

- **No.89**
- **Civil Society Organisations in Research Projects Reflection on stories and experiences**

- Name: **Pfersdorf**
- First Name: **Simon**
- E-Mail: [Simon.Pfersdorf@kit.edu](mailto:Simon.Pfersdorf@kit.edu)
- Organisation: **Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS)/ Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)**

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- Authors: **Simon Pfersdorf, Martine Legris Revel, Bernd Carsten Stahl**

- **Abstract:** During the past 60 years science has gained importance for many societal processes. Science needs to be thought of as taking place within society, rather than as a relatively independent part of it. Increasing and improving the linkages between research and society in general seems desirable. Left to its own devices, research can be blind to relevant social issues such as inclusion, justice or environmental concerns. Additionally, technology responding to societal needs is no longer produced by individual disciplines but is increasingly interdisciplinary in nature. The production of scientific knowledge is now frequently driven by societal needs rather than pure scientific curiosity so-called mode 2 research. As a result of those debates many activities to stimulate and implement CSO participation and involvement in research came up in the last ten years. However, there is currently no agreement on how to evaluate the success of participation. Making contributions to close this knowledge and practice gap, is the task of the CONSIDER project. The findings of the research projects will lead to guidelines and policy recommendations which are required for successful research policy. At the workshop the participants are asked to tell each other their stories about their individual experiences with CSO involvement in research projects. By referring to a big variety of categories and perspectives which the CONSIDER team introduces before, the stories become comparable and commonalities as well as differences are easily made obvious. Following, the group is split in focus groups that further work on the categories which are mainly used in the stories. In this part of the workshop the participants will sharpen their awareness of chances and possibilities for failure by participating in research projects. Their discussions will be recorded and directly gives feedback for the further research process in the CONSIDER project. The workshop participants could get included in a broad network of 100+ CSOs that can contribute to further debates in the project and become involved in CONSIDER's program of workshops and dissemination events.