

EASSH
Constitutive General Assembly
January 16th, 2015
Paris

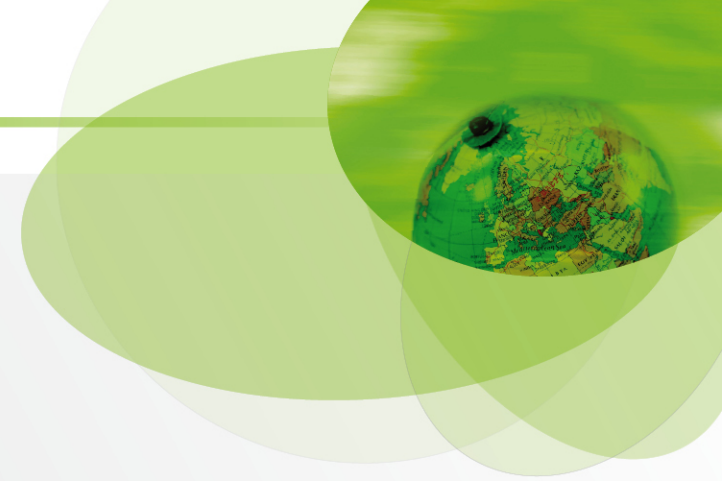
Embedding Social Sciences and Humanities in Horizon 2020

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www.net4society.eu

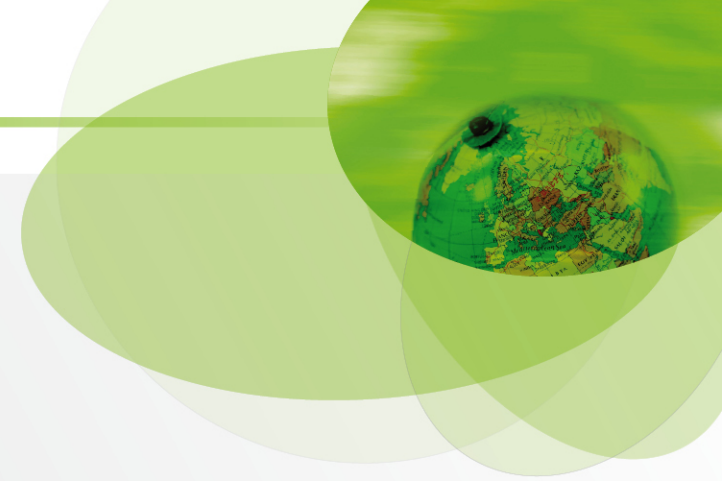




The Basis for „Embedding“

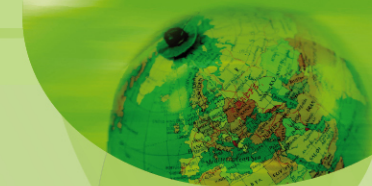
"Social sciences and humanities (SSH) research will be **fully integrated into each of the general objectives of Horizon 2020.**"

- Horizon 2020 Regulation

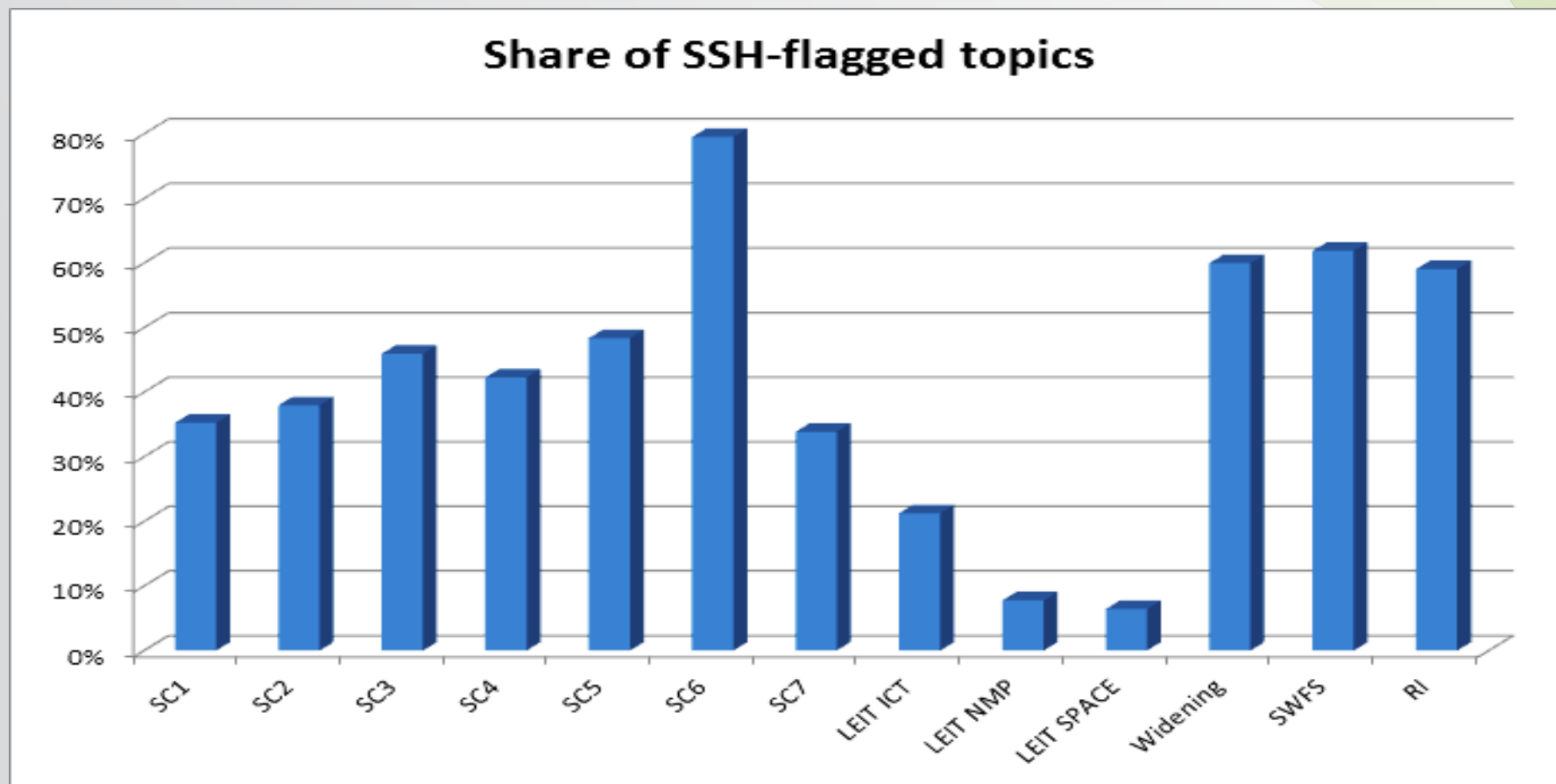


Embedding SSH: Facts and ???

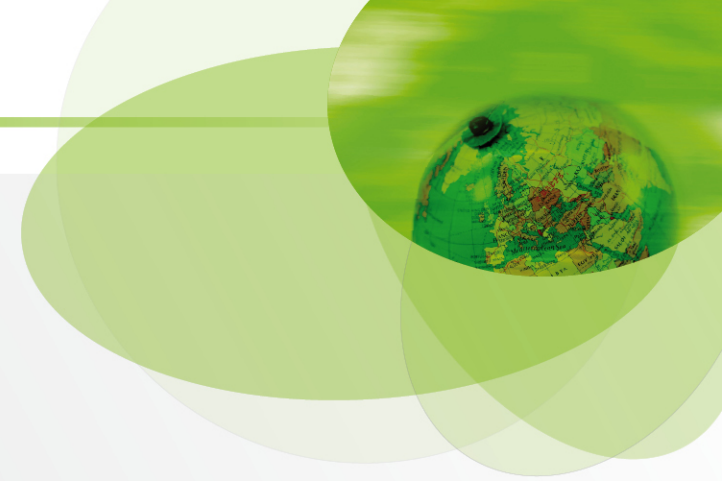
1. Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) have been a horizontal/cross-cutting (and difficult) issue since FP5 and is not unique to Horizon 2020
2. With Horizon 2020, SSH involvement is , however, primarily foreseen as cross-cutting
3. The 1. Work Programmes of Horizon 2020 showed that the implementation of SSH as a cross-cutting issue is very difficult
4. General consensus that „embedding“ is necessary, however, how to go about it remains a challenge.
5. Monitoring embedding is a problem (missing data)
6. Commission is actively looking for methods to improve embedding (introduction of SSH correspondents across H2020 pillars; events, workshop to facilitate embedding)



Realities: SSH Integration in the WP 2014/15



37% of all Topics were flagged as SSH-relevant. However, 40% of the respective proposals made no reference to SSH-oriented activities)

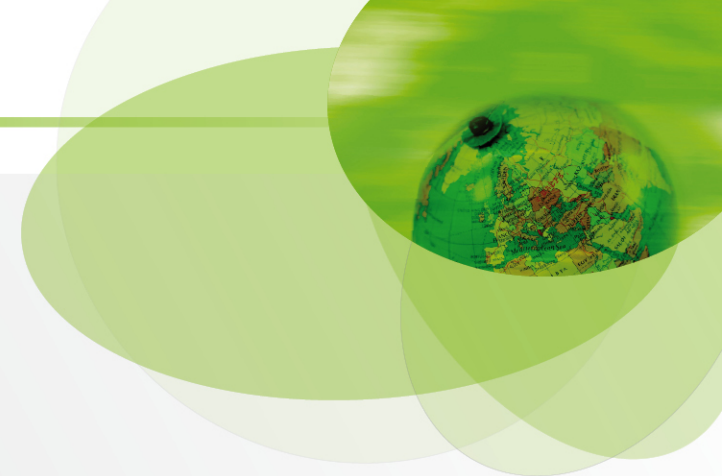


EU Commission Workshop on Embedding SSH (Nov. 2014) WORKSHOP

The Agenda:

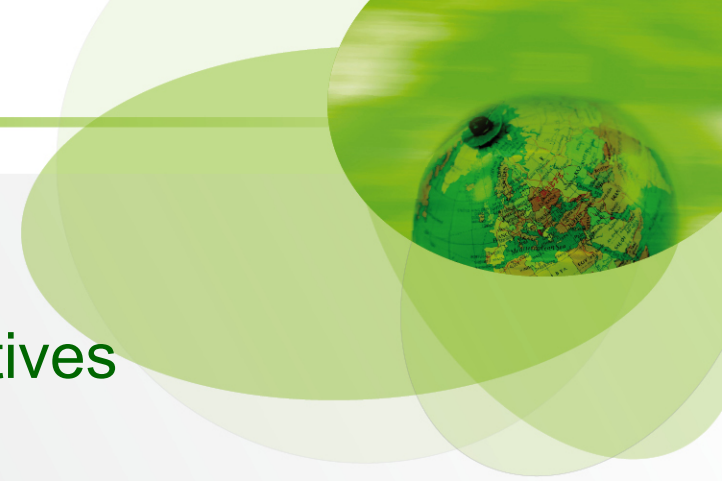
- The role of SSH in Horizon 2020
- Discussion on integrating SSH contributions in the design of the calls





INSTITUTIONS INVITED

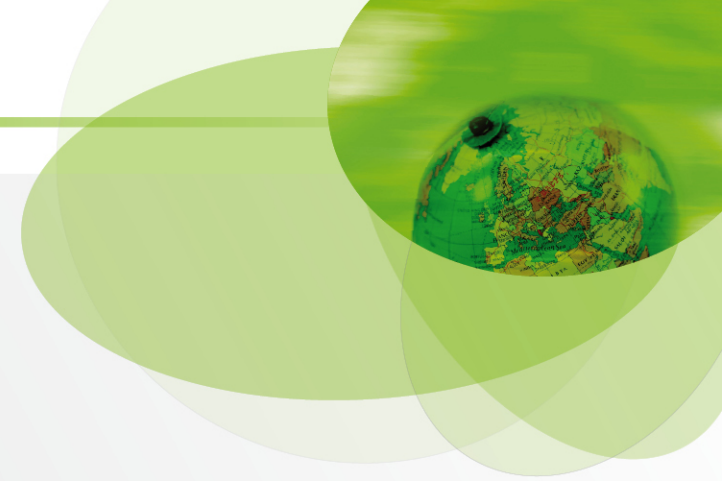
- Academia Europea
- ALLEA
- European Association of Social Anthropologists
- European Confederation of Political Science Associations
- European Consortium for Humanities Institutions and Centres
- European Education Research Association
- European Sociological Association
- HERA
- NORFACE
- International Social Sciences Council
- Leibniz Association
- LERU
- Net4Society
- Science Europe



KEY POINTS made by the SSH representatives

- SSH are science and need to be embedded in the challenges on that basis and not as a cross issue like international cooperation or gender mainstreaming
- The first call has shown clear weakness in the process of implementation of the embedding in the Societal Challenges (e.g. Advisory Groups, call drafting)
- H2020 has a strong influence in the design of national funding programme of MS
- The Community is not longer a scattered number of scientists across Europe but there is a stronger coordination across the stakeholders





Recommendation: Sister Projects

Sister projects would explore the same topics of research, but from different disciplinary perspectives, in order to provide a sense of perspective and societal relevance for projects that are much more technically driven. This approach relies on the acknowledgment that biases are unavoidable in the framing of challenges. Instead of seeking a "perfect", i.e. unbiased description of the call text, it opens the possibility for RRI-SSH experts to challenge the call text and propose constructive alternative framings. Unveiling the biases, challenging them and trying out alternatives will foster innovation through the widening of the imaginaries. Interactions of sister projects among themselves and with the other projects should be structured to encourage a maieutic rather than a confrontational dynamics.



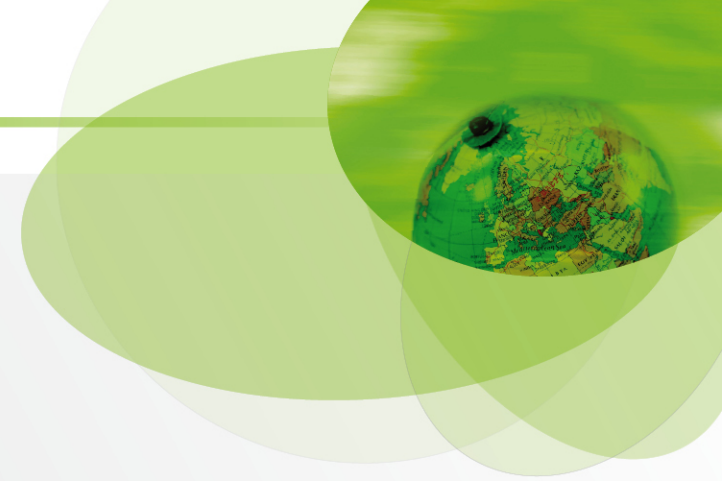


DG Connect:

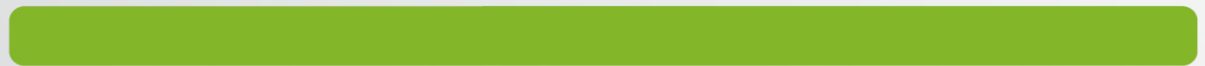
Institute for European Studies: Shaping 'multidisciplinarity' in the EU's ICT-related research programmes (<http://www.ies.be/node/1638>)

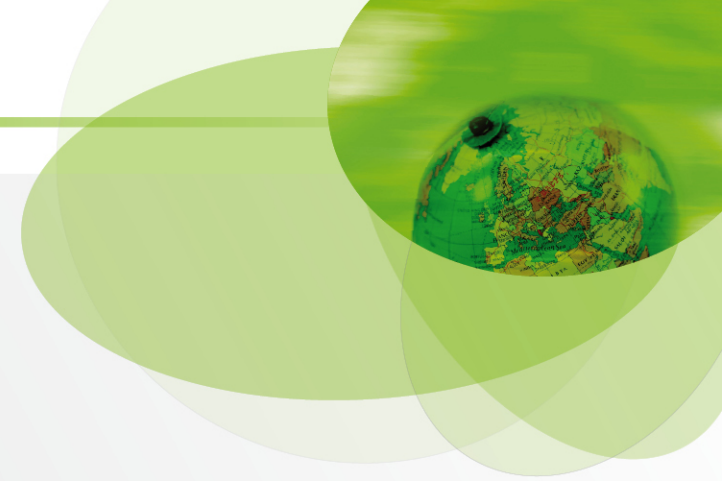
Study project for the European Commission addresses key issues in the ongoing discussions concerning the role of different disciplines in ICT-related EU-funded research:

- In what situations does use of (a mixture of) multi/trans/inter disciplinary approaches add value to project outputs and impacts?
- What conditions are necessary for such approaches to bear fruit?
- Are there relationships, or (power) dynamics, between specific disciplines that enable or hinder project outputs and outcomes?
- Should we try to diminish distance and difference between disciplines, or should we focus on what each discipline can bring independently to a project?
- How can projects be framed to maximize contribution and output from each of the disciplines involved, and is there scope for greater engagement with the social sciences and humanities to enhance project impacts?



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!!!!**





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