



WIRE X Conference

Addressing societal challenges and sustainability concerns: the added value of public engagement in the development of sustainability-focused research policy and programmes

Zoya Damianova, Applied Research and Communications Fund, Bulgaria

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CASI – Public Participation in Developing a Common Framework for Assessment and Management of Sustainable Innovation, FP7

- Societal challenge 5 of H2020 “Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials”; MML project
- Original methodology for engagement of experts, stakeholders and citizens: expert-based online survey on the pertinent characteristics of sustainable innovation (~2000 experts); case studies of sustainable innovations (500+); **national citizen panels in 12 EU countries (230 citizens) plus expert workshop (23 experts)**; stakeholder consultative workshops; national MML seminars; webinars; country correspondents in 16 EU countries; Advisory Board.
- Focus on elaborating new research priorities: sustainable innovation, SC5

National citizen panels in 12 EU countries

- **First round of meetings** of the citizen panels – develop **visions for a sustainable future** (a vision is picture of desirable future, based on hopes and dreams, fears and concerns, time-horizon is 30-40 years from now): **50 visions** in total were produced by the twelve citizen panels
- **Citizen visions** – input to **an expert workshop**, experts produced **27 research priorities** on sustainable future in Europe and policy recommendations, related to these priorities, ranking of research priorities
- **Second round of meetings** of the citizen panels – to validate and rank the research priorities developed by the experts
- **Two rankings of research priorities** – by the experts and by the citizens

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Ranking by citizens	Name of research priority	Ranking by experts
1	Supporting local/regional agricultural production, distribution and consumption system	6
2	Holistic education for a sustainable future	20
3	Supporting people to become producers of renewable energy	1
4	Sustainable construction of buildings	17
5	Sustainable transformation of existing traffic infrastructure in cities	25
6	New working models – new economic models	11
7	Innovating agriculture: the sustainability option	8
8	More green in cities	24
9	Understanding and implementing sustainable electronics	16
10	Fair and participatory access to limited resources	13

Major findings from the citizens – experts – citizens work

- Citizens and experts assess priorities quite differently
- Experts are more supportive to technologically-focused solutions (closer to production and economics)
- Citizens give higher priority to research themes focused on socially-oriented solutions and changes

In **conclusion**, there are multiple valuable ways of evaluating the same issues, which need to be reconciled so that a meaningful consensus-based approach is followed when designing R&I agendas.

Follow-up activities

- ❑ Presentation of CASI results in the final conference of Engage2020 project in Brussels – Nov 2015

- ❑ Complementary analytical work on the citizens' visions – from 3 perspectives:
 - Citizens' visions vis-à-vis Societal challenges of H2020
 - Citizens' visions vis-à-vis research priorities identified by experts
 - Citizens' visions vis-à-vis SC5 "Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials"

- ❑ CASI Policy directions in perspective – by Clare Nauwelaers, Advisor to the CASI Project.

CASI Policy Directions in Perspective, report by Clare Nauwelaers, Advisor to the CASI Project

- **Focus** –policy agendas for sustainable innovation (elaborated by the CASI project) vis-à-vis priorities of public programmes on the same theme (Interreg IVC, Interreg Europe and Horizon 2020).
- **CASI vis-à-vis H2020**: sustainable innovation goes beyond H2020 priorities on climate action and energy.
- **CASI vis-à-vis Interreg-Europe**: strong overlap between the priorities set by local and regional authorities (as per the ongoing at the time of analysis Interreg Europe projects) and the priorities elaborated under CASI **BUT** broader spectrum of CASI priorities.
- **CASI vis-à-vis Interreg IVC**: convergence of priorities but different emphasis.
- **CASI vis-à-vis EU energy policy priorities**: strong convergence on the idea of empowering consumers and decentralized energy system.

Horizon Europe

- **Horizon Europe (2021 – 2027) - Pillar II – Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness (mission-oriented)**
- **'Mission'** - a **portfolio of excellence-based and impact-driven R&I** actions across disciplines and sectors, intended to: (i) achieve, within a set timeframe, a measurable goal that could not be achieved through individual actions; (ii) have impact on society and policy-making through science and technology; and (iii) be relevant for a significant part of the European population and a wide range of European citizens.

Relevance of CASI results to Horizon Europe

Missions in Horizon Europe - characteristics	Findings from CASI – based on analysis of citizens’ visions
<p>Clear direction and objectives</p> <p>Ambitious yet realistic R&I actions</p>	<p>Focus on Societal challenge 5 “Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials”</p> <p>n.a. to CASI (CSA)</p>
<p>Cross-disciplinary, cross-sectoral and cross-actor</p>	<p>Assume a truly multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral approach to address existing discrepancies and help fill any research gaps that ensue.</p>
<p>Open to multiple, bottom-up approaches and solutions</p>	<p>The citizens’ visions highlight the categorical imperatives of both technological development AND social change – seeking solutions which address these two critical issues in a joint and balanced manner.</p>
<p>SDGs - sources for their design and implementation, clear research and innovation content, EU added value</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability is a multidimensional concept that simultaneously addresses the well-being of environment, the individual and the society, social equity, human development, and the economy. • A systemic societal transformation is necessary in order to achieve sustainability.

Relevance of CASI results to Horizon Europe – cont.

Missions in Horizon Europe - characteristics	Findings from CASI – based on analysis of citizens’ visions
<p>Cover areas of common European relevance, be inclusive and encourage broad engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable innovation, SC5 – stakeholders, experts, policy-makers, researchers, citizens • The majority of the topics (in the visions) of primary concert to the citizens are multi-layered and appear to interplay with one another.
<p>Synergies with other EU and national programmes</p>	<p>CASI Policy Watch: CASI policy watch reviewed EU strategic priorities and relevant policies, identified relevant EU and national policy debates, spurred new policy debates, created awareness and connected CASI results with policy developments.</p> <p>EU and national policy briefs, annual policy reports – from the perspective of sustainable innovation and public engagement</p>

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Thank you very much for your kind attention!

Zoya Damianova

Programme Director

Applied Research and Communications Fund, Bulgaria

zoya.damianova@online.bg