



Improving Co-operation between NGO's. Universities and Science Shops

NEWSLETTER 3

February 2004

Contact

Michael Strähle
Wissenschaftsladen Wien - Science Shop
Vienna
Währinger Str. 59, A-1090 Vienna, Austria
T (43-1) 4012128, F (43-1) 4012165
wilawien@adis.at

Content

1. Draft Final Report available for download. Your comments are welcome!
2. Scientometric Report available for download
3. Further reports available for download soon

-
4. On INTERACTS
 5. On Science Shops

INTERACTS is funded by the European Commission, DG 12

Progress Bar



Draft Final Report available for download. Your comments are welcome!

The INTERACTS Draft Final Report is available for download at

<http://members.chello.at/wilawien/INTERACTS/reports.html>.

The final report brings together the results from the State-of-the-Art Report, the Case Studies Reports and the Workshop Reports to identify potentials and barriers of the research and development system to enable effective and sustainable co-operation and presents policy recommendations and strategies for improving conditions for future co-operations. The report consists of two parts, with about 270 pages altogether.

Your comments on the draft are highly welcome!

We expect the INTERACTS Final Report to be available for download in three to four months

Scientometric Report available for download

There is another report available for download from at

<http://members.chello.at/wilawien/INTERACTS/reports.html>.

The scientometric research by the Amsterdam School of Communications Research addressed the external visibility of Science Shop work in terms of publications, institutional development, and curriculum development and of the communication of the results in the press, the popular and grey literature, and other means of communication insofar as retrievable on distance through the WWW by using search engines.

Further reports available for download soon

Until the end of February, resp. the beginning of March the following deliverables of the INTERACTS project will be available for download:

- Seven reports on participatory workshops in each of the partner countries. The workshops allowed discussion of future expectations and perspectives for co-operation with NGO representatives, researchers and policy makers,
- a Toolkit for organising such participatory workshops, and
- a database of common themes from research.

On INTERACTS

INTERACTS is a pioneer cross-national study by organisations and institutions from seven different countries collaborating across disciplines to identify necessary changes in structures and routines in the RTD system for improving the future interaction between NGO's, researchers, and intermediaries like science shops. Bringing together the results from different countries will allow a broader picture to emerge concerning past experience with impact of science shops, future expectations and policy relevance. Thereby, INTERACTS contributes to the strengthening of the interaction between research institutions and society and gives more in-depth understanding of processes and effects of knowledge production.

<http://members.chello.at/wilawien/interacts/main.html>

On Science Shops

Science shops provide independent, participatory research support to NGO's on a demand driven and affordable basis. Thereby, science shops promote and support public access to, and public influence on, science, research and technology.

Most science shops are university-based, while others are independent research institutes. Most of them – university- and non-university-based ones alike – act as intermediaries between universities and NGO's and mostly engage students for doing research, thus enhancing the students' skills in putting science to practical use. Others are independent research institutes where professional researchers do all research work.

According to estimates about 70 science shops exist in Europe alone. Most of them are located in the Netherlands, from where the idea of setting up science shops spread to Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Luxemburg, Romania, and the United Kingdom since the 1970's. In their respective countries, science shops are known under different names such as "Wetenschapswinkels" (The Netherlands) and "Wissenschaftsläden" (Austria, Germany). Science shops also exist in the USA – where they are called Community-Based Research Centers -, Malaysia, South Africa and South Korea.