



# Interreg



EUROPEAN UNION

## Danube Transnational Programme

### D-STIR

## Capacity Building Workshop Report



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*D-STIR - Danube Framework for Responsible Research and Innovation using Socio-Technical Integration*

**Report on Capacity Building Workshop**

**17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Szeged/Hungary**

A 3-day capacity building workshop was held in Szeged/Hungary during 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> of July 2017. For logistical reasons, the workshop date change was needed. Foreseen in Month 11 (11/17), it had to be rescheduled to Month 7 (07/17), due to the availability of Prof. Erik Fisher, STIR trainer, who travels from US (Arizona) and could not participate in November. This change did not affect the project logic. D-STIR method is built on the original STIR method. Being familiar with STIR, both the partners and the EH could raise the problems which might have occurred in pilots when implementing STIR because they know their business and academic circumstances. These concerns were discussed with Erik Fisher and ERDF2. As a result, original STIR method was adjusted to Danube region features creating the D-STIR method. It differs from the original in terms of: participants' motivation, EH-training, EHs regular control, pre/post-study interviews.

The event was planned and moderated by ERDF2 partner – EMFIE.

**Day 1 - 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2017**

❖ **CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP**

Participants: 35 attendees, representatives of the project implementation team and embedded humanists according to the attendance list.

The embedded humanists (EHs) are the people responsible for the implementation of the testing phase of D-STIR Application and RRI Actions in the partner territories, as described in the Application Form. Prior to the capacity building workshop, EHs were selected based on the criteria established by ERDF2 partner – EMFIE with the support of external expert for ERDF2, prof. Erik Fisher. The criteria for the selection of the EHs included:

Qualification:

- degree in social sciences (i.e., sociologist, psychologist, philosopher, or economist, etc.)

Abilities, personal characteristics:

- to be curious and enjoy chatting with people;
- to be open to get to know others' way of thinking;
- to be able to evaluate the changes happening during the conversation to have patience in case interesting conversations and/or changes in conversations take time to occur or don't occur at all;

Tasks:

- to participate in the 3-day training in Szeged and learn the methodology;
- to conduct the pre-study interviews;
- to visit the chosen laboratory and research group for at least 1 hour and 3 times a week during 12 weeks;
- to conduct the post-study interview;
- to prepare a monthly progress report;
- to prepare the final evaluation.

During the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the capacity building workshop, partners and embedded humanists became familiar with the terms and acquired knowledge on STIR methodology based on the training material provided and the lecture of the Prof. Erik Fisher.

- ✓ Theoretical part: general presentation of the terms (background and basic idea of STIR; theoretical information and presentation of the model; RRI concept);
- ✓ Practical part: STIR in practice (pre-study interview, decision protocol, post-study interview);
- ✓ Partners and EHs feedback (discussion with questions): initial thoughts on the STIR methodology and its application (RRI in academic environments and RRI in innovative businesses with focus on SMEs).

The most important part of the first day was the theoretical information and presentation of the model when there was detailed the role of upstream, downstream and midstream modulation to the participants. Moreover, there were discussed the basic STIR-techniques:

- STIR in practice: pre-study interview, decision protocol, post-study interview;
- How the grid works.

In order to ensure that the participants understand the main essence of the method, there were several participative sessions: the participants had to work in smaller groups and they had to practice the method itself. During this session, prof. Erik Fisher worked as a supervisor and gave feedback to the participants how to improve their effectiveness.

By the end of the first day of the capacity building workshop, the participants were familiar with RRI concept and the theoretical background of the STIR method.

#### ❖ VISIT TO ELI-ALPS

Participants: 35 attendees, representatives of the project implementation team and embedded humanists

In the second part of the day, it was organised a visit for exploring the STIR opportunities at the brand new, worldwide unique research infrastructure of ELI-ALPS.

The Extreme Light Infrastructure (ELI) project is an integral part of the European plan to build the next generation of large research facilities identified and selected by the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI). The Extreme light infrastructure will be the first infrastructure in the world able the investigation of the interactions between light and matter with the highest intensity, in the so-called ultra-relativistic range. It will open a doorway into new territories within physics as well as establishing such new technical developments as relativistic microelectronics and small laser particle accelerators. ELI will have a considerable impact on numerous fields of materials sciences, medicine and environment protection. ELI is the first civilian large-scale high-

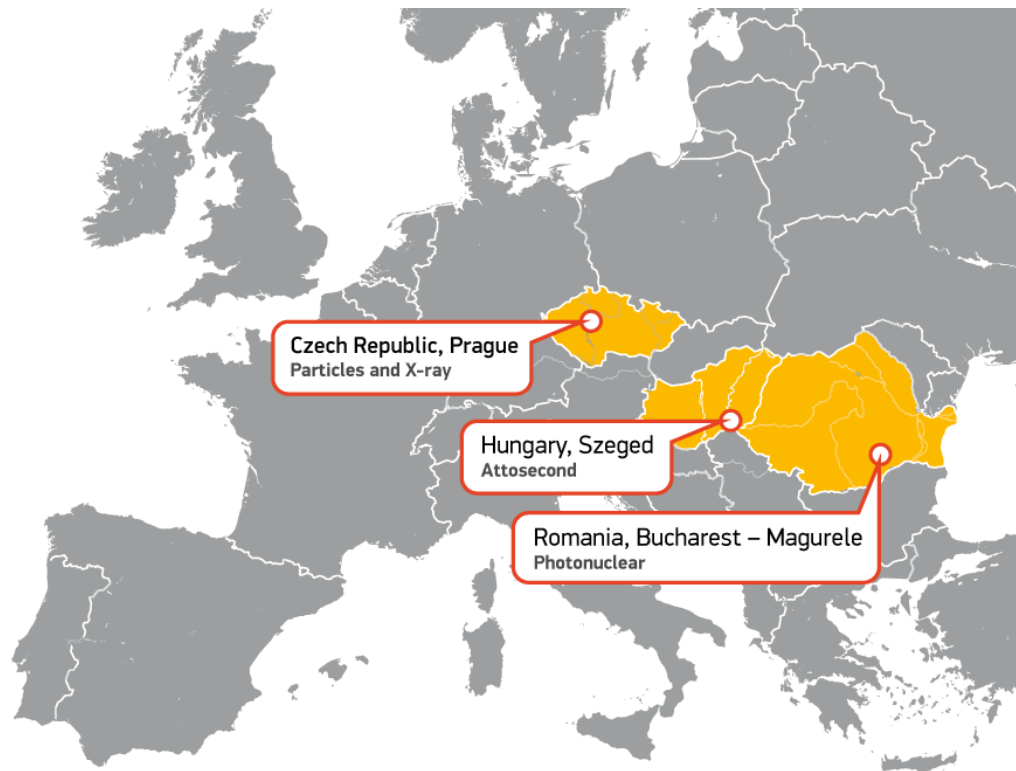


power laser research facility to be realized with trans-European cooperation and the worldwide scientific community. **Hungary** [ELI-ALPS (*ultrashort light pulses with high repetition rate*)], the

**Czech Republic** [ELI-BEAMS (*laser particle acceleration or laser generated X-ray radiation*)] and **Romania** [ELI-NP (*photo-induced nuclear experiments*)], with a coordinated management and research strategy, will simultaneously implement the project through the construction of the three

laser facilities with the respective mission in the *attosecond*, beamline and photonuclear applications.

The main topics discussed during the visit to ELI-ALPS were: the features of the infrastructure, the research and application areas. The primary mission of the ELI-ALPS Szeged research facility is to make a wide range of ultrashort light sources accessible to the international scientific community user groups. Laser driven secondary sources emitting coherent extreme-ultraviolet (XUV) and X-ray radiation confined in attosecond pulses is a major research initiative of the infrastructure. The secondary purpose of the facility is to contribute to the necessary scientific and technological developments required for high peak intensity and high power lasers. The ELI-ALPS infrastructure provides the users, in the fields of scientific research and industrial applications, primary laser pulses in conjunction with an impressive array of synchronized secondary light and particle pulses. The constructed buildings house the laser equipment, secondary sources, target areas, laser preparation and other special laboratories. It also provides sufficient administration space for approximately 250 researchers and support staff. There are also seminar, meeting and conference rooms; electrical, mechanical and optical workshops and a library. These state-of-the-art facilities require specialized design and cutting edge implementation of the latest technology for vibration levels, thermal stability, relative humidity, clean room facilities and radiation protection conditions. Partners from Romania, Czech Republic and Hungary involved in the development of ELI project shared their experience in terms of results, difficulties and obstacles.



## Day 2 - 18<sup>th</sup> of July 2017

### ❖ CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

Participants: 35 attendees, representatives of the project implementation team and embedded humanists according to the attendance list.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, it continued the methodological understanding of the STIR method. As a result, the workshop focused on:

- ✓ Assessment & simulation: STIR results & examples; preparation of the “STIR simulation” (understanding the research activity); STIR **simulation** with the **embedded humanists**; **role play and practice application** with partners; embedded humanists practice the protocol with partners;
- ✓ Partner feedback: Debrief and discuss experiences with the practice application; initial thoughts on the STIR methodology and how it could be applied in their territories [focused on RRI in **academic environments** and RRI in **innovative businesses** (SMEs)]



Moreover, there was a simulation part coordinated by prof. Erik Fisher. One representative of Szeged University, Dr. Csaba Janaky, Principal Investigator (chemist) introduced his research area and after that it was simulated a STIR-interview. The participants had the opportunity to see how the STIR-grid works and what information they should put on this grid as well as what information they should take into account to notice reflexive or deliverable learning. Then, the participants were asked to play a role-play and prof. Prof. Erik Fisher supervised their work. At the end of the role-play, they had to introduce their own STIR-grid.

### **Day 3 - 19<sup>th</sup> of July 2017**

Participants: 35 attendees, representatives of the project implementation team and embedded humanists according to the attendance list.

The first part of the meeting was dedicated to the capacity building workshop while the second part included an overview of the activities undertaken at project level and a Steering Committee meeting with the project partners.

#### **❖ CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the workshop aimed to involve the EHs in the practice of STIR methodology through capacity building exercises and participative sessions.

Participants were divided in 2 sub-groups:

- ✓ **Academic** sub-group [ERDF 3, 5, 6, ASP1];
- ✓ **Business** subgroup [LP, ERDF 1, 4, 7, 9, 10; ASP2, IPA1, ASP3]);

Participants practiced using **STIR grid in academic & business environment**. It was a role-play: the participants had to work in pairs and they had to ask their partners. One participant worked as an embedded humanist, the other as a researcher. Then, they had to change their roles, so all partners could see from both sides how STIR works in practice.

It followed a participative session for understanding STIR methodology. The brainstorming aimed to emphasize the factors which may motivate the researchers or labs to participate in the STIR



work. It was an added value for the partners taking into consideration the difficulties they had met to convince companies and/or researchers to participate in a 12-week long STIR investigation.

Full material of the Capacity Building Workshop was uploaded on the project internal platform.