# EFFECT PROJECT

Creating effects through communication and engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies

Deliverable 4.5
Report on Civil Society engagement activities

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31 October 2017

# **Technical references**

Project Acronym	EFFECT
Project Title	Creating effects through communication and engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies
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Project Duration	January 2017-December 2018 (24 months)
Deliverable No.	D4.5
Dissemination level*	PU
Work Package	WP 4 - Community Building and Engagement
Task	T4.3 - European Researchers' Night
Lead beneficiary	2. APRE
Contributing beneficiary/ies	1. Youris.com
Due date of deliverable	31 October 2017
Actual submission date	31 October 2017

PU = Public

PP = Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)

RE = Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)

CO = Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)

v	Date	Beneficiary	Author
1.0	26/10/2017	APRE	Marta Calderaro, Alessia Rotolo
2.0	31/10/2017	YOU	Elisabeth Schmid







# Disclaimer

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 737301.

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# **Executive Summary**

In the framework of the EFFECT project, several activities aim at enhancing the visibility and public awareness on FET-funded projects. One of the EFFECT objectives, among others, is to support the capacity building of the FET research and innovation community in communicating project results in a strategic and successful way and in engaging the civil society through different tools and services.

The goal of WP4 is to stimulate public debate, collaborative learning and networking among multiple players of the FET domain: researchers, scientists, policy makers, business community and the broader public. The present Deliverable 4.5 "Report on Civil Society engagement activities" describes the methodology adopted by EFFECT consortium to enhance the FET R&I community capability to approach the broader public in the framework of the well-known European Researchers' Night, in order to foster visibility and awareness on FET-funded research.

By providing a first analysis on FET-funded projects able to organize an engagement activity during the European Researchers' Night, the Deliverable describes the approach used by EFFECT to engage FET-funded researchers and the support provided by the "EFFECT Practical Guide for public engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies".

The activities and feedback of the LinaBioFluid project, which actively participated in the European Researchers' Night, are described in the present deliverable.

Based on the feedback received on EFFECT support and related conclusions, EFFECT will design the 2018 support to engagement activities of FET projects in a more customized and direct way.

# Table of Content

1	Abo	out EFFECT	7
	1.1	Objectives	7
	1.2	Engagement strategy	8
2	Fac	cilitating the engagement of civil society	9
	2.1	European Researchers' Night: a general perspective	10
	2.2	Approach and methodology for the assessment of FET funded projects and ERNs	11
	2.3	A practical guide for public engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies	12
3	Eng	gagement of FET Projects	16
	3.1	LINABIOFLUID Support	16
	3.2	Communication Tools	17
	3.2	2.1 Social Media campaign	17
	3.2	2.2 FETFX web platform	20
4	Eva	aluating the action	22
	4.1	Feedback analysis	22
	4.2	Conclusions	23
5	Anr	nexes	24
	5.1	A practical guide for public engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies	24
	5.2	Annex 2. Invitation sent to FET project coordinators	34
	5.3	Annex 3. Dissemination through FETFX project Mailing	35

D4.5 Report on Civil Society engagement activities

# 1 About EFFECT

EFFECT is a H2020 FET-funded CSA aiming to enhance visibility and impact of FET research in a wide variety of actors (researchers, industry, policy makers, civil society organisations, citizens etc.) and to stimulate debate and collaboration among multiple stakeholders through dedicated community building and public engagement activities.

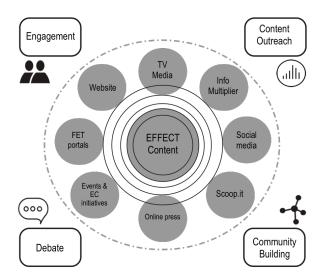
# 1.1 Objectives

As part of the EFFECT strategic goal, two objectives are specifically related to the engagement of civil society and general public at large:

- 1. support the creation of a collaborative research and innovation framework by a set of public engagement activities by:
  - enhancing public engagement by online public campaigns in order to improve readiness and acceptance across Europe on FET funded research, with the specific aim of involving the civil society in a participatory approach
  - developing a dedicated video strategy to be disseminated via social, online and TV
    media with the specific target group of civil society
  - **enhancing awareness and interest on FET funded research** during European Researchers' Nights
- 2. enhance communication strategies of high risk research by:
  - identifyining and share best practices on effective communication measures and strategies of novel and high risk research and enhancing individual skills through a set of thematic webinars to on-going FET projects, funded from 2014 onwards
  - providing a practical good practices communication kit to be shared and used for future and on-going FET projects
  - exploring communication opportunities and promoting topics to support FET research governance by organizing workshops and elaborating a set of recommendations in order to suggest future FET themes for dissemination and communication activities to the European Commission FET Unit and policy makers as a whole

# 1.2 Engagement strategy

EFFECT aims at identifying and selecting the stories that are most interesting to be communicated in videos, articles and interviews and to be used as an inspiring baseline for the debate and participation of the stakeholders involved in EFFECT communication and engagement activities.



A set of different capacity building activities targeting FET funded research as primary target group and civil society and the public at large as secondary group, is being developed by EFFECT and is summarized below:

- webinars on communication and engagement activities
- practical good practices communication kit

EFFECT engagement strategy is based on online and onsite engagement activities, through the elaboration of a different set of activities, aimed at stimulating public debate, collaborative learning, networking and engagement among multiple players of the FET domain, through:

- ➤ Onsite activities: organization of Meet & Match and brokerage events, dedicated to R&I community; policy-oriented workshops; general public campaigns (European Researchers' Night).
- ➤ Online activities: videos, articles, interviews and social media engagement to be used as a source of debate and participation on the basis of the most interesting items for the targets of EFFECT communication and engagement activities.

# 2 Facilitating the engagement of civil society

The creation of a fertile ground for responsible and dynamic collaboration on future and emerging technologies is one of the major goals of the FET programme. FET aims at enhancing scientific collaboration and fostering knowledge transfer, dialogue and engagement about new and future scientific achievements and technological outcomes. Thus, Communication and Outreach activities, complemented by dissemination of research results, play a fundamental role on the future development of FET funded research and technologies, by fostering public acceptance and innovation opportunities and contributing to the co-creation of policy agendas to effectively tackle societal challenges.

In this framework, EFFECT is acting as facilitator for FET coordinators in order to organize public engagement activities that involve citizens of different ages during the European Researchers' Night hosted within their own organizations.

The European Researchers' Nights is in fact a useful opportunity to involve civil society in science communication activities. The European Researcher Nights have been organised every September since 2005. About 1.1 million citizens and 18,000 researchers have so far taken part in the scientific events organised in over 300 cities in Europe and neighbouring countries.

By establishing synergies and fostering the exploration of new ideas and concepts of public engagement, EFFECT inspired the FET on-going and future coordinators through a useful set of guidelines focused on the use of engagement methods in research and innovation, to be implemented during citizen engagement events such as the European Researcher Night.

In view of the European Researcher Night 2017 (which took place on September 29), EFFECT support was first of all addressed to the beneficiaries of FET funded projects. To this purpose, the activity was implemented on the basis of the following steps:

- Identification of the European Researchers' Nights' funded projects;
- Identification of the FET funded projects with a beneficiary organization that won a European Researchers' Night project;
- Production of the Guidelines on Engagement activities in research and innovation for FET coordinators;
- Invitation to organize an engagement activity during the European Researchers' Night;
- Remote support on the organization of the FET project engagement activity.

EFFECT offered a standard set of communication services to be implemented for each participating FET project:

- Communication of the organized activity through FETFX channels (FETFX Online Hub; FETFX Twitter account);
- Communication of the FET funded project through a dedicated press release.

The Guidelines, developed to be a useful tool for current FET projects and future ones, provide a brief overview of the methods to be used for engaging society in research and innovation and detailed factsheets on the collected methods, providing information such as objectives, background, different level of research and innovation activity, and practical examples of use. The guidelines have been made available to the FET coordinators, in order to explore possible synergies and actions to be implemented during the next European Researchers' Nights and are

currently available through FETFX web platform (<u>www.fetfx.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/EFFECT-Guide-on-Public-Engagement.pdf</u>).

# 2.1 European Researchers' Night: a general perspective

The European Researchers' Night (NIGHT), funded under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, is a Europe-wide public event to enhance researchers' public recognition and to stimulate interest in research careers, especially amongst young people.

It is a big event that takes place every year simultaneously in several cities all over Europe and beyond, typically on the last Friday of the month of September, involving in its last edition almost 30 countries and more than 340 cities. In the 2017 edition all the events took place - simultaneously- on Friday 29 September\*, in over 300 cities across Europe and in neighboring countries, with the exception of Israel where the ERN took place on 19 September. It is the occasion for a Europe-wide public and media event for the promotion of research careers, aimed in particular towards young people, and of research impacts on society. The principal aim of this event is motivating and inspiring common citizens trying to involve them on science and technology themes.

"The European Researchers' Night aims to bring researchers closer to the general public and to increase awareness of research and innovation activities, with a view to supporting the public recognition of researchers, creating an understanding of the impact of researchers' work on citizen's daily life, and encouraging young people to embark on scientific careers."

Guide for Applicants Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Individual Fellowships

Engagement activities performed during the NIGHT, combine at the same time education, science and informal aspects related to European-funded projects results, with entertainment activities, especially when addressing a young audience, through experiments, science shows, simulations, debates, games, competitions, quizzes.

During the European Researchers' Night, interdisciplinarity plays an important role and public engagement activities are considered a pathway to potential economic and societal impacts for researchers results generating mutual benefit through the knowledge sharing, expertise and skills. Ideally, public engagement should be thought about in parallel with the design of the research objectives and activities. The aim should be to prioritize those engagement activities that will enhance the quality or impact of research.

"In the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, the primary goal of public engagement activities is to create awareness among the **general public** of the **research** work performed and its implications for **citizens and society**. The type of outreach activities could range from press articles and participating in **European Researchers' Night** events to presenting **science**, **research and innovation activities** to students from primary and secondary schools or universities in order to develop their interest in research careers."

Guide for Applicants Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Individual Fellowships

Activities range from experiments and maker spaces to demonstrations, shows and exhibitions, as well as science cafés, participatory workshops, story telling, and talks in small groups. This kind of activities allow public engagement and meetings with researchers in informal environments. The events are aimed at showing that researchers are ordinary people with extraordinary jobs and that research is also about communication and international cooperation.

The European Researchers' Night addresses visitors of all ages and professions and gives them an understanding of research projects and their researchers in an innovative, informative and entertaining way. The European Researchers' Night underlines the central role of research for society, development and innovation for Europe's society.

# 2.2 Approach and methodology for the assessment of FET funded projects and ERNs

Every year hundreds of events take place simultaneously in Europe and neighbouring countries.

EFFECT approach on engaging the different FET stakeholders has been based on the assumption that if a European Researchers' Night was organized within the legal entity who is coordinating the FET funded project, the FET research team might be more interested in organizing an engagement activity involving civil society to be held during the ERN on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September.

On the basis of the above mentioned assumption, the following approach has been followed:

- 1. Identify the European Researchers' Nights based on the Cordis website results. As the European Researchers' Night is a biannual call for proposal, we looked for projects funded in the last Call for Proposal MSCA-NIGHT-2016, available at the following link.
- 2. The 42 different projects funded under the latest call for proposal MSCA-NIGHT-2016 have been analysed in order to identify the European Researchers' Nights organized in the framework of 2017. This analysis gave as output 35 European Researchers' Nights in 2017.
- 3. The 149 legal entities involved in the 35 European Researchers' Nights have been catalogued in order to identify the organizations coordinating both a European Researchers' Night and a FET funded project.
- 4. According to the results of the first analysis, this has been extended also to the FET funded beneficiaries at large, as the numbers of coordinating organizations of both ERNs and FET projects gave less than 5 organizations.
- 5. Thanks to the flexible approach we used, 34 organizations have been identified as hosting a European Researchers' Night and a FET on-going project, as coordinator or partner.

Therefore, 42 email addresses have been identified with respect to stakeholders suitable for being interested in EFFECT support for the organization of an event during the European Researchers' Night.

The analysis has taken into account the results of the following call for proposals:

- MSCA-NIGHT-2016;
- H2020-FETOPEN-2014-2015;
- H2020-FETOPEN-2016-2017 (Only regarding 2016 evaluation outcomes);
- H2020-FETPROACT-2016;
- H2020-FETHPC-2014;
- H2020-FETHPC-2016-2017 (Only regarding 2016 evaluation outcomes).

The 34 legal entities identified in this process, were contacted through a direct communication addressed to the FET funded beneficiary (coordinator or partner). The invitation to organize an engagement activity with the support of EFFECT was sent together with a suggestion on the possible engagement activities to be organized during the European Researchers' Nights, as identified in the "Practical Guide for public engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies", described in the following paragraph.

# 2.3 A practical guide for public engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies

With the aim of providing a general overview of methodologies, models and examples on engagement activities targeting the civil society, a guide for public engagement with a particular focus on Future and Emerging Technologies has been developed. Main beneficiaries of this Guide are the Coordinators and Researchers of FET funded projects who have the possibility to promote their results, disseminating them to a wide range of public, involving in particular young people. Original and compelling but at the same time structured actions are presented in the Guide having as main focus the purpose to involve as many stakeholders as possible, trying to share knowledge in the best efficient way and getting more people involved in societal decisions.

"Public engagement in Horizon2020 implies the establishment of participatory multi-actor dialogues and exchanges to foster mutual understanding, co-create research and innovation outcomes, and provide input to policy agendas. It is about bringing on-board researchers, policy makers, industry and civil society organisations and NGO, and citizens, to deliberate on matters of science and technology.

Public engagement also creates the space for ethical value-laden issues to be explored, while bringing inclusiveness, transparency, diversity, and creativity into the research and innovation process."

Public Engagement in Research & Innovation, European Commission

The Guide has been divided into three different sections:

- 1. The first section based on the Horizon 2020 Future and Emerging Technologies programme (FET) and the communication of FET funded projects;
- 2. The introduction to public engagement, detailing a general perspective of the method;
- 3. Ten Methodologies providing useful guidelines and ideas on engagement activities to be performed to promote the projects in an unconventional way.

The set of methodologies for the implementation of engagement activities (point 3) has been organized on the basis of the FET project needs and the target stakeholders to be approached such as SMEs, civil society, citizens and policy makers.

The table below provides a summary of the methodologies described in the "Pratical Guidelines on public engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies".

Methodology	Brief Description
Science Café	It is an event organized in an informal setting as a place of dialogue with participants coming from all walks of life and academia. Creating an informal forum discussing interesting and relevant scientific issues are discussed. The goal is to encourage public engagement with science
Participatory Workshop	A meeting that enables people to analyze, share and enhance their knowledge to plan, manage and evaluate development projects and programmes
Story Telling	This method helps to capture the audience, enhancing their imagination in a way that they can understand easily what the project is based on.
Appreciative Inquiry	This type of "survey" is useful when the aim consists of comparing different perspectives trying to find a new and different point of view on the problem
Fish Bowl	It is a simple, effective alternative to a plenum discussion. In combining large group facilitation with small group discussions, fishbowl creates a vivid and spontaneous discussion format. It also reduces distinctions between the speakers and the audience
Solution Focus	It is a goal-oriented method, targeting the desired outcome of the session as a solution rather than focusing on the symptoms or issues that brought the participants to the session. This technique emphasizes present and future circumstances and desires over past experiences and turns problems into solutions
Dynamic Facilitation	It is a method for group discussions in a high emotionally supercharged environment. The method is grounded on the creativity and energy of a group without constraining it or to follow traditional, linear, moderation structures like agendas or exercises.

Five-to-Fold	It is a method for effective, holistic group decision-making. It invites, honors and integrates all individual perspectives. It is a process for genuine decision-making, rather than for gathering feedback or informing a decision to be made elsewhere.	
Open Space Technology	This method relies strongly on self-organisation of the group of participants. It is a purpose driven approach, focused on a specific and important purpose or task — but beginning without any formal agenda, beyond the overall purpose or theme.	
Circle Process	Circle process facilitation explores many sides of an issue, identifies areas of agreement and disagreement and brings in points of views that haven't been thought of. It creates opportunities for everyone to participate and is very adaptable to a variety of groups, issues and time frames	

The identified communication activities and engagement strategies will produce both immediate and long-term effects, by involving groups of different size in strategic conversations and raising awareness and consciousness on particular research and innovation themes.

Activities have been described, with the aim of eliminating or softening the FET project complexity, decreasing as much as possible "givens" or "boundary conditions", in order to establish the best set for results introduction, focusing on solutions generated and outcomes, allowing the participants to contribute to the activity with a responsible engagement, fostering the research project implementation, the exploitation of projects' results, and public acceptance and awareness about FET research.

The main features on which the Public Engagement Guide activities have been proposed are:

- Built on a simple structure→ to allow conversation around the specific project results;
- Based on dialogue techniques → involving intentional speaking and attentive listening;
- Based mostly on meetings in circles → inspiring peer discovery and learning;
- Aimed at creating strategic conversations → serving real needs and clear purpose.

The methodologies explained in the Public Engagement Guide help the FET projects on the organization of successful mutual learning activities, trying to convert the complexity of project results in simpler and efficient outcomes, achievable also by less specialized audiences.

Each methodology helps the FET community to communicate its projects' results.

The main interlocutors of public engagement activities described in the Guide are the citizens and civil society at large. The proposed tools allow the researcher to choose the best one that fits with various factors: time, type of project results, meaning of the project to be communicated, number of participants. Obviously the researcher will be "free" to consider the most suitable public engagement method, in order to reach the audience in the best way, raising the attention on new future technologies.

Each method has been described following a precise scheme:

- Brief definition of the method
- Concise but efficient method application. First overview on the proposed technique.

• Objective of applications of the method

This part considers the aims of each method. In particular the effects that are supposed to be reach through the activity.

Dialogue	Consulting	Involving
Collaborating	Empowering	Direct decision
Research (analytics)	Ethics (acceptance)	Exploitation of project results (awareness)

The Guide is available on FETFX ( <a href="http://www.fetfx.eu/event/european-researchers-night/">http://www.fetfx.eu/event/european-researchers-night/</a>)

# 3 Engagement of FET Projects

Different communications were sent to the FET R&I community in order to establish synergies and offer support via the EFFECT project.

Beyond the 32 organizations where the European Researchers' Night was organized, several target groups were contacted, in particular:

- EFFECT engaged community, as part of the previous Work Package 2 activities and the related engagement strategy established through the EFFECT overall activities.
- Ideal-ist ICT NCP Network, serving also the FET National Contact Points by providing information on useful activities and tools available for the FET community.
- Specific beneficiaries and stakeholders' groups.

An EFFECT communication campaign was also developed in order to promote the availability of the Guide on public engagement, as well as EFFECT dedicated support on the organization of an engagement activity during the European Researchers' Night, as follows:

- Separate invitation to the FET funded project located in the same organization participating to the European Researchers' Night (see Annex 2)
- EFFECT project Mailing (see Annex 3)
- Online engagement campaign launched through FETFX social media (as described in Section "Social Media campaign").

Despite the effort previously described in the above mentioned activity, the sole LinaBioFluid project asked for the support from the EFFECT project.

# 3.1 LINABIOFLUID Support

LiNaBioFluid project (<a href="www.laserbiofluid.eu">www.laserbiofluid.eu</a>) is a Research and Innovation Action funded by the European Community's Horizon 2020 - FET Open Programme, related to the analysis and inspection of Laser-induced Nanostructures as Biomimetic Model of Fluid Transport in the Integument of Animals. It involves together seven partners from four different countries, with a strongly interdisciplinary consortium, combining experts from zoology, physics, mechatronics, life sciences, materials sciences, laser-matter interaction, production technology, tribology, and biomimetics.

LINABIOFLUID Project - in the person of Dr. George Tsibidis, Institute of Electronic Structure & Laser of Foundation for Research and Technology, answered positively to the dissemination activities related to the Public Engagement Guide publication. The Coordinator of the LinaBioFluid expressing interest in the Guide and EFFECT support, noted the goal of the EFFECT project which aims to "enhance the visibility and impact of FET research by assisting FET projects in developing an adequate communication and engagement plan that will support their sustainability".

In particular the Linabiofluid Coordinator, IESL FORTH asked support in order to improve their performance during the local NIGHT, disseminating activities to the public, focusing particularly on the project research domain, and in particular on the demonstration of the wetting behavior of laser induced biomimetic surfaces with water repellent properties. The audience had the

opportunity to examine and evaluate the response of water droplets when they interact directly with superhydrophobic solid surfaces exibiting extreme wetting properties. The demonstration was performed in an interactive way (i.e. games) so as to make the experience more interesting and educational.

EFFECT supported LINABIOFLUID with different actions, in order to communicate results and advise on further measures to influence public interest, debate and knowledge around the project:

- First approach to LinaBioFluid→ to understand the general communication needs of the project and to create a customized approach on its engagement activities;
- Definition on EFFECT communication activities→ different set of channels (Website; Social media); specific press release;
- Skype call → to enter deeper in the project discussing the right approach;
- Press release fulfillment → short description produced in collaboration with LinaBlofluid to present in a simpler way the main activities performed by the project during the European Researchers' Night.

Specifically, dissemination activities were performed through the following methodologies:

The exhibition on the European Researchers Night (September 29th, 2017) presented to the public the biomimetic research activities of the Ultrafast Laser Micro and Nano-processing Laboratory (http://stratakislab.iesl.forth.gr/) at IESL-FORTH (http://www.iesl.forth.gr/).

- The wetting behavior of laser induced biomimetic surfaces with water repellent and super-oleophilic properties, metal surfaces treated with ultrashort laser pulses was made available for the audience to examine and evaluate;
- The participants had the opportunity to experiment with the response of water droplets when they interacted directly with superydrophobic solid surfaces exhibiting extreme wetting properties and to remove oil droplets from the aquatic environment simply by using the oleophilic properties of laser-fabricated surfaces;
- Optical challenges/games (such as techniques to enable beam-alignment, etc) has been also organize in order to involve the audience.

#### 3.2 Communication Tools

Different communication channels and tools were used to promote the European Researchers' Night (ERN): the FETFX social media (Twitter) and the FETFX web platform.

# 3.2.1 Social Media campaign

The ERN was promoted on the EFFECT Twitter account @FETFX\_EU. Five tweets were posted between 20<sup>th</sup> July and 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Three of them focused on original EFFECT products: one on the Guide on Public Engagement and two on dedicated pages on the FETFX web platform.

One Tweet promoted the participation of the LiNaBioFluid project. The remaining tweet pointed to a ERN presentation video on the YouTube EU Science & Innovation channel.

The five tweets are reported below, together with relevant data from Twitter analytics. The Engagement Rate is defined as the ratio between the Total Engagement and the number of impressions.



<u>#EuropeanResearchersNight</u> On which side will you be: with the researchers or with the visitors getting inspired? fetfx.eu/story/the-nigh...

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Impressions: 790

Total interactions: 17 (7 retweets, 5 likes, 3 hashtag clicks, 1 link click, 1 profile click)

Engagement Rate: 2.2%



#EuropeanResearchersNight: scientists of FET project LiNaBioFluid will present their research

in an interactive way! laserbiofluid.eu/index.phppic.twitter.com/1QlvdKPGlP

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Impressions: 1663

Total interactions: 12 (2 retweets, 4 likes, 6 link clicks)

Engagement Rate: 0.7%



What is <u>#EuropeanResearchersNight</u>? Have a look at what happened during the past editions: youtube.com/watch?v=YvApkG...pic.twitter.com/PEGOvqTi9n

Date: 21st September 2017

Impressions: 588

Total interactions: 12 (1 retweet, 2 likes, 7 link clicks, 1 hashtag click, 1 detail expand)

Engagement Rate: 2%



Discover how to organize the best event during researchers' night!  $\frac{\text{buff.ly/2uBLmWY}_{\text{pic.twitter.com/TSQi0ohdVN}}{\text{total organize}}$ 

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017 Impressions: 423 Total interactions: 9 (3 retweets, 3 likes, 2 link click, 1 profile click)

Engagement Rate: 2%



Are you a researcher? Do you want to spread your discoveries? This guide is just what you need: bit.ly/2tJg4sRpic.twitter.com/45cJBTpJEr

Date: 20th July 2017 Impressions: 578

Total interactions: 8 (2 retweets, 1 like, 4 link clicks, 1 detail expand)

Engagement Rate: 1.4%

### 3.2.2 FETFX web platform

Two pages were dedicated to the ERN on the FETFX web platform. One was published in July to start raising awareness on the event. The other page was created few days before the 2017 ERN as an event reminder and to advertise the engagement event organized by the LiNaBioFluid project.

The links to the two pages are listed below, together with main data from google analytics.

Link: http://www.fetfx.eu//story/the-night-is-coming/

Publication date: 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Pageviews: 23

Unique Pageviews: 15

Average Time on Page: 1 min 56 s

Entrances: 6

Bounce Rate: 50%

% Exit: 26,09%

Page: http://www.fetfx.eu/event/european-researchers-night/

Publication date: 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Pageviews: 121

Unique Pageviews: 109

Average Time on Page: 3min 38 s

Entrances: 52

Bounce Rate: 64,29%

% Exit: 62,81%

Entries above are defined as follows (texts from support.google.com/analytics except for Average Time on Page):

- <u>Pageviews:</u> total number of pages viewed. If a user clicks reload after reaching the page, this is counted as an additional pageview. If a user navigates to a different page and then returns to the original page, a second pageview is recorded as well.
- <u>Unique Pageviews</u>: it aggregates pageviews that are generated by the same user during the same session. A *unique pageview* represents the number of sessions during which that page was viewed one or more times.
- Average Time on Page: average amount of time users have spent viewing a given page.
- Entrances: it is incremented on the first pageview or screenview hit of a session
- <u>Bounce rate:</u> a *bounce* is a single-page session on the website. The Bounce rate is single-page sessions divided by all sessions, or the percentage of all sessions on the site in which users viewed only a single page and triggered only a single request to the Analytics server.
- <u>% Exit:</u> for all pageviews to the page, *Exit Rate* is the percentage that were the last in the session.

# 4 Evaluating the action

A feedback interview was carried out with the LinaBioFluid project, giving an overall positive feedback on the approach used by EFFECT consortium before, during and at the final phase of the implemented activity.

Different conclusions are summarized below on the effectiveness of the task and related concerns on the further approach to be used.

# 4.1 Feedback analysis

"Thank you for the nice collaboration and the public release of our activities concerning the researchers night"

Dr. Evangelos Skoulas, Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas FORTH) Institute of Electronic Structure and Laser (IESL)

In order to get feedbacks related to the support to LinaBioFluid project, EFFECT carried out a remote interview based on relevant questions in order to evaluate the activities performed:

- EFFECT Question: Did your expectations have been met?
   Proposer Answer: Yes, our expectations have been satisfied and fulfilled adequately.
- 2. EFFECT Question: What could have been improved from your point of you? Proposer Answer: Considering that LinaBioFluid has been developed by one of the 7 Insitute of Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas (IESL-FORTH), composed by other 6 entities (Micro/nano-electronics, Polymer Science, Materials Science and Astrophysics), and considering the peculiarities of the project, a more extended description related to our laboratories activities would be better for the public in order to better understand how the laboratory works.
- 3. *EFFECT Question*: Did you find useful the Public Engagement Guide? Can you explain briefly your answer? Which element or aspect would you expected to find in the Guide? *Proposer Answer*: Yes! The Guide was very useful and allowed us to observe the impact of our work on the public and the local community in general.
- 4. *EFFECT Question*: How many users (approximately) have been involved during the IESL-FORTH European Research Night and in particular how many of them did you "engage" with your activity?

Proposer Answer: Actually, we organized by ourselves the activities to perform during the European Researchers' Night, preparing games and practical activities for the public. The European Researchers' Night took place on 29th September at IESL-FORTH and involved a number of around 200 people. In particular, we try to engage different types of audience, who will have the chance to observe and examine different effects on disparate types of surfaces, thanks to an interactive demonstration. Kids in particular had the chance to draw some paintings, used than for the exhibition.

- 5. *EFFECT Question*: Have you been previously involved in such engagement activities? *Proposer Answer*: No, it was the first time.
- 6. *EFFECT Question*: Did you feel enough prepared to perform engagement activities in the European Researchers' Night?

Proposer Answer: We felt prepared enough.

Based on this feedback a few considerations have been taken into account in order to better perform in the future implementation of the engagement activities during the European Researchers' Night and similar initiatives.

#### 4.2 Conclusions

Task 4.3 "European Researchers' Night" has been implemented following a first analysis based on merging organizations hosting the European Researchers' Night and a FET funded projects.

The first relevant result obtained through this analysis provided a higher rate on the "Widening Countries" involved in the organization of a European Researchers' Night, despite the lower rate of presence of the same countries participating in FET funded projects.

This different rate of participation provided a lower rate of organizations involved in the same European Researchers' Night and FET funded projects.

Due to the lower rate, a corrective measure has been adopted including also the analysis of partner countries involved in FET-funded research, despite the Technical Annex mandate to analyse the organization coordinating the FET funded project and the European Researcher' Night.

Thanks to this corrective measure, 32 organizations have been identified and received a targeted communication mailing on the support provided by EFFECT.

The low number of organizations and the difficulty to find the beneficiaries' email addresses, made through the analysis of FET-funded project websites, has affected the results of this activity with a lower success rate in engaging participants. In the end only one project participated to the activity and received support from EFFECT.

The support given to the engaged project has been implemented following the procedure described in the Technical Annex and in the present deliverable, also taking into account the specific communication needs of the project.

To further support the communication of LinaBioFluid acting as a best practice example also for other FET projects in terms of engagement with the civil society, the EFFECT team will produce additional news focusing on their positive experience during the European Researchers' Night.

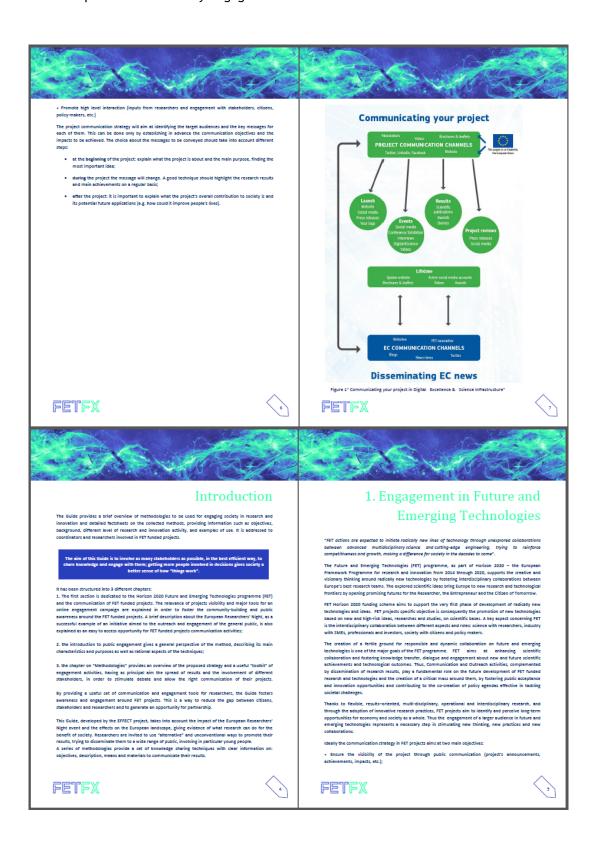
The "Practical Guide for Public Engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies" will be further on promoted as useful and sustainable online tool to be used in order to plan, define and organize engagement activities targeting civil society.

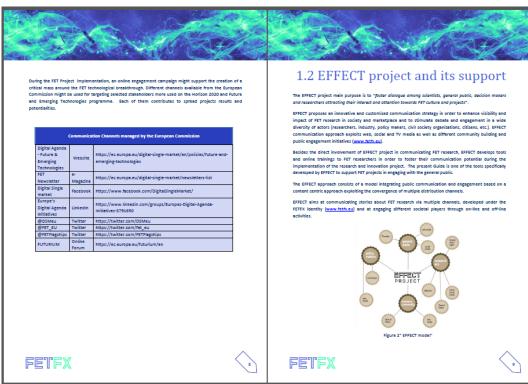
An online engagement campaign will be planned in future to target future FET funded projects in order to enhance visibility of the developed guidelines and involve more FET projects and FET beneficiaries in this engagement activities also with the support of the EFFECT project.

# **5** Annexes

# 5.1 A practical guide for public engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies



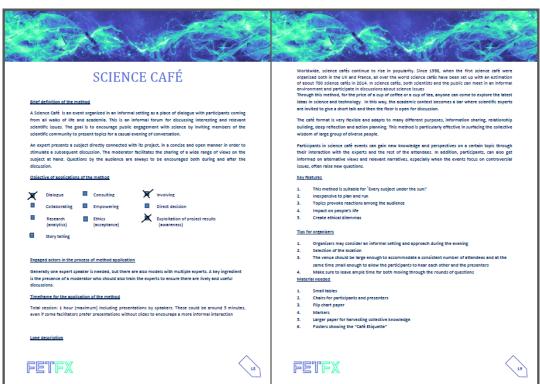




# 2. Introduction to Public 1.3 The European Researchers' Engagement Besides on-line engagement opportunities, major events where the general public is the target audience might be the best option for enhancing the project impact. The European Researcher? Kight is the right opportunity to perform public engagement activities through which new principles can be established, spreading at the same time a new vision of public engagement, involving citizens from different ages. In the context of Research and Innovation, Public engagement (PE) concerns activities that involve researchers and the public together. It is more than just meeting an audience and communicating research. Effective public engagement is a two-way communication, with the researchers listening to and learning from participants and vice versa. It is an occasion to explain the importance of the researchers' work and their careers and to raise interest, by stimulating public and political awareness about scientific and technological concerns related to European funded projects. It is an open forum based on experience, sharing and communification techniques thanks to which scientists and experts can inspire and make people trutt in science and It is fundamental in raising public awareness and opinions on a particular science project/issue or a new technology, as it allows to assess new technological applications, helps researchers gathering data of their projects and makes it possible for both the public and the experts to collaborate in the creation of knowledge and innovation. Activities focus on the general public, addressing and attracting people regardless of the level of scientific iteracy, with a special focus on students. Educational aspects can be combined entertainment, especially when addressing the younger audience, by organising hands-on experim science shows, simulations, debates, games, competitions, quizzes, etc. It is believed that engaging public with research helps people empowerment, strengthening their attitudes towards science and ensuring that the research work performed in universities and institutes is retevant society and to meet wider social concern. Indeed research brings benefits to individuals and society and through a sustained engagement between researchers and their targets it is possible to bring researchers to the public beyond their perect open editorials and activities. In particular public engagement is grounded on accountability and transparency that should be transferred to civil society. This is one of the keys in order to create a wider experience and consciousness on researchers' activities, lighting up future scenerios? An event organized during the European Researchers' Night will make the general public better understand the central role of researchers and the key benefits that their research can bring to society. They are a unique opportunity to meet researchers, talk to them, and find out what they really do for society, via interactive and engaging ways. Moreover, it is an effective way of stimulating interest in new subjects and encouraging chitens to consider research results in a more concrete way, feeling and experiencing them directly. This benefits above all individual students and society as a whole-young people are filely to become more skilled and expect chitens. The concrete involvement of society, thanks to the organization of specific activities devolved to policies definition and acceptance, implift toster the interest of policy makers around a specific item related to the research and innovation project. Public engagement has been recently subject to a relevant development. Starting with the aim of promoting science towards the general public using one-way communication of scientific findings, it has <sup>1</sup> According to EC official definition <sup>2</sup> European Researchers' Nights, official website earch Council, "Why public engagement is so important", 2017 10 FETFX FETFX

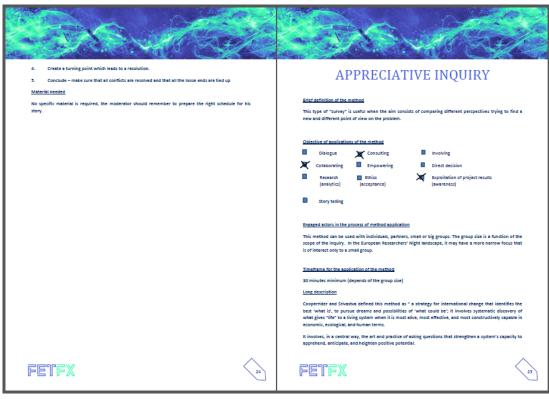


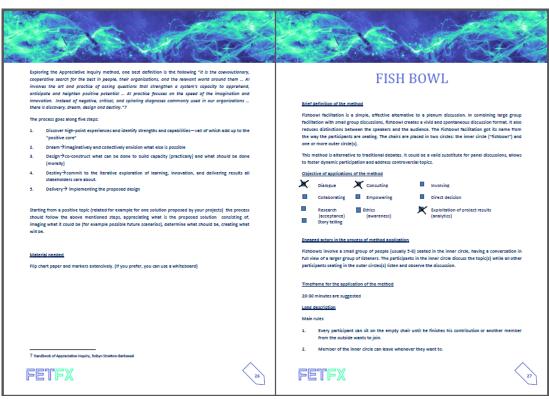






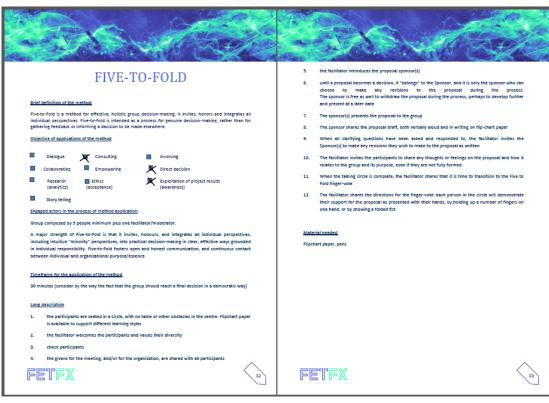


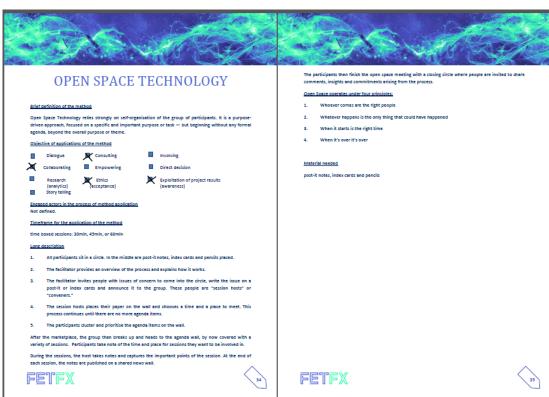


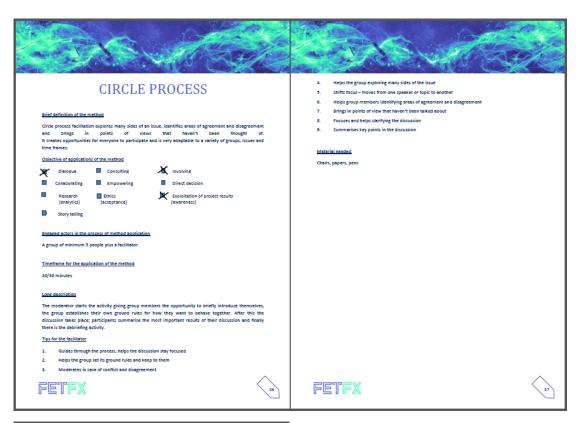














# 5.2 Annex 2. Invitation sent to FET project coordinators



Dear FET researcher,

EFFECT Coordination and Support Action is delighted to inform you regarding the new publication "A practical Guide for Public Engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies".

EFFECT project is here to enhance the visibility and impact of FET research by assisting FET projects in developing an adequate communication and engagement plan that will support their sustainability. The first publication on public engagement is available at:

http://www.fetfx.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/EFFECT-Guide-on-Public-Engagement.pdf

Through this tool and dedicated one-to-one support, EFFECT will help in the organization of an engagement activity during the next European Researchers Night, on September 29th in more than 300 cities and over 30 countries in Europe and beyond.

Check the European Researchers Night organized by your institution: http://ec.europa.eu/research/researchersnight/events\_en.htm

For more information and support, please contact: calderaro@apre.it; rotolo@apre.it

Thank you for your interest.

Best regards,

Marta Calderaro, as part of EFFECT project

#### Creating effects through communication and engagement in Future and Emerging Technologies

The EFFECT project will support all FET projects in increasing their influence and impact among science, industry, policy makers and society. Acting as a communications hub across various media, EFFECT will foster the communication, dissemination and exploitation of FET funded projects through easy-to-access tools and techniques and FET dedicated events.

Follow us at: www.fetfx.eu



EFFECT project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Future and Emerging Technologies programme under Grant Agreement n. 737301.



# 5.3 Annex 3. Dissemination through FETFX project Mailing



# FETFX new website is online

#### Discover the latest FET stories!

The new FETFX website is online with the most inspiring stories on Future and Emerging Technologies (FET).

Whether you are a researcher or a tech & future enthusiast you're in the right place.

On FETFX you will find stories, ranging from blotech and green technologies to quantum physics, robotics and new materials.

Are you a brilliant researcher with smart ideas for new technologies which could change our lives? On FETFX you will find useful tips on how to get funded, interesting networking events and a guide that will help you successfully communicate your research. And, why not, if you have an interesting FET story you may want to submit it to be published on FETFX e-magazine.

Among the next events don't miss the first FETFX webinar "Your effective FET communication strategy" on October 19. Our experts will guide you through H2020's dissemination and communication requests.

What are you waiting for? Start exploring the fascinating world of FET research!

Visit FETFX website



#### Weblna

# Your effective FET communication strategy

October 19th 2017 - 12:00 CEST

Communication experts will help you develop an effective communication strategy



#### Next even

# European Researchers' Night

September 29th 2017 300+ Cities all across Europe Imagine the opportunity to inspire and raise tomorrow scientists. Where? At the researchers night!



#### Pact event

### From research to innovation

Enghlen Lee Baine
Nine FET projects have joined the
Meet & Match event. The results?
Connections, visibility and new ideas
for the market