

GRACE

Grounding RRI practices in research funding and performing organisations

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Overall aim of the GRACE project

GRACE aims to contribute to spreading/embedding Responsible Research and Innovation in the European Research Area by

facilitating sustainable processes of institutional change by

- the development of a set of **SMART Grounding Actions (GAs)**
in a selection of **six RPOs** with visible impacts,
- coordinating a selection of GAs into specific **8-year long ‘Roadmaps towards RRI’**
using **the first 3 years - the GRACE project** - for paving the way of attaining further, more complex institutional changes in the medium- and long-term period (Y4–8),
- developing **an approach** that facilitates **rapid institutional change**
by providing expert support
in the frame of a **mutual learning process** and
a **co-creation environment**

Main assumption & concept

RRI has a role in the complex changes affecting R&I and institutional life/settings

RRI in GRACE

- *a strategy to help RFPOs to manage the modifications affecting R&I
including their own internal operating mechanisms*
- *an approach aimed at
promoting a better interaction between RFPOs and external actors,
providing more efficient means to cope with their current activities
e.g. research assessment, publications, labour relations, access to research funds,
citizen engagement and citizen science.*

Key features I.

- Grounding Actions rather than Action Plans

action/coordinated set of activities that put down the basis to facilitate the embedding of RRI keys in the institution / institutional processes

contents vary by RRI key and institutional needs

- ‘Roadmaps towards RRI’

tailored to institutional needs on the basis of self-assessment

GAs in a logical frame of actions in time to ensure sustainability in the RRI effort

based on the GAs implemented within the project period

Key features II.

- **Project environment: Co-creation and mutual learning**
 - expert organisations support implementing organization*
 - by a specific monitoring and mentoring scheme*
 - mutual learning sessions to facilitate knowledge sharing among implementing organisations*
- **Evaluation and impact assessment**
 - formative process evaluation*
 - immediate and long-term impacts of the GAs (MORRI indicators and SDGs)*
- **New partnerships**
 - focus: enlarging the network of IOs as of the ‘quadruple helix model’*

GRACE 3-step methodology

Preparatory Phase

Institutional assessment based on self-analysis (critical issues/needs)

Development of the self-tailored RRI profile

Design of the GAs – 1st version of the institutional Roadmaps

Development and Mutual Learning Phase

Implementation of the GAs

Stocktaking phase

Roadmap revision with a focus on long-term sustainability

Assessment

GRACE consortium

Implementing organizations

- Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Science and Arts (ZRC-SAZU), SI
- University of Siena (UNISI), IT
- Swedish Environmental Research Institute (IVL), SE
- **Agency for Management of University and Research Grants (AGAUR), ES**

European
Science
Foundation
(ESF), FR

University of
Groningen
(RUG), NL

Cooperating organization

- Knowledge and Innovation (K&I), IT
- Aarhus University (AU), DK
- European Network of Science Centers and Museums (ECSITE), BE
- South East European Research Center (SEERC), EL