

Living Lab for Health at IrsiCaixa

The Living Lab for Health carries out projects for health promotion and transformative change of the R&I system that are co-developed with different stakeholders. It started its activities in 2012 within the biomedical research institute IrsiCaixa.

The Living Lab for Health facilitates platforms or ecosystems for collective reflection, learning and co-creation around R&I in health where different stakeholders participate. Stakeholders involved were:

- Scientific community (from researchers, masters' students, PhDs, Postdocs, project managers, etc.)
- Education community (lecturers and students at different levels of HE and secondary education)
- Policy makers
- Business and industry
- Civil society organizations
- Citizens in general.

These platforms co-develop Participatory R&I Agendas, undertake training courses to make R&I processes more open and inclusive and more in line with RRI and whenever possible, they also include processes of Community Based Participatory Research where interventions are carried out with and for communities in close collaboration with researchers.

Why transforming the R&I system?

These platforms aim to make R&I more democratic, more legitimate and better structured so that it better responds to the needs of the different stakeholders (i.e. by reducing waste research, identifying unmet needs or creating synergies and collaborative R&I projects among different stakeholders that operate at different phases of

the currently fragmented R&I process).

The platforms are created with the willingness to become a community of research (instead of a community of practice), so the duration is unlimited. However, specific Community Based Participatory Research projects are run within a maximum of 4-6 months.

Training in RRI for transformative change

The training workshops are adapted to each context, but the optimum are 8h training activities which combine a lecture with three participatory workshops to move from theory to practice.

Structure of the training workshop

- 15' Welcome and presentation of the Workshops
- 60' Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) for a more open R&I system in Europe
- 90' Workshop I: Is it necessary to rethink the relationship between R&I and society? Group discussion on opportunities and obstacles to implement RRI for different stakeholders
- 60' Workshop II: What are the main lines of action of RRI? First exploration of the RRI Toolkit to identify actions for each policy agenda: ethics, gender, open access, public engagement and science education.
- 90' Workshop III: Multi-stakeholder reflections to enRRich participants' projects Working groups to reflect and to identify resources that can enhance RRI implementation in participants' projects.

This workshop is sometimes also complemented with a reflection on the social impact of science and the ethical and legal aspects of R&I (with card games such as play decide).

The trainings started in 2014 during the participation of the Lab in the EC funded project RRI Tools, and then continued within the projects EnRRICH, InSPIRES and CRISH, funded by the EC, and within Xplore Health, funded by "la Caixa" Foundation. Since 2014 an average of more than 1,000 scientists and innovators have been trained per year.



Case Study



Capacity building

The stakeholders engaged in our Platforms and workshops develop competences and skills to transform the R&I into more open and inclusive processes that are better adapted to the needs and expectations of the different stakeholders.

Main content on RRI:

- Opportunities and obstacles to transform the R&I system
- Methodologies for Participatory R&I Agenda setting
- Methodologies for Participatory Research or Community Based Participatory Research
- Main lines of actions within the RRI policy agendas: ethics, science education, multistakeholder engagement, open access, gender.

Main skills:

- Scientific methodology with co-creation and stakeholder engagement
- Critical thinking and assessment of R&I processes
- Collaborative deliberation and reflection
- Anticipation of social impact and analysis of risks and consequences
- Responsiveness and adaptive change
- Communication

Conclusions and Future actions

The main opportunity of training RRI is the creation of platforms with different stakeholders that help to tackle societal challenges at complex level. This brings innovation into the process as well as legitimacy.

The Lab started with the collaboration of the Living Knowledge Network and the European Network of Living Labs (ENOLL). With the aim to make it more sustainable, it is now exploring how to build a more solid structure by collaborating with different stakeholders at local level.

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Disclaimer:

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