

2016 ENID General Assembly

Valencia, Thursday 15th September, 18.00-19.30, Nexus Building, UPV Campus, Room 1

The following members were present:

Institutional members (represented by)	Individual members
AIT Wien: Thomas Scherngell	Franz Barjak, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland
CNR- IRCRES (formerly CERIS): Emanuela Reale	Wolfgang Glänzel, KU Leuven
CWTS Leiden: Robert Tijssen	Peter van den Besselaar, VU Amsterdam
DZHW Berlin: Sybille Hinze (secretary)	Zahedi Zoreh, CWTS Leiden
IFRIS, Paris: Rigas Arvanitis (treasurer)	
INGENIO (CSIC-UPV): Valencia: Jordi Molas-Gallart (president)	
Latvian Council of Science Riga: Arnis Kokorevics	
Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, Univ. of Manchester: Abdulla Gök	
NIFU Oslo: Gunnar Sivertsen	
SPRU, University of Sussex: Ismael Raffols	
Univ. De Paris Est : Philippe Laredo	
Univ. of Lugano: Benedetto Lepori	
UNU-MERIT, Maastricht: Lili Wang	

The assembly was open to non-members.

Agenda

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Report of the President on the activities of the ENID association, on the general strategy for ENID
 - a. Organizational issues – future of the Association
3. Report on finances (Treasurer)
4. Election of Treasurer
5. Future activities: STI conference series
 - a. STI2017 – IFRIS, Paris
 - b. STI2018 – candidates
6. Ongoing activities at European level
 - a. EU RTD Evaluation Network – indicator related activities in the context of FP evaluation
 - b. ERAC Working Group on Measuring the Impact of EU Framework Programmes for R&I at National Level
7. Varia

1. Agenda has been approved.
2. Report of the President on the activities of the ENID association, on the general strategy for ENID.

Jordi Molas' (president) report focused on three main issues:

- a. Report on the organization of this year's STI Conference
 - Around 380 participants, 45 countries.
 - Main funding from participants fees and the RISIS project.
 - Successfully efforts were made to bring innovation indicators "in"
 - Slightly adapted approach towards the structure of the conference with special tracks being introduced in addition to the free submissions. Thus, the conference's structural elements are: a specific topic chosen by the local organizer, special tracks and free submissions (in line with overall conference themes). The organizers of next year's conference have expressed their

intention to keep the special tracks format and the overall structure of STI2016. In the board meeting, which was held on Tuesday, 13 September 2016, the issue of track stability and adaptation to changing conference topics was discussed. No decision was sought on the question of which tracks to keep. It was agreed that the introduction of the tracks was successful and that continuation of tracks would depend on local theme and relevance of the tracks. To strengthen the tracks the potential to develop them into interest groups was discussed by the board.

b. Organizational issues – future of the Association

During last year's GA the sustainability of ENID with its current structure and activities was discussed (see minutes ENID GA 2015) and it was concluded to discuss concrete suggestions at the GA during STI 2016 in Valencia. Jordi Molas provided a recap of the current situation:

- So far ENID is extra-lean: an association, whose role is organizing this conference (although in the statutes there are other roles mentioned)
- But:
 - i. Funding (for the conference) may become more problematic overtime
 - ii. As the association grows its recent structure may become unruly, in particular the following aspects:
 - ENID now has double membership: groups/research institutes and individuals. All with voting rights
 - And, ENID is growing a bit (and could grow more if we wish); so far 30 institutions, and 28 individuals (meaning that institutional participation compared to individual membership is very substantial. Since last year's GA 11 new members joined ENID (5 institutions and 6 individuals). In line with what has been discussed at the last meeting we succeeded to attract a couple of institutional members active in innovation studies - namely the Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, University of Manchester and Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology. These are relevant in terms of improving the engagement of innovation research centers with ENID.
 - In addition many individual members are "dormant" and do not participate or most likely do not intend to participate.
- Where to go?
 - i. The alternatives we discussed in 2015 ranged from keeping ENID as it is at one end, to forming a professional association with certification roles at the other.
 - ii. The president and the secretary discussed options further in a meeting in March 2016, also taking into account information collected on how other associations in "neighboring" communities are organized, namely EUSpri and ISSI, and decided to propose to the ENID Board the following:
 - Continue with the current "light touch" that characterizes ENID
 - Keep the current focus on providing the mechanisms that underpin the organization of the STI series of conferences and, not to explore any further the possibilities to move ENID towards a more proactive role in the policy or professional services field
 - Keep the statutes as they stand
 - No changes in membership rules and only an adjustment in voting practices:
 - Focus on institutional members with individual members having an observer (no voting) status in the GA, thus, only the representatives of institutions or another named delegate from that institution is able to vote

This proposal was discussed in great detail in the Governing Board meeting on Tuesday, 13 September 2016 with the following outcome:

- There was agreement that the Conference series covers a need, and that its focus on S&T indicator development and use, including, importantly, policy use lends it a differential character
- There was agreement that the association is needed to steer the conference series, even if only to organize the process of site candidates and selection.
- But, there were different proposals discussed about the future of the association, the discussion revolved around two main approaches: a network of institutes, vs. a learned society:

The learned society option would mean to move towards an individually-based, fee-based society in the style of many other large academic associations and, providing services to their members on top and above of the conference.

The option of “a network of institutes” was perceived as being close to the suggestion made by Jordi Molas and Sybille Hinze and would move ENID towards a light association revolving around institutional members focused on the organization of the Conference and dealing with the problems associated with it.

The Governing Board (GB) decided to develop and clarify these positions over the next coming months and, to offer them to the GA for consultation (survey). Then the GB will meet in Spring 2017 to refine the alternatives retrieved from the consultation and submit them to the vote of the GA next September in Paris during STI 2017.

c. Other activities:

Possibility of having ENID involved in relevant policy initiatives related to the use of indicators in evaluation were explored:

- The discussion with authors of the Leiden Manifesto about how to take the Manifesto forward and the role that organizations like ENID could play (as a way of increasing its profile) did, however, not lead to further actions.
- Attempt to continue the discussion about standardization at EU level see point 6 of the agenda.

3. Report on finances (Treasurer):

Philippe Laredo reported that no movements on the association account have taken place. The only cost occurred where banking costs, consequently the account balance remains, as in the previous year, slightly below 2000

4. Election of Treasurer

According to the statutes the Treasurer “is elected by the general assembly for 2 years and he is re-eligible to the maximum one time. Following the discussion about the future of the association at last year’s GA Philippe Laredo agreed to continue as treasurer for one more year and thus, this year at the GA elections were due.

Candidates for the treasurer position: Rigas Arvanitis, IFRIS

The treasurer was elected unanimously by the members present.

Congratulation to Rigas Arvanitis.

5. Future activities: STI conference series
a. STI2017 – IFRIS, Paris

Philippe Laredo briefly reported on the planning for the STI 2017 in Paris, which is planned to take place from September 6-8, 2017 and will focus on the development of open science and the geographic dimension in STI. He reported that in line with this years’ structure of the conference besides the free submissions the idea of tracks will continue with the decision about which tracks to keep and which to abandon or reformulate still pending. Also the efforts made to raise the profile of innovation related activities in the STI program will continue. In this context a discussion about including innovation into the title of the conference started and it was agreed to keep the acronym of the conference but, change the title into Science, Technology and Innovation indicators conference.

b. STI2018

CWTS proposed to organize STI 2018 and the Governing Board decided to accept this proposal thus, we will continue the tradition that CWTS, Leiden, is hosting the conference series, every 4th year. The tradition goes back to the origins of this conference series. The STI conference was launched by CWTS and for the first time organized in 1988, thus in 2018 it will be in existence for 30 years.

In the discussion the issue of “conference saturation” was addressed, especially in years in which also the ISSI and the Atlanta Conference take place. However, for the time being it was decided to keep the STI indicators conference an annual event as participation numbers reflect the demand and success of the series and despite some overlap the conference addresses complementary topics and communities. This issue might also be addressed in the above mentioned member consultation

6. Ongoing activities at European level

- a. EU RTD Evaluation Network – indicator related activities in the context of FP evaluation

In the light of the discussions around standards – taking the Leiden manifesto further – various pathways were explored e.g. HORIZON2020 options and linking it to the EU RTD Evaluation Network. Discussions showed that there was no real interest in providing finances to seriously engage in project based activities. On the commission side the main focus is on adhering to requirements outlined in the legal basis for the FP and concentrate on indicators already identified in this context. Still the EU-RTD Evaluation Network agreed to set up a working group to address indicators generation in the context of upcoming FP evaluations, and in particular “Impact measures”. Yet, ERAC had already set up a working group on Measuring the Impact of EU Framework Programmes for R&I at National Level, with a very similar mandate, run by the same Commission unit and to a large extent with the same members. Therefore, the Network decided to not go ahead with its working group but to concentrate on the ERAC activities.

- b. ERAC Working Group on Measuring the Impact of EU Framework Programmes for R&I at National Level

It aims to exchange experiences and share good practices on the evaluation of impact of EU Framework Programmes at national level.

It is supposed to develop a harmonized impact evaluation template based on (i) a core set of evaluation questions, (ii) common evaluation methodologies, (iii) common indicators and (iv) available common datasets and available EU and national databases to assess the socio-economic impacts of EU Framework Programmes at national level.

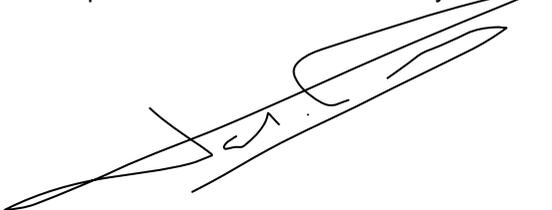
It shall present the impact evaluation template to ERAC Member States and Associated Countries deciding to carry out national impact evaluations on EU Framework Programmes at national level. In addition, the Policy Support Facility could support Member States in the exchange of good practice on the evaluation of impact through a project-based mutual learning exercise.

The ERAC Working Group started its work in March 2016, Membership was open to ERAC delegations and nominated national experts, Delegations could decide to nominate national colleagues already participating in the EU RTD Evaluation Network. It is chaired by Tiago Santos Pereira (Portugal).

7. Varia

Two special issues following STI 2014 (Research Evaluation) and STI 2015 (Scientometrics) have recently been published. The Scientometrics special issue is to date “online first” the actual issue in which the printed contributions will appear needs to be decided.

The president closed the assembly at 19.30



Jordi Molas-Gallart, ENID president



Sybille Hinze, ENID secretary