



Integrated EST framework (EST-Frame)

*An FP7, Science in Society, Collaborative Project,
Small or medium-scale focused research project.*

Invitation to workshop:

Assessing emerging science and technologies: learning from experience

Copenhagen, April 16 – 17 2013

Host: The Danish Board of Technology, under the auspices of the EST-Frame project

Emerging science and technologies are assessed in various ways; e.g. in risk assessments, ethical assessments, technology assessments, foresights and economic assessments. Policies related to such technologies may also be subject to impact assessments. All assessment involve ‘assembling, summarizing, organizing, interpreting, and possibly reconciling pieces of existing knowledge ‘ (Parson 1995). The challenge, however, is often that there are gaps and uncertainties in the knowledge base and scientific and public controversies with regard to the consequences of the technologies. Integrated assessment of emerging science and technologies therefore seem to involve interdisciplinary communication, sensitivity to situation descriptions and deliberate choice of assessment methods.

The European EST-Frame project on integrated assessment of emerging science and technologies (www.estframe.net) has revealed that there is a need for interaction and learning across the assessment practices with regard to common challenges and concerns. This workshop is therefore targeted towards practitioners in these assessment domains, as well as researchers and other stakeholders interested in assessment of emerging science and technologies. The workshop will be a forum for:

- reflection on professional practices, discussing shared challenges related to emerging technologies.
- dialogue, increased understanding and learning across advisory practices
- discussing in what respects assessments of emerging science and technologies can be better integrated

Findings from EST-Frame will be presented in the workshop and the discussions in the workshop will inform the output of the project. The discussions will focus on learning from experience and particularities of the assessments discussed will not be reported.

The workshop is free of charge. The EST-Frame project will cover hotel rooms from April 16th to the 17th, as well as the two lunches and a dinner on the 16th.

As the maximum number of participants is limited, we encourage you to respond quickly! Please register to Rasmus Øjvind Nielsen, rn@tekno.dk. He can also be reached on + 45 33 32 05 03.



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Tentative programme:

April 16th - Experiences

12.00 – 13.00: Lunch

13.00 – 14.00: Welcome and round around the table.

14.00 – 15.00: Introduction to EST-Frame, the findings in the project, our concepts of integration and dimensions for integrated assessment

15.00 – 15.30: Coffee

15.30 – 16.30: First group session (heterogeneous groups): All group members identify 1-2 cases they believe are examples of weakly integrated assessments:

a) For assessment practitioners: from their own assessment practice

b) For those not directly involved in assessment: problematic assessments they are aware of
NB! We are in particular interested in challenges related to achieving integration of concerns, including challenges related to communication between disciplines and between advisory or assessment domains

Each group chooses 1-2 cases and analyse the challenges on the following dimensions: communication, contextual sensitivity and method choice.

16.30 – 17.30: Second group session (new group compositions, still heterogeneous): All in the groups identify 1-2 examples of good assessments, and analyse what makes these assessments successful based on the three dimensions from the first session.

17.30 – 18.30: Plenary presentation from the groups

19.00: Dinner

April 17th - Learning

09.00 – 10.30: Third group session (back to the groups from the first group session): Applying the lessons from the good examples to the cases identified in the first group session: How could similar assessments be improved in the future?

10.30 – 11.00: Coffee and tea, refreshments

11.00 – 12.00: Presentation from the third group session

12.00 – 12.45: Final session: Feedback on the EST-Frame approach: Do the three dimensions capture the key issues for integrated assessments of emerging science and technologies? How can an integrated framework assist in your professional practice? How can learning be institutionalised?

12.45 – 13.00: Evaluation and closure of the workshop

13.00 – 14.00: Lunch