Interreg
CENTRAL EUROPE
European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

TAKING **COOPERATION** FORWARD

Output factsheet: Tools

Version 1

Project index number and acronym	CE1004 ROSIE
Lead partner	CISE - Special Agency of the Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena
Output number and title	OT1.1.1 Tools developed and implemented to improve skills and competencies in Responsible Innovation - STIR
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	PP02 EMFIE
Project website	http://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/ROSIE.html
Delivery date	December 2017

Summary description of the key features of the tool (developed and/or implemented)
2.000 characters

Socio-Technical Integration Research (STIR) is one of the 3 ROSIE Tools and was developed by Erik Fisher from Arizona State University (USA). STIR encourages scientific disciplines to interact with humanistic concerns, through the presence of an Embedded Humanist who participates in their innovation process, helping scientists to consider and address ethical and social concerns into their product design, development and production.

STIR helps identify and compare external expectations for laboratories to engage in responsible innovation, to assess and compare the current responsiveness of laboratory practices to such pressures and, last but not least, to investigate and compare how interdisciplinary collaborations may assist in elucidating, enhancing or stimulating responsiveness.

The STIR investigator is embedded in the daily operation of a research group and visits the laboratory 2–3 times per week over a 12 weeks period. The embedded humanist observes the research activity of team members, their attitudes and their decision points through continuous interactions.

At the beginning and the end of observation, the STIR investigator carries-out an interview among the active members of the research group and studies how the interdisciplinary interactions can help the enhancement of social and ethical aspects over research work.

The main strength of STIR is its flexibility, as the conversations and topics can be adjusted based on the specific context during the 12 weeks of activity. The method strongly relies on the creativity of the STIR investigator. Moreover, this tool produces long-term impacts, by broadening scientists' way of thinking and making them able to respond to the complex societal dimensions of their work.

STIR has been mostly applied in the academic field among scientists, however nowadays business sector is also a significant target group of STIR. Within ROSIE STIR was discussed with a specific focus on applications in SMEs context.

NUTS region(s) where the tool has been developed and/or implemented (relevant NUTS level)
500 characters

NUTS levels of the partner responsible for developing the tool within ROSIE:

STIR - HU333, Csongrád

Moreover, experts and stakeholders from all partners participated in the 1st ROSIE Capacity Building session (Prague, Nov. 2017) to learn about the 3 ROSIE tools. The tools are now available in the ROSIE WorkBox.

Expected impact and benefits of the tool for the concerned territories and target groups
1.000 characters

ROSIE tools are directly addressed to enterprises, particularly SMEs. In T3, min.35 SMEs per pilot area will learn about the STIR tool and, during intensive pilot activities, min.5 SMEs per territory will have the opportunity to apply it in real practice. Thanks to STIR SMEs will learn how to better integrate ethical and social considerations when selecting and adopting innovation, thus improving their overall knowledge on RI application to their innovation processes.

STIR helps modulating mind-sets in a durable way, therefore it will benefit trained SMEs by increasing the skills of their staff and their competitiveness on the long-term. It will also produce a multiplier effect on other SMEs.

STIR will also benefit other quadruple helix actors. This tool is not just about learning or understanding a specific situation, it is about changing the way of thinking, therefore it produces durable and positive impacts for all the actors involved (including RI Consultants).

Sustainability of the tool and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders
1.000 characters

Sustainability of the tool is guaranteed by the ROSIE Workbox. The Workbox describes all 3 tools developed in ROSIE and how to apply them.

STIR is available online to the general public, although it is particularly addressed to scientific research and business environments. The tool enables the involved actors to change their way of thinking in a durable way. Potential outcomes include: development of skills, learning, human capital, changed behaviors, practices, design and research pathways and increased trust.

During project capacity building events ROSIE partners were trained on the STIR method. The training enabled them to learn how to apply the STIR method to SME interested in implementing a responsible innovation process. The tool is not limited to a specific geographical area and, within the ROSIE workbox, it is presented in a user-friendly, applicable format. Moreover, ROSIE T2 is designed to ensure that the 3 tools are transferred to other territories.

Lesson learned from the development/implementation process of the tool and added value of transnational cooperation
1.000 characters

STIR methodology was originally developed with a focus on scientific researchers, but it is now becoming popular also in businesses intending to adopt responsible innovation. Its flexible nature makes it extremely suitable to a very wide range of applications.

Transational cooperation in ROSIE was essential to understand how STIR can be applied to SMEs context, in order to achieve good results and effectively support SMEs in the process to the adoption of Responsible Innovation. Moreover, cooperation also allowed to understand how to the tool should be implemented based on the innovation maturity of the business (and relevant environment) to which it is applied.

ROSIE partners are institutions of different nature (Chambers of Commerce, local and regional authorities, sector organisations, etc.), therefore transnational cooperation ensured that STIR could be addressed from a multifaceted set of perspectives and approaches.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links
If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex
1.000 characters

The description of each of the three ROSIE tools is included in D.T1.1.4 ROSIE DESCRIPTION OF 3 WORKBOX TOOLS GROUPS. All descriptions contain key information about the tool (including country of origin, objectives and weblink), a short description of the method and its logic and the main related challenges.

The three tools are also included in the ROSIE Workbox, available at http://www.ciseonweb.it/eu/rosie/itri.htm