

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

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Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Background

2015 Reflection Paper on the Role of SCAR

Member State representation and inclusion

The widening of SCARs remit {...} **raised concerns of the capacity and interest of members to partake in working groups {...} how to bridge gaps between the national ministries {...}**.



Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Background

2016-2017 – Study on representation and inclusion in SCAR bodies



Main questions

- How are countries represented in SCAR bodies?
- What national institutions are usually involved?
- Are all areas in the bioeconomy sufficiently represented?
- What are factors enabling or challenging representation?

Purpose

- To gain insight into the current state of participation;
- To get a greater awareness of determining factors;
- To identify good practices;
- To be able to identify practical approaches for increased representation of countries (and bioeconomy areas).

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

What is representation and inclusion

Representation is the possibility of those affected by a decision to have an influence on the outcome of that decision.

- Be part of a group (participation)
- Be able to bring in point of view, priorities, concerns (*active* participation)
- Have a voice in a decision



Inclusion is the deliberate act of welcoming diversity and creating an environment in which all are able to thrive and succeed.

- Encourage participation
- Create an environment that allows for participation

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Why are representation and inclusion important?

- 'Democracy principle'
- Success of European cooperation
- Impact and strength of SCAR 'products'



Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Key findings

Country representation in 2016:

- on average, each country in SCAR was (formally) part of **4 of the 8** SCAR working groups (WG)
- **17 of the 37 countries (46%)** in SCAR were (formally) part of **3 or less** SCAR WGs

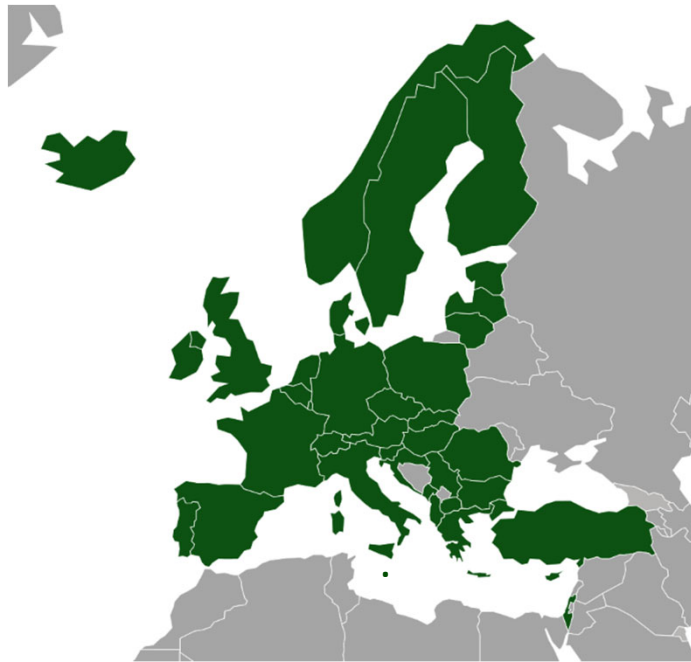


Figure 1a: SCAR members in 2016

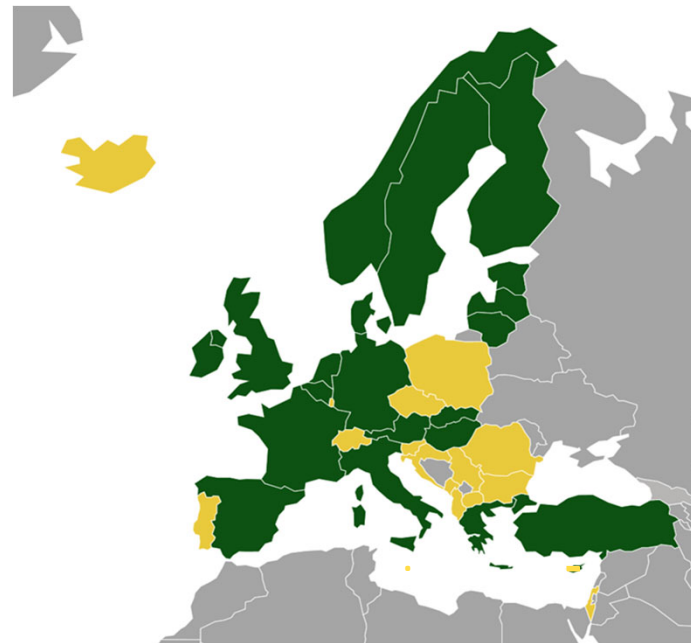


Figure 1b: In yellow: SCAR members that are formally part of 3 or less working groups of SCAR.

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Key findings

Country representation in 2016 – relation to the EU:

- EU-13 and AC countries are underrepresented in the WGs (and SG). They also join less WGs than EU-15 countries.

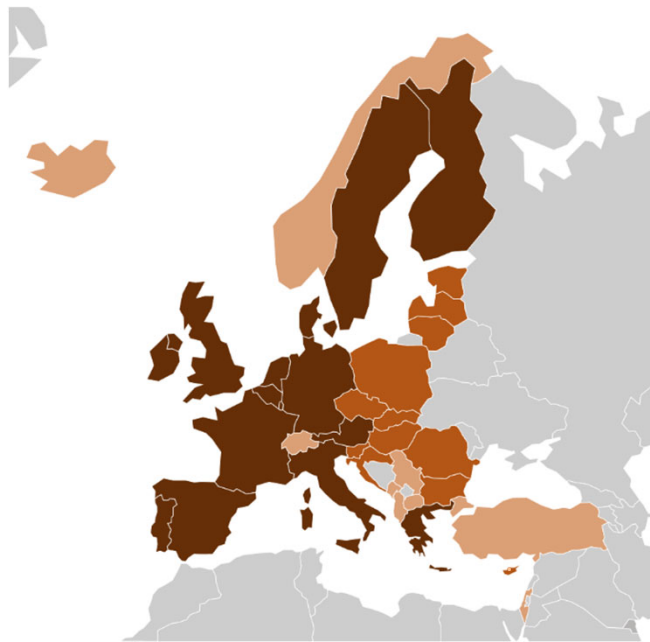


Figure 3: ■ = AC, ■ = EU-13, ■ = EU-15

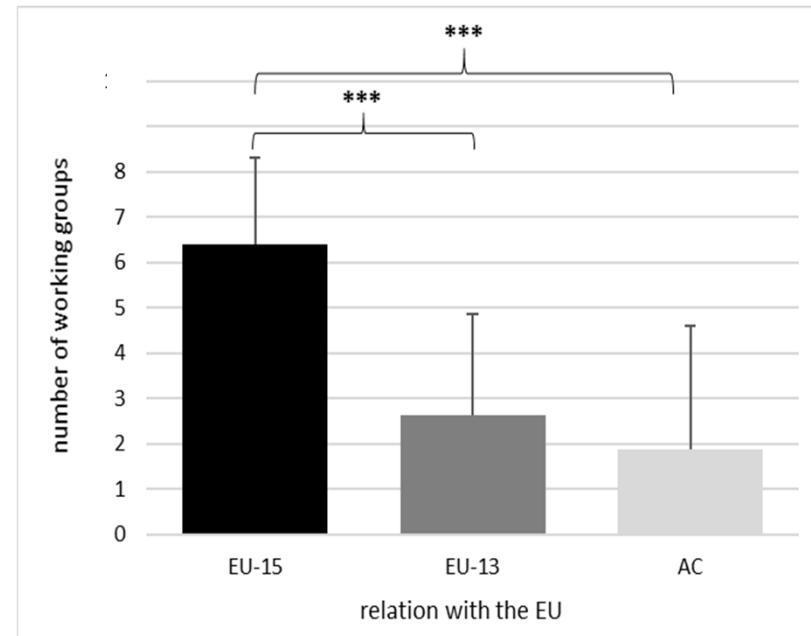


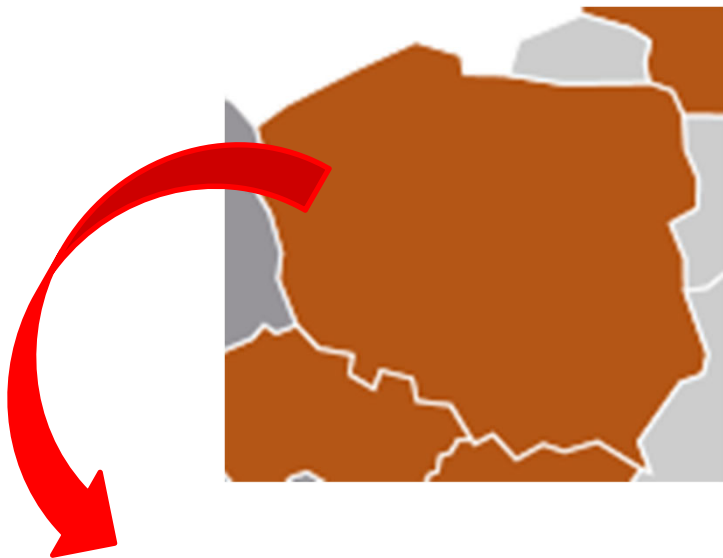
Figure 4: Average working group coverage of SCAR countries in 2016 grouped by relation with the EU. ***p<0.0001.

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Key findings

Country representation in 2016 – relation to the EU:

- EU-13 and AC countries are underrepresented in the WGs (and SG). They also join less WGs than EU-15 countries.



2016: PL (EU-13) participates in 4 of 8 WG's
2018: PL (EU-13) participates in 5/6 of 8 WG's
PL participation on SCAR average and higher than EU-13 participation

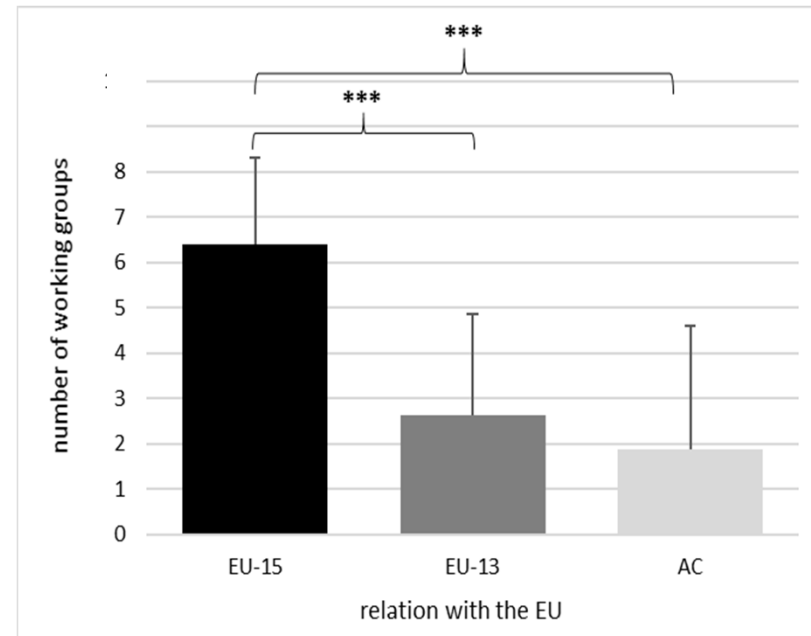


Figure 4: Average working group coverage of SCAR countries in 2016 grouped by relation with the EU. *** $p < 0.0001$.

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Key findings

Country representation in 2016 – OECD regions

- EE, SE and NON-E regions are underrepresented in the WGs (and SG)

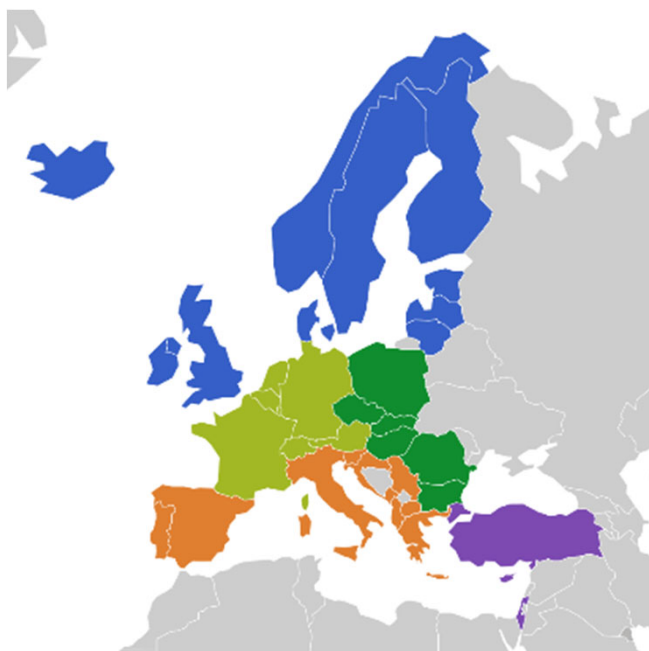


Figure 6: ■ = NE, ■ = EE, ■ = WE, ■ = SE, ■ = NON-E

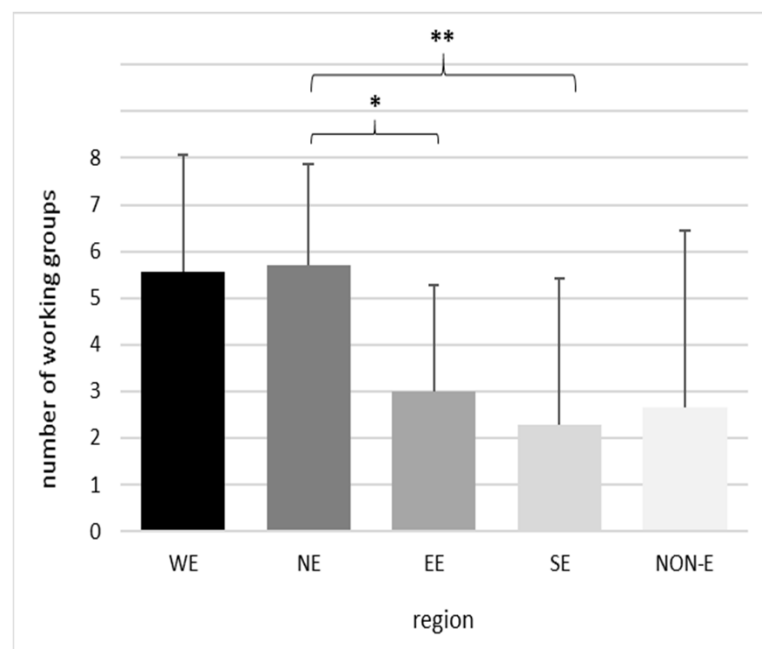


Figure 7: Average working group coverage of SCAR countries in 2016 per region. * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$.

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Key findings

Country representation in 2016 – OECD regions

- EE, SE and NON-E regions are underrepresented in the WGs (and SG)

	2016	2018
Hungary	7	7
Poland	4	5 (6)
Slowakia	5	4 (5)
Romenia	2	2
Czech Republic	1	2 (4)
Bulgaria	1	1 (2)

**PL participation on SCAR average,
and higher than EE average**
EE: 'early adapters' and followers?

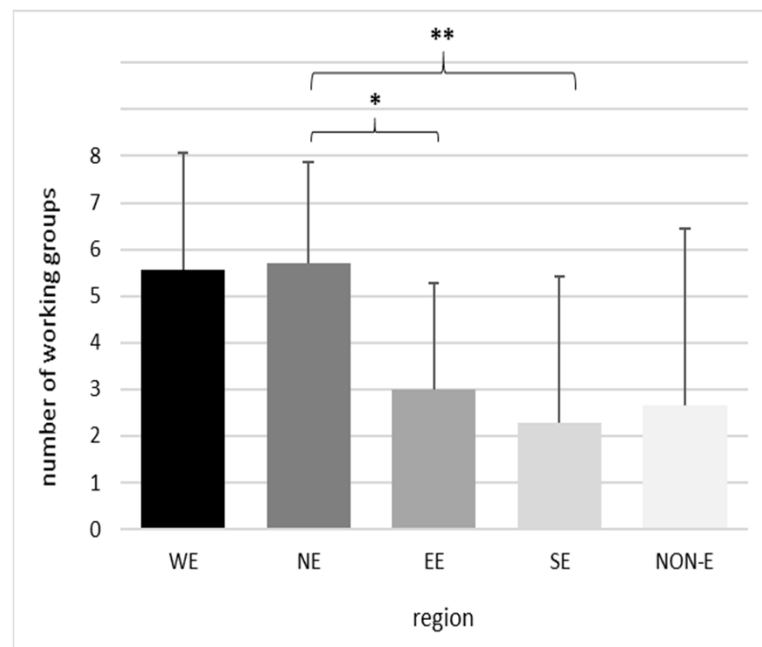


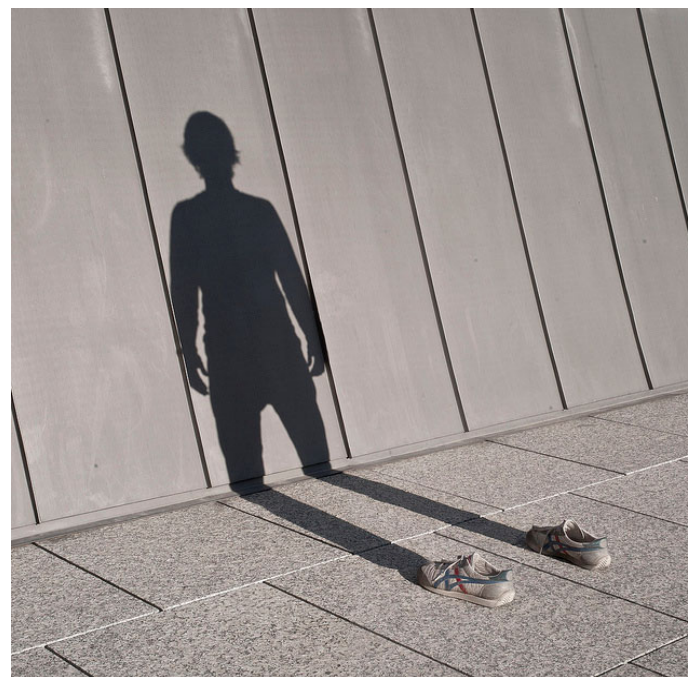
Figure 7: Average working group coverage of SCAR countries in 2016 per region. * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$.

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Key findings

Country representation (2016)

- Proportion of EU-15 in WG's is higher than to be expected from proportion in SCAR
- **Average attendance** of EU-15 at meetings is higher than EU-13 or AC
- Active versus passive participation



Artwork © PoL Úbeda Hervàs

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Key findings

Organisations, domain, roles

SCAR Plenary 2016	
In EU-15 countries almost all Plenary officials are from Ministries or affiliated bodies (93%)	
In EU-13 countries and AC this is about half (EU-13: 44%; AC: 50%)	PL ministry
Plenary officials from / affiliated with Ministries are in 83% from the Ministry that oversees Agriculture	PL also
Working groups 2016	
About 60% of the participants in WGs has a role as policy maker, almost 10% as funder. Experts make up the remaining 30% (<i>Stakeholders counted as observers</i>)	
Policy makers in WGs mostly are from the Ministry that oversees Agriculture ; few from other Ministries (Science, Health, Fisheries)	
Strategic WGs have a slightly smaller share of policy and funder roles (65.3%) compared to Collaborative WGs (79.2%)	

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Main conclusions

- Country participation in SCAR differs a lot: both when comparing regions, also when comparing EU-15, EU-13 and AC countries;
- There is underrepresentation of EU-13 and AC countries, and SE and EE regions;
- The Ministry that oversees Agriculture is dominant in SCAR; EC participation in SCAR is mostly limited to DG RTD and DG AGRI;
- In general the broader bioeconomy is perceived as being covered fairly well by SCAR working groups.

Representation and in SCAR

Key messages

SCAR offers a unique and highly valued platform for exchange, discussion, best practices and learning between states, and between states and the European Commission

SCAR is a platform where this open exchange builds trust between partners and thus directly contributes to 'making Europe work'

Participating in SCAR is not only beneficial at the policy level, but also a way to stimulate European research cooperation

BUT: representation and inclusion pose tangible and intangible challenges that need to be addressed

Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Barriers for participation

- Resources restraints: time, money and human resources;
- Familiarity with the EU, national priorities, internal organisation;
- Familiarity with SCAR, expectation management



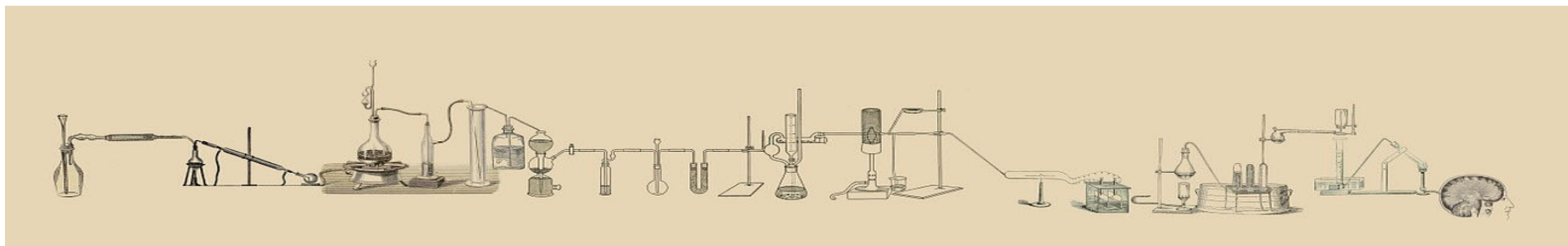
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Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Recommendations for addressing representation and inclusion challenges

Resources restraints: time, money and human resources

- Compensation mechanisms for travel and sustenance costs
- The use of telecommunication tools for interactive meetings
- Incidence and location of meetings

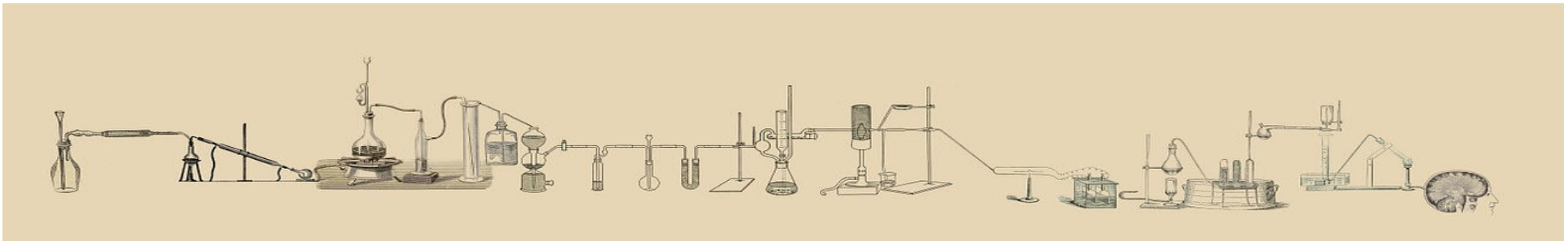


Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Recommendations for addressing representation and inclusion challenges

Familiarity with the EU, national priorities, internal organisation

- Openness on costs and value of transnational cooperation for the (sub-)national level
- **Improvement of coordination at the national level**
- Strengthening working groups and enabling them to valorise on gained knowledge
- Open up results / products by well-handled dissemination in national languages

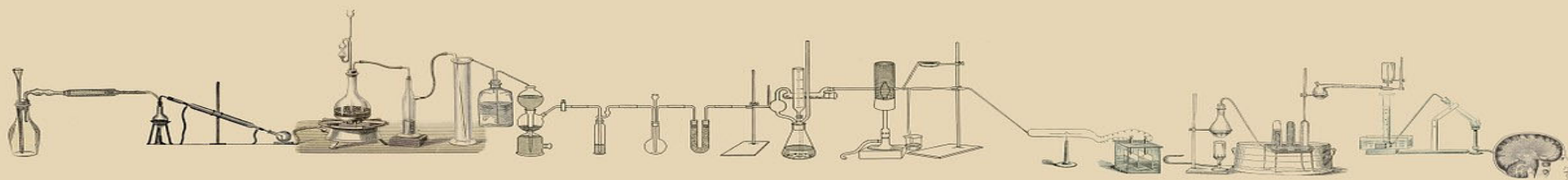


Representation and inclusion in SCAR

Recommendations for addressing representation and inclusion challenges

Familiarity with SCAR, expectation management

- Raise awareness and visibility of (the impact) of SCAR
- Create a learning environment for newcomers in SCAR



THANK YOU!

Questions?

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