

1 April 19 – 31 March 2020 Task Force Report - Research management Task Force

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Meetings 1 Apr 19 – 31 March 20 (dates and locations & any virtual meetings)

- 1) 10 April 2019 Skype meeting
- 2) 3 May 2019 Skype meeting
- 3) 28-30 May 2019 [5th annual workshop for research managers and administrators](#)
- 4) 31 May 2019 TF Meeting (Bratislava, Slovakia)
- 5) 7 July 2019 Skype meeting
- 6) 19 September 2019 Skype meeting
- 7) 20-21 November 2019 TF Meeting (Ljubljana, Slovakia)
- 8) January-February 2020 E-mails communication + SharePoint use*

*shared files for [6th annual workshop for research managers and administrators](#) preparation

Narrative report of activity

During the 2019-20 period the Research Management Task Force (RMTF) team have had to contend with a significant changes in its membership. Four of the six members have changed - Martina Chýlková and Roman Badík changed their institutions and their new institutions were not part of the Utrecht Network (UN); Angie Mifsud is on maternity leave, Zuzana Lisonova terminated her membership due to her involvement on a major project at her home university. However, the RMTF has been able to manage this situation through the recruitment of new high quality members.

The main activity of the RMTF is the annual workshop. The 5th annual workshop for research managers and administrators was hosted by Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia on 28th–30th May 2019. The workshop successfully pursued the tradition of the previous events in Utrecht (2015), Hull (2016), Brno (2017), and Malta (2018) for providing a supportive forum for developing networks and opportunities to share best practice in research management.

Research project managers and research support officers from 14 institutions around Europe (UUN members) and representatives from 4 regional institutions and research organizations contributed to the event (Slovak Organization for Research and Development activities; Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information; Slovak University of Technology; Slovak Academy of Sciences) – in total 38 participants (35 + 3 invited speakers) participated in various networking activities to exchange their knowledge and expertise.

The programme of the 2019 workshop included the cross-cutting themes: preparation for the new Framework Programme for Research & Innovation Horizon Europe (2021-2027), synergies of EU funding programmes and national schemes, and an update on Brexit and the possible impact on future research collaborations with UK institutions.

A specific session focused on the introduction of two tools for developing project proposals and building networks by Impacter and Crowdhelix Network/CrowdHelix Platform.

Attendees reported positively on the friendly and supportive atmosphere of the workshops which aided in the learning and sharing of best practise. This was supported by a well organised event hosted by Comenius University.

After evaluating the workshop, the RMTF team fully focused on the preparation of the next event, [6th annual workshop for research managers and administrators](#), the 2020 workshop will be held in Ljubljana (Slovenia) at the University of Ljubljana, on 31st March – 2nd April 2020.

Financial report (JAN 2020)

- organization of the 5th workshop (Bratislava, Slovakia, May 2019) 2 250,50 EUR

BUDGET € 3.000,00

SPENT € 957,05

RESIDUAL € 2.042,95

1 Apr 19 – 31 March 20 activities mapped against the Strategic Plan

Goals from the Strategic Plan (FORCES)	Task Force Activities/Achievements 1 Apr 19 – 31 March 20
Foster internationalisation of education	Continued engagement with UN membership to invite new participation and engagement with the RMTF and attendance at the annual workshop. Workshop session on – identifying and understanding the differing barriers to successful research management and support experienced in different national environments (important to understand during the preparation of the international grants)
Open up to new forms of cooperation	Pilot use of the SharePoint (platform for sharing of the files, more effective collaboration during the preparation of the documents)
Respond actively to European HE policies	Sharing experiences – participation in EC campaigns (Orientations towards the first Strategic Plan for Horizon Europe, HORIZON EUROPE CO-DESIGN – IMPLEMENTATION).
Collaborate effectively within the Network	Continued use of communication tools to aid effective collaboration amongst the RMTF team.
Enhance internationalisation processes in member institutions	Annual workshop provides opportunity for attendees from across the UN to network and learn from experienced research managers and support staff from institutes across the EU.
Strengthen the profile and global outlook of the Network	The development of the RMTF and the training and networking opportunity it affords its members and those attending its annual workshop contributes to the global profile and outlook of the UN.