



# BETTER Life

## Recapitulation and Outlook on the 1st day of the Spring School

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## 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Spring School – presenters

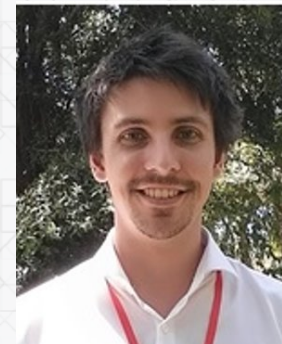
**Dr. eng. Emilia Binchiciu**

Non-conventional  
Technologies, Material Science and  
Circular Economy, Networking



**Professor Gordana Racic**

Molecular Biology,  
Environmental Awareness,  
Environmental Education, and  
International Relations



**Arjan de Groot**

Ecosystem Services  
Specialist



**Dr. Lina Landinez and Adekola Ashonibare**

CEO, ACEEU  
engagement and entrepreneurship in Higher  
Education



**Plenary speakers from  
different research  
backgrounds – dealing with  
SER**



**Aleksandra Ziemińska-  
Buczyńska**

microbiologist,  
science communicator

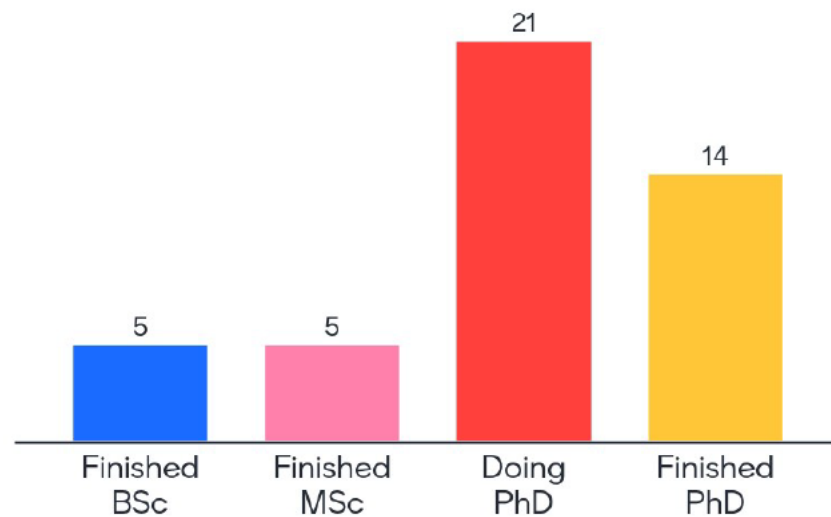


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1<sup>st</sup> day of the Spring School – audience

Research background	N of participants
Biology	12
Environmental Sciences	19
Social Sciences	5
Education	3
Business, Administration	2
Engineering	1
Chemistry	8
Physics	1
Economics	3
Other	13

**What is your study progress? (if applicable)**





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*Results from the short Mentimeter Survey*

Mentimeter

How much experience do you have with the topic of Socially Engaged Research?



45





# *What are your expectations from the Spring School about Socially Engaged Research (SER) (51responses)*

... something new

inspiration

latest trends, challenges and opportunities

new knowledge and skills

new ideas for research

new perspectives and innovative ways of research dissemination

first steps in a new world

**understand** the topic – what it is; understand different concepts

**practical skills – strategies, techniques**

how to apply it to your ongoing research

how to involve people to work together

how to create new connections

how to communicate with local community and with governmental institutions

how to create a research bringing positive contribution to society

networking

exchange of ideas

watch some examples

... not sure

... I am new to this, so I do not know what to expect



## Insights about what we learned during the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Spring School

Global challenges – to be addressed properly need **collaborative** and **inter- & trans-disciplinary** research  
SER- research trying to make a real difference and effectively improving life of society  
- address real life problems - relevant for different research disciplines

different disciplines + potential different stakeholders (conflicting or symbiotic opinions)

motivating

exciting

- but in order to be applied properly, requires specific training and practical skills

new approaches

new capabilities and skills

“universal” framework or guidelines – are missing  
SER – „platform“ where different research disciplines meet and can contribute to development of the topic  
(conceptualization, trainings, approaches and tools development, etc.)



## Insights about what we learned during the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Spring School

- relatively new research approach
- involving different concepts – often used/ interpreted differently
- strategic vision towards SER – waiting to be developed
  
- Only 1/3 of researchers have been currently involved in SER (collaborate with non-academic sectors)
  
- SER – research project level
  - knowledge co-construction and innovation
  - requires – interdisc and transdiscipl – non academic actors involvement  
(quadruple helix stakeholders – researchers, public, policymakers, practitioners)
  - stakeholders can be involved in different stages of the project (depending on project goals)  
e.g. citizen science when non-professional participants contribute to data collection; co-construction knowledge; lifelong learning activities etc.
  - success – contribution to solving problems
  
- SER can also bring together science and art in different stages of research





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## Insights about what we learned during the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Spring School

real problems,  
society needs

active  
involvement

ethics

mutual  
benefits

SER keywords

trust

communication

transparency

challenges

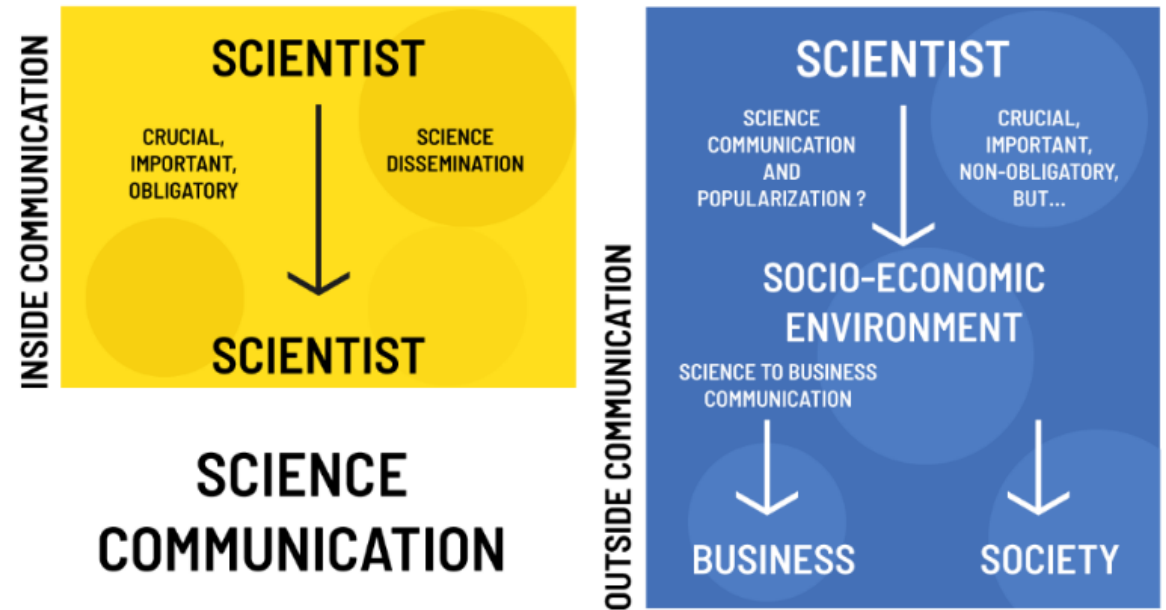


# Insights about what we learned during the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Spring School

**science communication**  
- is important

## WHAT IS SCIENCE COMMUNICATION AND HOW TO START PERFORM IT EFFECTIVELY?

- Why and to whom I want to speak of "my science"?
- Which part of "my science" is important to the recipient?
- How to tell about "my science" interestingly? (clear and to the point, form, language, time, preparation!.)
- Importance of take home message





# Insights about what we learned during the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Spring School

- overview of the **Better Life project** – provide opportunities for learning about SER

different types of TOOLKITS developed for SER within the BETTER life project

TRAININGS - events that foster SER capabilities – project training programs – Bootcamps, Spring and Summer School, ThinkTanks, etc.

advance the CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



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Spring School Day 2 – April 10<sup>th</sup>

**INTERACTIVE SESSIONS**

- Reverse Methodology: up to 15-20 participants, lasts 120 minutes, session cannot be changed
- Bar Camp: up to 15 participants, offered twice, a second session can be attended
- Scientific Atelier: up to 15 participants, offered twice, a second session can be attended
- Ecosystem Disservices: up to 15-20 participants
- Board Game: 5 participants per game, lasts 120 minutes, session cannot be changed, 3 games are offered, so in all 15 participants