

RM ROADMAP

Consensus Document for Country Community Cyprus

Co-Creation Session 1: Understanding the landscape: National Networks and Associations

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RM ROADMAP

“Creating Framework Conditions for Research Management to Strengthen the European Research Area”

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landscape: National Networks and
Associations**

Co-Creation Session 1

Understanding the landscape: National Networks and Associations

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1. Introduction

This is an important moment for the research management (RM) community in Europe. The European Commission (EC) and countries across Europe want to better understand the current research management landscape to further strengthen the European Research Area (ERA).

Research management includes a broad range of professionals supporting researchers to achieve excellence in research. For the purpose of this co-creation exercise, Research Managers (RMs) are to be considered as broad as possible including: research policy advisers, research managers, financial support staff, data stewards, research infrastructure operators, knowledge transfer officers, business developers, knowledge brokers, innovation managers, etc. For simplicity, we use the term research management but this exercise covers also other terms such as research support, research management and administration, professionals at the interface of science and other terms which are used as the norm in the national landscapes across Europe.

The RM Roadmap Knowledge and Community Platform (KCP) brings research managers together to shape the future of the profession and support the strengthening of an inclusive research management community in Europe. The KCP is a place where research managers share their views and introduce issues for discussion in a solution-focused endeavour. RM Roadmap Ambassadors lead the discussions for each country on the Knowledge and Community Platform, supported by national and regional RM networks.

This co-creation exercise is the biggest collaboration between RM networks ever to take place in Europe. With a focus on learning insights from RMs, the co-creation exercise seeks to establish a robust framework that can support professional growth and collaboration across the EU and associated countries.

By 2023, 40 country communities have been established within the RM Roadmap Ambassador Network. The RM Roadmap project will use the outcomes from this co-creation exercise to make a roadmap for the future of research management in Europe and to build and exchange solid knowledge on career framework opportunities, upskilling and networking for research managers. RM Roadmap will ultimately build a value proposition for policy makers and institutional leaders who want to strengthen and modernise their research support departments.

This **consensus document for Country Community Cyprus** contains the outcomes of the **First Co-Creation Session - Understanding the landscape: National Networks and Associations**.

A short summary of the main outcomes from the co-creation exercise is included in section 2. More information about the topic of RM National Networks and Associations is detailed in section 3. Recommendations about best practices, challenges and lessons learnt about (formal or informal) national networks, associations, communities are provided in section 4.

For more information about the RM Roadmap initiative, the reader can consult the following website: www.rmroadmap.eu

2. Summary of Co-Creation Session 1

The first Co-Creation Session on the *Understanding the Landscape: National Networks and Associations in Cyprus* launched the 2nd of October 2023 and lasted 2 weeks and 22 members joined as contributors the Cyprus group on the RM Roadmap platform of EARMA. The members are mainly research managers and administrators based in Cyprus, representing Universities, Research Organisations, Centers of Excellence and R&D Companies. There were 4 comments under the first co-creation session and their opinion and results are represented to this consensus document.

3. Discussion Outcomes of Co-Creation Session 1

This consensus document for Country Community Cyprus contains the outcomes of the **First Co-Creation Session - Understanding the landscape: National Networks and Associations**.

1. **If you have a national network (formal or informal), how did it help you? If you don't, please say how you have built your (internal) network and are using it.**
 - Currently, there is no any formal national network(s) for Research Managers and Administrators (RMAs) in Cyprus.
 - An informal network exists through the [European Office of Cyprus](https://eoc.org.cy/)¹, in which most research organisations and universities are members.
 - The National Contact Point for Research and Innovation Funding Programmes, [Cyprus Research and Innovation Foundation](https://www.research.org.cy/en/)², and the [Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy](https://www.dmr.gov.cy/dmr/research.nsf/home_en/home_en?opendocument)³ also organise some relevant networking events for RMAs, occasionally.
 - Due to the fact that Cyprus is a small country and the RMAs know each other, there is contact and a kind of networking between them, but not at a structured level.
 - There is lack of representation of RMAs in private organisations and R&D companies.
2. **What challenges do RM networks and associations encounter in contributing to national and European R&I systems? If there are no networks, please elaborate if there have been networking initiatives and if not, please state why you think that is the case.**

RM networks face various challenges that can impact their effectiveness in contributing to national and European R&I systems such as:

 - Fragmentation and Coordination

¹ <https://eoc.org.cy/>

² <https://www.research.org.cy/en/>

³ https://www.dmr.gov.cy/dmr/research.nsf/home_en/home_en?opendocument



- Lack of Policy and Regulation Environment (especially at the National Level)
 - Talent attraction and Retention
 - Long-Term Sustainability
 - Lack of representation body to express a consolidated national voice for RMAs
 - Lack of experienced staff.
- 3. Please list all of the formal and informal networks and associations of research managers in your country and link to their websites or online groups. Skip if there are no networks your knowledge.**
None exist.
- 4. Please list and link to any policy documents and funding which mentions research management or the equivalent national name(s) for research management.**
None exist.

4. Recommendations

As mentioned above, there is not any formal network for Research Managers and Administrators (RMAs). RMA community in Cyprus needs support to set up initially an informal network, that involves logistic, implementation and financial support and a support to set up the framework of this informal network. It will also be beneficial if the RMA ecosystem in Cyprus is mapped, defined and recognized as such by the government i.e. [Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy](#)⁴. The European Office of Cyprus is willing to launch this informal network but it's important to have the necessary participation and contribution from the RMAs, the National Contact Points and the support from the governmental authorities.

5. References

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6. Acknowledgements

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⁴ https://www.dmr.gov.cy/dmr/research.nsf/home_en/home_en?opendocument



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