EU)</p>

RRI protects against some downside but doesn't guarantee the upside....



Few throwaways



Source: <http://funnyshit.com.au/img/not-my-job-redux.jpg>

**The question then becomes 'how
can we be 'Sufficiently
Responsible'?**

Many Thanks

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