



Sharing experience to assess the Strengthened HRS4R
Advanced Assessors' Networking Session
Brussels, 23&24/1/2018

What is expected from a site visit? What to look for?
Isabelle Halleux, University of Liege

Session's report

The participants were divided into 6 groups. They were submitted about 40 keywords to be discussed and prioritised in order to answer 3 questions related to site visits and to identify priorities

- What has to be assessed (as assessors)?
- What has to be discussed (as assessors)?
- What has to be prepared (as institution)?

1. What has to be assessed?

Group 1:

- Publication (everything has to be published on the website)
- Evidence (of ambition, confidence, commitment, quality, implementation process)
- Involvement (incl. achievements, involvement of the stakeholders, ...)

Group 2:

- "Performance" (progress, implementation, achievement)
- Coherence (achievements and evidence)
- "Coverage" (openness, involvement, dissemination)

2. What has to be discussed?

Group 3:

- Benefits (from actions, incl. impact)
- Involvement (of the people in the process)
- Coherence (incl. institutional embedment)

Group 4:

- Benefits
- Involvement
- Objectives (incl. OTM-R)



3. What has to be prepared by the institution?

Group 5

- Progress (docs, commitment, gap analysis, agenda, evidence reports, OTM-R checklist/policy)
- Meeting (with the stakeholders, with the assessors)
- Evidence

Group 6:

- Easy to prepare: timing, involvement, policy
- Difficult to prepare: Gender, tracking, OTM-R

4. Comments:

- Evidence has not to be considered as a demonstration of ambition, confidence in the process, commitment and quality (=> performance)
- The narrative in the templates is the key for understanding the implementation process
- We have to be confident in the ability of the institution to address properly the process. Request only for relevant information
- It is very important to set the tone of the assessment from the very beginning : assessors as “critical friends”
- Experience from assessment in 2014:
 - o Define a team leader + person of contact for the site visit
 - o The agenda has to be structured and negotiated
 - o Language problems can occur: bad/no English, need for translation, definitions
 - o Needs for freedom of speech in focus groups (stakeholders)
 - o Needs for “assessors’ breaks” and “private discussions”
 - o Focus on the past, the present, the future



