Big Questions – engaging the public with Responsible Research and Innovation on Food Security

Session: Educational support of sustainability processes in local communities and regions
II International Symposium «Education For Sustainable Development For All Generations – Social Agreement»
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What is RRI?

Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) is an approach that anticipates and assesses potential implications and societal expectations with regard to research and innovation, with the aim to foster the design of inclusive and sustainable research and innovation.

Responsible Research and Innovation 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.

Responsibility = Response Ability
RRI in Practice

RRI consists of designing and implementing R&I policy that will:

• **engage society** more broadly in its research and innovation activities,
• increase **access to scientific results**, 
• ensure **gender equality**, in both the research process and research content, 
• take into account **the ethical dimension**, and 
• promote **formal and informal science education**.


Responsible Research and Innovation is not just an action, it is a orientation or an attitude that you actively embrace and apply in your work and personal life.

BigPicnic (https://www.bigpicnic.net/) is a project that experiments with new spaces (exhibition and botanic gardens) and new formats.
The BigPicnic Project Process

- An informal and easy **introduction to the method** of co-creation at the *kick-off meeting*
- A 2,5 day ‘Start a Movement’ **train-the-trainer meeting**
- Build-up of a **Community of Practice**: in stages, creating a reliable group of peers.
- 2 weekly meetings with Community of Practice **on skype**
- **Co-creation sessions**
- Management board offering **coaching and mentoring** as ongoing process
- A **buddy coaching** between partners.
- **Team Based Inquiry** (TBI) as participatory way of designing and doing evaluation to capture conversations between co-creators, the reactions of visitors to the created collaborative environment, and their own reflections on the co-creation process.
In BigPicnic co-created exhibitions and science cafés are the tools to enable the voices of people to be heard.

Partners in BigPicnic developed and ran exhibitions and Science Cafés

The outcomes and outputs of science cafés and other techniques are analysed for further engaging the public in debate and discussion.
## Key Issues from Engagement with local Stakeholders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agriculture / Environment</th>
<th>Health and Food Production</th>
<th>Socioeconomic Aspects</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Dissemination</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROBLEMS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Climate change</td>
<td>• Food formulation</td>
<td>• Unsustainability</td>
<td>• Need of training and education in values</td>
<td>• Degradation of gastronomic culture</td>
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<td>• Biodiversity loss – Bees and food security</td>
<td>• (Toxic) compounds (simple sugars, fats, additives, anabolic substances, heavy metals, antibiotics, pesticides...)</td>
<td>• Dominant economic model</td>
<td>• Inseparable coupling: family and school</td>
<td>• Need of educating on responsible consumption</td>
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<td>• Soil uses</td>
<td>• Illnesses</td>
<td>• New distribution channels</td>
<td>• Lack of time at schools and families (other priorities)</td>
<td>• Misleading advertising</td>
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<td>• Pollution and pesticides</td>
<td>• Lack of education on food security</td>
<td>• Food merchandising</td>
<td>• Ignorance about the topic</td>
<td>• False myths</td>
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<td>• Resources overexploitation</td>
<td>• Food prohibitions and regulations</td>
<td>• Economic downturn</td>
<td>• False myths and stereotypes</td>
<td>• Lack of truthful information</td>
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<td>• Land abandonment</td>
<td>• Urban Food production methods (from field to table)</td>
<td>• Social and economic inequalities</td>
<td>• Misleading advertising</td>
<td>• Labelling</td>
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<td>• Habitats degradation, erosion &amp; deforestation</td>
<td>• Dependence on fossil fuels</td>
<td>• Abundance of food and food waste</td>
<td>• Economic interests and economic power groups</td>
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Now what?

What could be the future role of Education for Sustainable Development in education, research and policy decisions related to food security?

BigPicnic provides Case Studies, a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy, a Co-Creation Toolkit and background information on food security. www.bigpicnic.net

The project is still ongoing and will hold its final conference on 27 February 2019 in Madrid, Spain.
Thank you for your attention

“...the best science for the world and not just the best science in the world”

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www.bigpicnic.net

Responsible Research & Innovation Tools: www.rri-tools.eu