From Heterogeneous Consortium to Diverse Team
Some Findings on How Diverse Research Teams Could Improve Their Collaboration on Co-Creation

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Work Package 7: (Self-)Evaluation

To conduct **self-evaluation as an iterative process**

- Set and check milestones
- Conduct a **formative evaluation focussing on the process**
- Develop **guidelines and principles** for the formative evaluation and the self-evaluation
- Take **research ethics and gender** into account in all developments.
A Heterogeneous Consortium

- 14 universities from 12 European countries
- PIs Representing diverse disciplines across SSH and beyond
- Different organisational status of “impact”
- Different levels of co-creation experience
- Different organisational structures
- Different roles in the organisation and the project
- Different languages and academic cultures
- **And**: Local partners from industry, civil society and government for each university
(Self-)Evaluation as an iterative process

Formative Evaluation

Self-Evaluation within WPs
Formative Self-Evaluation: Our Approach

• Goal: To identify crucial points – challenges and opportunities – during the project process in order to facilitate improvements on the go.

• Self-evaluation: those involved carry it out and own the results.

• Formative evaluation: intervenes in the ongoing project to support the project members in reaching the defined goals.

• “When the cook tastes the soup, that’s formative; when the guest tastes it, that’s summative.” (Robert Stake)
(Self-)Evaluation as an iterative process
Challenges along the way

- Linguistic, disciplinary and institutional diversities + diverse roles in the consortium:
  - Recurring discussions about key concepts and mutual expectations
- Communicating with and involving stakeholders
- Communication within and between work packages (and beyond the WP structure)
Project “happiness”:

- All activities along the way had value: face-to-face meetings, work package deliverables, certain discussions and certain tasks were mentioned as moments that helped bring partners forward.
- Academic partners are mostly satisfied with the impact of ACCOMPLISSH on their own work environments.
- Most academic partners feel that ACCOMPLISSH has helped them to (further) develop their co-creation skills.
- Partners will continue to work on impact and co-creation.
Recommendations for similar projects

- Take time (more than you think you will need) to establish common ground. Consider investing in an external facilitator.
- Having evaluation as a separate work package has its advantages, but it is also necessary to include feedback loops for evaluation results to find their way into project management.
- Create spaces for networking and co-creation within the consortium, with stakeholders and for stakeholders.
Dear Stakeholders:

• Please take a few minutes to tell us your thoughts about your involvement with ACCOMPLISSH using the following link:

  https://ww3.unipark.de/uc/Barcelona/

• Thank you!
Thank you for listening!