



CA16232 European Energy Poverty: Agenda Co-
Creation and Knowledge Innovation COST Action

(ENGAGER 2017-2021)

Management Committee 2 meeting minutes

Venue: Kostis Palamas Building, Akadimias 48, Athens, Greece
Time: 8th March, 9 am - 5 pm

Minutes by Lidija Zivcic and Stefan Bouzarovski

Introduction and tour de table

MC Members present:

Prof Françoise BARTIAUX (Belgium), Dr Jasna HIVZIEFENDIC (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Dr Eleonora GAYDAROVA (Bulgaria), Dr Veneta KRASTEVA (Bulgaria), Ms Slavica ROBIC (Croatia), Prof Despina SERGHIDES (Cyprus), Ms Stella DIMITRIOU (Cyprus), Dr Natalie ANISIMOVA (Czech Republic), Dr Tauri TUVIKENE (Estonia), Dr Ute DUBOIS (France), Dr Francois BAFOIL (France), Ms Nevena SMILEVSKA COLOVIC (FYR Macedonia), Dr Philipp BIERMANN (Germany), Prof Katrin GROßMANN (Germany), Dr Nikolas KATSOUKAKOS (Greece), Prof Margarita Niki ASSIMAKOPOULOS (Greece), Ms Orsolya FÜLÖP (Hungary), Mr Charles ROARTY (Ireland), Mr Niall DUNPHY (Ireland), Dr Tareq ABU HAMED (Israel), Dr Massimo PALOMBO (Italy), Dr Lina MURAUŠKAITE (Lithuania), Mr Sam NIEROP (Netherlands), Prof Iwona SAGAN (Poland), Ms Katarzyna SAŁACH (Poland), Dr Ana HORTA (Portugal), Dr João Pedro GOUVEIA (Portugal), Mr George JIGLAU (Romania), Prof Pedja MILOSAVLJEVIC (Serbia), Dr Milan LIPOVAC (Serbia), Dr Richard FILCAK (Slovakia), Dr Lidija ZIVCIC (Slovenia), Dr Sergio TIRADO HERRERO (Spain), Prof Begum OZKAYNAK (Turkey), Dr Rachel GUYET (France), Ms Ana COLOVIC LESOSKA (FYR Macedonia), Dr György MÁLOVICS (Hungary), Dr Naama TESCHNER (Israel), Ms Nataša KOVAČEVIĆ (Montenegro), Ms Anca SINEA (Romania), Dr Ana SÁNCHEZ-OSTIZ (Spain), Dr Neil SIMCOCK (United Kingdom), Dr Saska PETROVA (United Kingdom)

MC Guests present:

Marco GUILI, Lidija KESAR, Anna MENGOLINI, Theoni KARLESSI, Alice KOROVESSEI, Milana RAJIC, Christos TOURKOLIAS

Through the tour de table it was established that there is a necessary quorum as mandated by the COST Vademecum.

The chair noted the two decisions that have been taken via e-vote since the last MC meeting:

10th January 2018

1. To delegate to the Action's Core Group (heretofore CG, and see below for full list of members) the responsibility to determine, amongst all eligible participants, those individuals who are eligible to be reimbursed for attendance at Action meetings (in line with the possibility of being delegated this mandate by article 4 in the COST Vademecum). CG decisions on this matter would be made upon recommendation by the Action's Chair (or Vice Chair if the Chair is unable to assume this responsibility), via simple majority vote by those present at a CG meeting whereby the attendance of a simple majority of CG members would be assured;
2. To delegate to the Action's CG the responsibility to issue STSM calls, determine STSM selection criteria, and select successful STSM applicants, in line with the possibility of being delegated such a mandate by article 7 in the COST Vademecum. CG decisions on this matter would be made upon recommendation the Action's STSM Co-ordinator (or the Chair/Vice Chair if the STSM Co-ordinator is unable to assume this responsibility), via simple majority vote by those present at a CG meeting whereby the attendance of a simple majority of CG members would be assured.

13th February 2018

'To give the Action Chair or Vice-Chair the authority to appoint WG members and register them on e-cost, upon the recommendation of WG leads.'

Action introduction

The acronym ENGAGER was decided since the last meeting

Research questions

Knowledge base better than when we started

Three research questions translate into three objectives of the action

Network in one of few to have high % of representatives from 'inclusiveness' countries, lots of early career investigators, uniquely positioned to work on science/policy interface, linking research, activism and decision-making

WGs and budget periods

Cornerstone activities:

- Regional WGs – countries vis-à-vis EU, specifics of those countries
- ECI event by WG1
- Training school by WG2
- Policy briefs from WG4

Where we are now:

- Formal structures in place
- Membership expansion (Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, Luxembourg, Iceland, Latvia – contact sought)
- Website, twitter feed, mailing lists
- 1st MC meeting
- Cross-WG regional workshop
- WG consolidation meetings
- Second WG workshop with strong ERC representation
- STSMs
- Workshop and MC plans for next budget period

Shortness of the budget period is a challenge now – collaboration is needed with requesting reimbursement asap

WG1 report from consolidation session

Additionally to the goals and tasks identified in the MoU, these were agreed:

- Policy and expert views on EP
- Approaches to deal with EP

Initial analysis was influenced by what has been done in UK and Ireland, but the morning session helped to reframe the view on EP from scratch, identifying 5 topics – money, buildings, access, health, social exclusion

Upcoming WG1 report

- to be produced by February 2019
- elaborate country profiles covering policy perspectives (view on EP policies, not only definition, but more implicit aspects and other policies); reps of different countries to contribute with 2-pagers on policy perspectives on EP based on common structure – this would be additional to what exists now
- elaborate barometer: set up questionnaire to be sent to EP experts throughout Europe; we need to collect as many contacts who work on EP as possible; short survey, 10 minutes, giving their perceptions on EP problems, first topic: what EP is in different countries, how it is perceived
- end of March first version of the country profiles, questionnaire sent out in June or early September

ECI workshops

No location yet for the WS, should happen during the summer or in the early autumn

Q&A

Q: ECI WS is a training school or no?

A: Academic WS for young researchers where they would present their work

Q: Is it analysis of policies?

A: No, it is analysis of the policy views or perspectives, not policies themselves. It is subjective analysis, not an objective one. It is not complicated, it is just a short perspective, very intuitive.

WG3 report from consolidation session

Discussion on principles that guide activity of the WG, based on the MoU. Bringing together different stakeholders, with different approaches – this needed to be narrowed a bit, this is why it is needed to put the vulnerable people into the centre of attention. Communication and dialogue are needed to bring new emancipation of the vulnerable. This was translated into methods/approaches: participatory action, citizens jury, assembly like advisory groups where vulnerable HHs help each other, field visits.

Need feedback from all on using these approaches for engagement of vulnerable; how to put the approaches into practice and into activities of the WG

Policy brief no.1

- due in May 2018:
- appealing to non-academic audience
- influence decision-makers
- public health could be a good and engaging topic, linked to the overall perspective of emancipation, dialogue, communication
- understand public health issues related to EP (speaking of air quality, mental health issues...)
- bring evidence from innovative, EP oriented approaches
- propose policy recommendations

Training school

- Barcelona spring 2019
- Main theme: empowerments, engagement, communication
- Target groups: local authorities, training for trainers, NGOs, activists, ECIs

Q&A

Q: We need to deliver policy briefs in all WGs – how can we deliver something coherent, linked among WGs, need for a sort of template and coordinated content

A: delegate role to the core group to develop template and ensure there is no content overlap; if WGs know what they want to cover, the core group can coordinate; other way is to list all the themes for policy briefs and then the WGs select each a topic and only focus on the topic; we need some sort of communication strategy – how to reach out to relevant audiences; the science communication manager can play the role in coordination of the communication

Q: Language issue? Do we use local languages?

A: As there will be international audience, language will be English.

WG4 report from consolidation session

Identified what drivers from the morning are already tackled and where are the gaps. Gaps were taken into discussion to identify topics relevant for the work of the WG. Data base of existing strategies is a WG4 deliverable, but as this is already done in EPOV, a sort of meta-analysis of the measures can be done from the perspective of innovativeness (criteria would be developed, against which the measures would be assessed) – innovation check.

Topics to work on:

- Innovativeness check (year 1) – topic of first WS, planned for autumn in Paris, topic of case study and policy brief – potential overlap with the analysis proposed by WG1, so needs to be discussed

- Forster cross-sectoral approaches – e.g. bigger emphasis on urban planning
- Energy poverty in the bigger picture – contextualising EP as a side-effect of dysfunctional economic system; discussing the normative questions of right to energy, energy poverty justice and creation of visions of energy just society
- Bridging technological side of energy transitions and justice (smart metering, RES, EE – how can we make them more just)

Other topics that were discussed

- Societal and financial externalities
- EP as unique agenda
- Impact of policies on EP and how this is measured (quantity and quality)
- Raise recognition of EP and raise voices, give voices
- How to communicate EP without stigmatization
- Empowering networks, communities – close to WG3 perspective
- Link nature based solutions with fighting EP

Q&A

Q: Greek representatives proposed to include actual case studies into the WG4, free of charge to COST; case studies are needed to talk to authorities; all the groups can be involved in this activity

A: We need to clarify what a case study and see how this great offer can be included and complemented by other initiatives; students could be engaged in such activities in other countries too

C: Both WGs talked policies, so we need to see at which level the policies can be analysed – city level becomes more and more level, so innovation path can focus on city level policies for tackling EP; the other group can focus on national or international policies. In Greece city level is very important.

C: EPOV will produce member state reports and case studies, so we need to coordinate with EPOV. There is also a project with the convention of Mayors, focusing on local level, so this can be coordinated too.

C: EPOV studies are more practical, the network can bring more innovative approaches, think of it as academic papers or special issues. We have a good representation of Inclusiveness target countries (ITC) in the network, so it is suggested to organise as many events in ITCs (already offered by Romania and BiH).

Plenary session after lunch

MC Decision: The chair proposed that the claim time is shortened to 10 calendar days (not 30 days as mandated by COST). The motion was passed.

If public transport expenses are over 25 EUR, they might require original receipts, not only electronic, so, contact Stefan in this case immediately.

Working group on H2020 was added to the list of working groups in the afternoon.

Wrap-up session

Programme group

Agreement on plan of activities over the next budget period

- Workshop in Leicester in May – justice and law
- MC meeting in Sarajevo end of September
- Workshop in Paris in autumn (WG4 + WG1)
- A more general conference, including a ECI meeting in Romania, January 2019

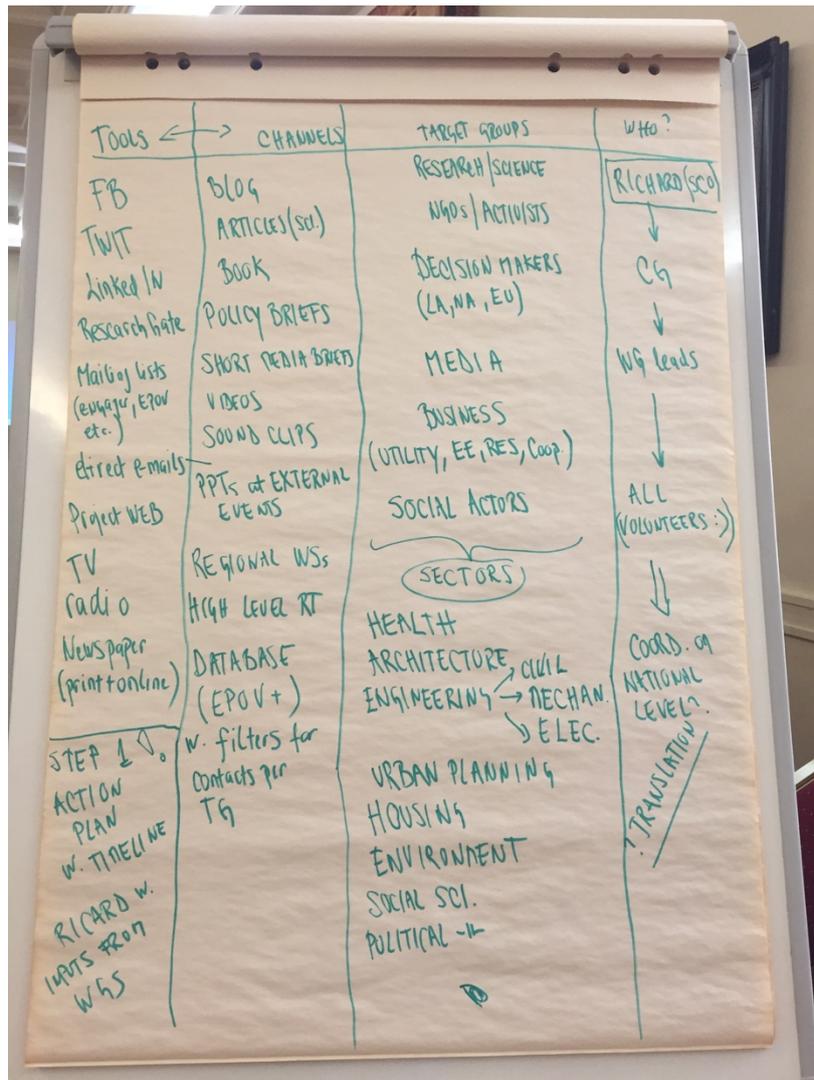
If interested in attending or undertaking dissemination activities (attending conference, organise workshops...) in the next period, email Stefan, who will organise the budget plan.

Training school to be moved in the next budget period – request to COST to move it into the next period. Mainly to identify training needs better.

ICT contract grant is part of dissemination activities.

Communication group

Discussed channels, tools and target groups:



We need a clear action plan with timeline; to be done by SCO with input from WG coordinators.

We are looking for a volunteer to set up FB page/network, as there is no capacity at the moment for it.

Training schools

- Average school is 4-5 days, 40-50 participants, 1 trainer per 3 trainees
- Oriented to researchers who are members of the network, but also open to other public
- Theoretical and practice based sessions

- Themes for WG2 and 3 – indicators, identifying EP HHS, co-creation, responsible and effective communication (translation of research, but also how not to stigmatize)
- Public events linked to training school, e.g. something open for the public, or project based course work – project developed by trainees
- How to incorporate non-academic profiles? Practitioners from the network coming for the school
- School would be possible to do from May 2019 onwards

STMS

- Our little 'Erasmus program' for exchange of researchers
- People have to be affiliated with institutions involved in research
- STMS up to 3 months, ECIs up to 6 months
- In first grant period there was one call, short deadline, there were 6 STMSs
- During the second grant period there will be two calls, with not so short deadlines as first round
- Thematically they are open, just close to the aims of the action, but it is useful to suggest some thematic areas for next calls to have support the WGs goals
- WGs coordinators need to send the topics to STMS coordinator
- Whoever wants to host a mission, can inform STMS coordinator
- Applicant has to have a letter of support from host institution and sending institution
- Summarise the basic guidelines and send them to all the members

Michael's additions

- Need to support the chair in progress report – raise good points to the chair
- Positive feedback on progress so far

Next MC meeting to be held in Sarajevo, end of September (date to be decided).