



Bringing science's stakeholders together: Past and Future of ESOF

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Overview

- The aims of EuroScience
- Bringing together stakeholders in science (and technology and innovation); some European activities
- ESOF is a platform for ‘meeting’, for discovery
- EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF) as an event
- ESOF2012 Dublin
- ESOF2014 Copenhagen
- The future meeting place



The aims of EuroScience

- EuroScience has been created in 1997 (modeled after AAAS) as grassroots organisation of scientists and other stakeholder in science, across disciplines, countries, public-private divide
- Built around:
 - Science is for benefit of society, for the people
 - As EU has it in its Horizon 2020 programme: Science with and in Society
 - Science is to be found in every facet of our lives: waking up till going to sleep, and even through sleeping
 - Being/becoming a scientist should be an important career, and those careers need recognition
 - Yet, science is not only measure of life
 - And science must recognise limits to certainty, up for being superseded by more accurate forms of knowledge, need to engage in open public debates about this.
 - Having said that, the available science is the best basis for policy

Some key activities EuroScience

- ESOF: EuroScience Open Forum
- EuroScientist,
- EU science policy debates, e.g. on new EU Framework Programmes,
- Contributing to or coordinating European sponsored projects in areas central to our mission, such as one on Responsible Research and Innovation, or (submitted) on Research Integrity, or on Science, Technology and Innovation for the European Parliament (STOA)
- Contributing to new European frameworks, e.g. European Charter and Code for Researchers European Young Researchers Platform, etc)
- Platform for informal and formal movements of national and regional groups of scientists, currently around austerity programmes in esp. Southern European countries

Bringing together stakeholders in STI: European actions

- Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) overarching theme, bit of a mixed bag, so let's focus on a few (sub) themes:
- Citizen engagement
 - “Researchers should ensure that their research activities are made known to society at large in such a way that they can be understood by non-specialists, thereby improving the public's understanding of science. Direct engagement with the public will help researchers to better understand public interest in priorities for science and technology and also the public's concerns.”*
(From EU Charter for Researchers)
 - Communication
 - Priorities
 - Involvement: citizen's science
- Technology assessment (health, GM, nuclear energy, climate change, robotics, ...)
- Open Access, especially to the public
 - They consult PubMed!
 - They contribute data
- European Institute of Technology and Innovation EIT: the mythical triangle (Triple Helix) of research, innovation and education (or research, industry and government?)
- Science Communication
 - One example Robbert Dijkgraaf (now director Institute of Advanced Studies Princeton). May 2012, prime time (6-7pm Dutch national public tv, 1 M spectators)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rrrg1CZsry8>

ESOF as platform for meeting, for discovery

- The EuroScience Open Forum is what the Forum was in Roman times: a place for meeting, for discussion, and we add for discovery
- Science meets
 - Young and experienced scientists across disciplines, countries, public-private divide
 - Policy, European, national, some global
 - Business
 - New generation of scientists: careers
 - Media
 - Citizens
 - Culture
- And benefits from and showcases the local flavour of the European City of Science of the year

EuroScience Open Forum

- **ESOF 201n implies Host City is European City of Science 201n**
- 4000 – 5000 participants
- 200 -300 journalists, plus 200 – 300 communication directors/experts/public information officers
- 150 – 200 sessions, 10-15 keynote/plenary speakers
- Several programmes in one
 - Science programme: learn about exciting science
 - Science and policy programme
 - Science -2- Business programme
 - Career programme
 - Science in the City programme (40,000 visitors in Copenhagen)
 - Science and Poetry, European Science TV and new media Festival
 - The interactive and virtual ESOF; streaming, social media, etc
 - Satellite events, e.g. annual meetings of Marie Curie Fellowship Association, European Industrial Research Managers Association, EIRMA,..)



ESOF2012 Dublin especially Science in the City

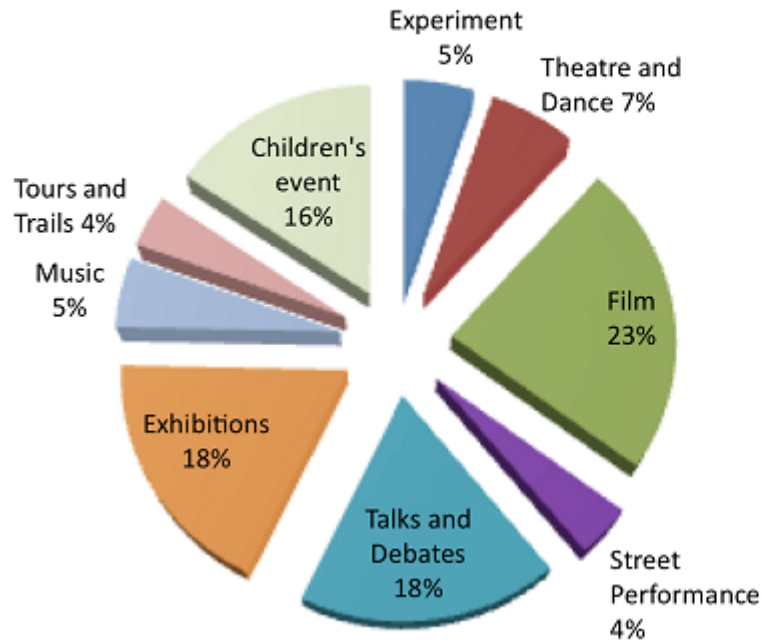
REPORT ON ESOF 2012

Euroscience Governing Board, Amsterdam, Nov 6, 2012
Patrick Cunningham

March 2012

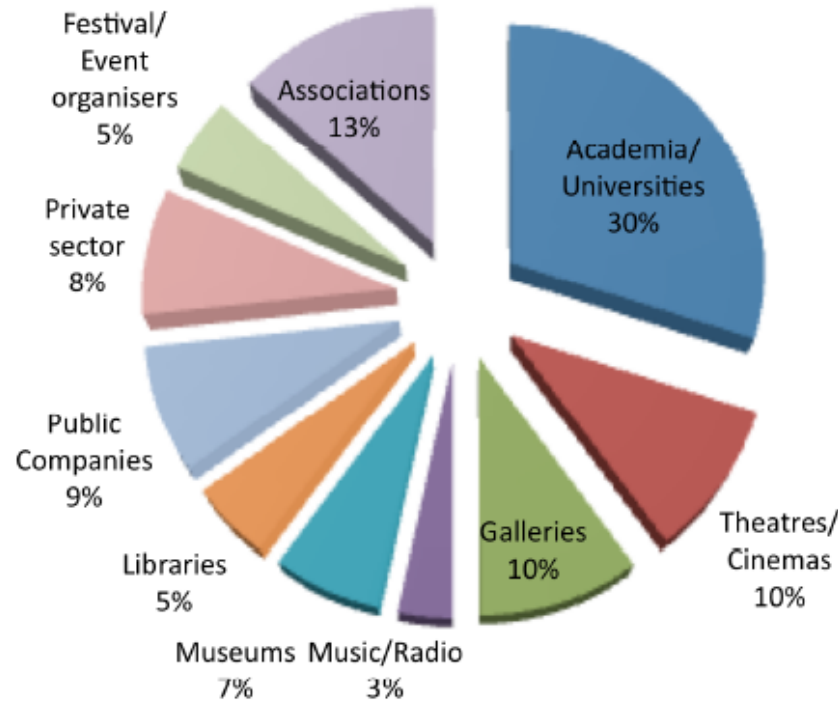


Science in the City Festival Themes



<i>Film</i>	23%	18
<i>Talks and Debates</i>	18%	14
<i>Exhibitions</i>	18%	14
<i>Children's event</i>	16%	12
<i>Theatre and Dance</i>	7%	5
<i>Experiment</i>	5%	4
<i>Music</i>	5%	4
<i>Street Performance</i>	4%	3
<i>Tours and Trails</i>	4%	3
Total	100%	77

Science in the City Festival Partners



<i>Academia/Universities</i>	30%
<i>Associations</i>	13%
<i>Theatres/Cinemas</i>	10%
<i>Galleries</i>	10%
<i>Public Companies</i>	9%
<i>Corporations</i>	8%
<i>Museums</i>	7%
<i>Libraries</i>	5%
<i>Festival/Events Org.</i>	5%
<i>Music/Radio</i>	3%
Total	100%



Dr. Craig Venter delivers Schroedinger lecture and meets Dt. James Watson

ESOF2014 Copenhagen

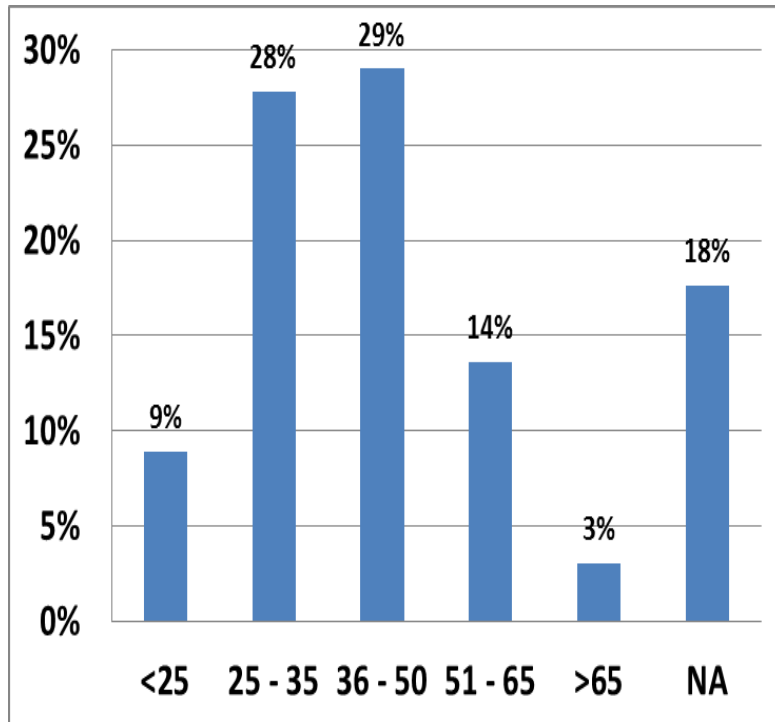
Science Building/Bridges



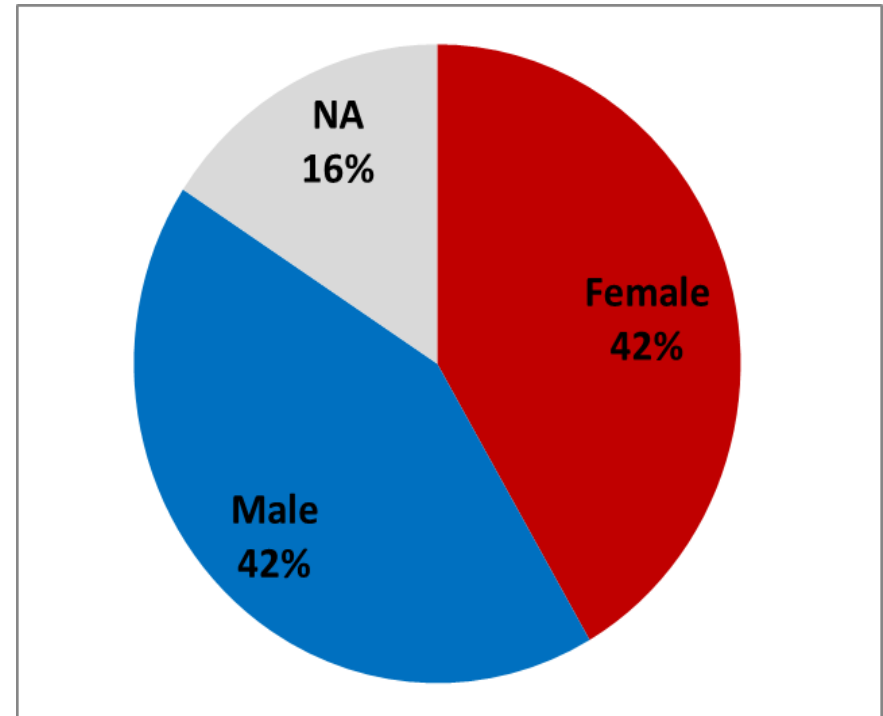
DELEGATES (4072) - AGE AND GENDER



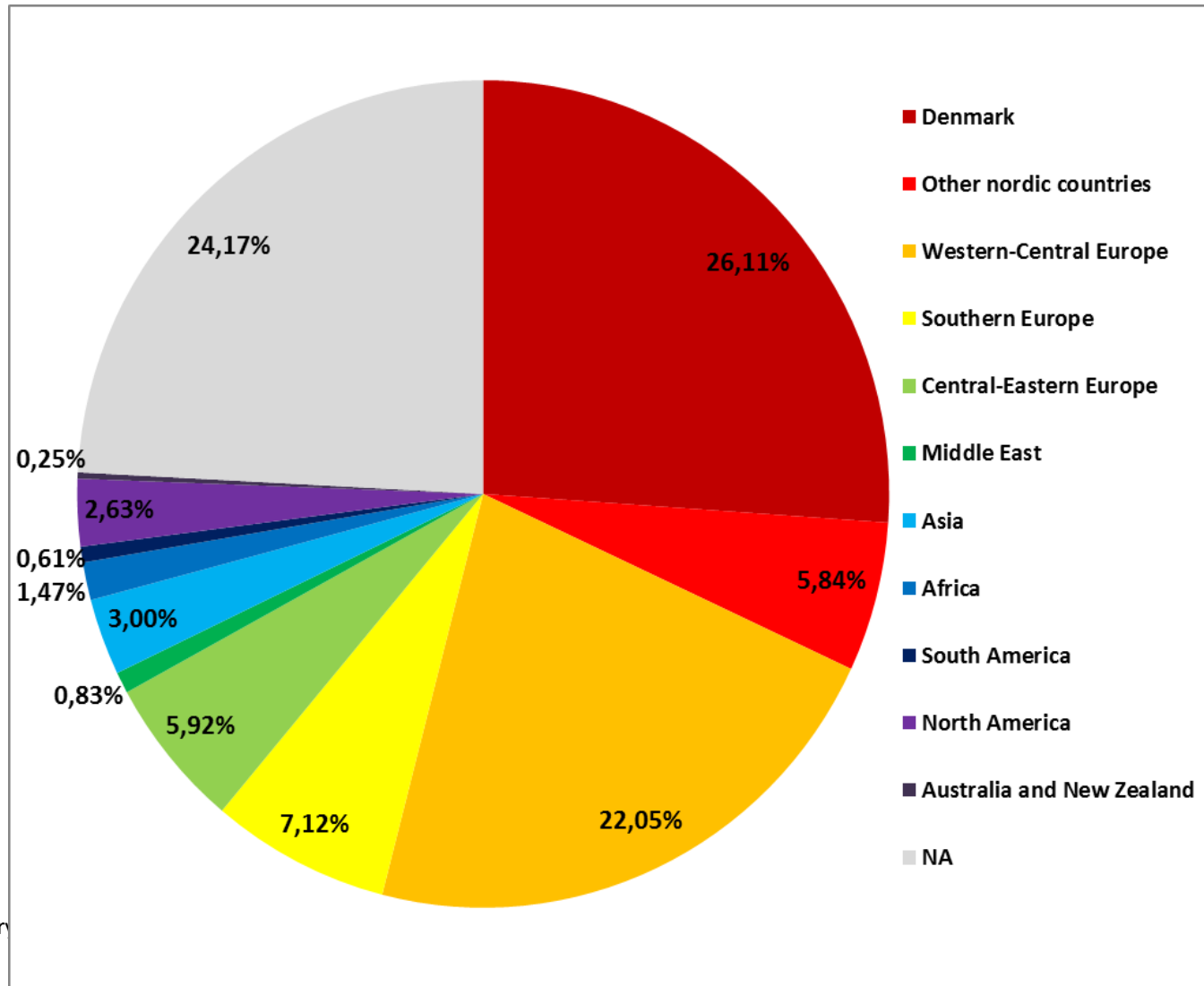
Age distribution



Gender distribution



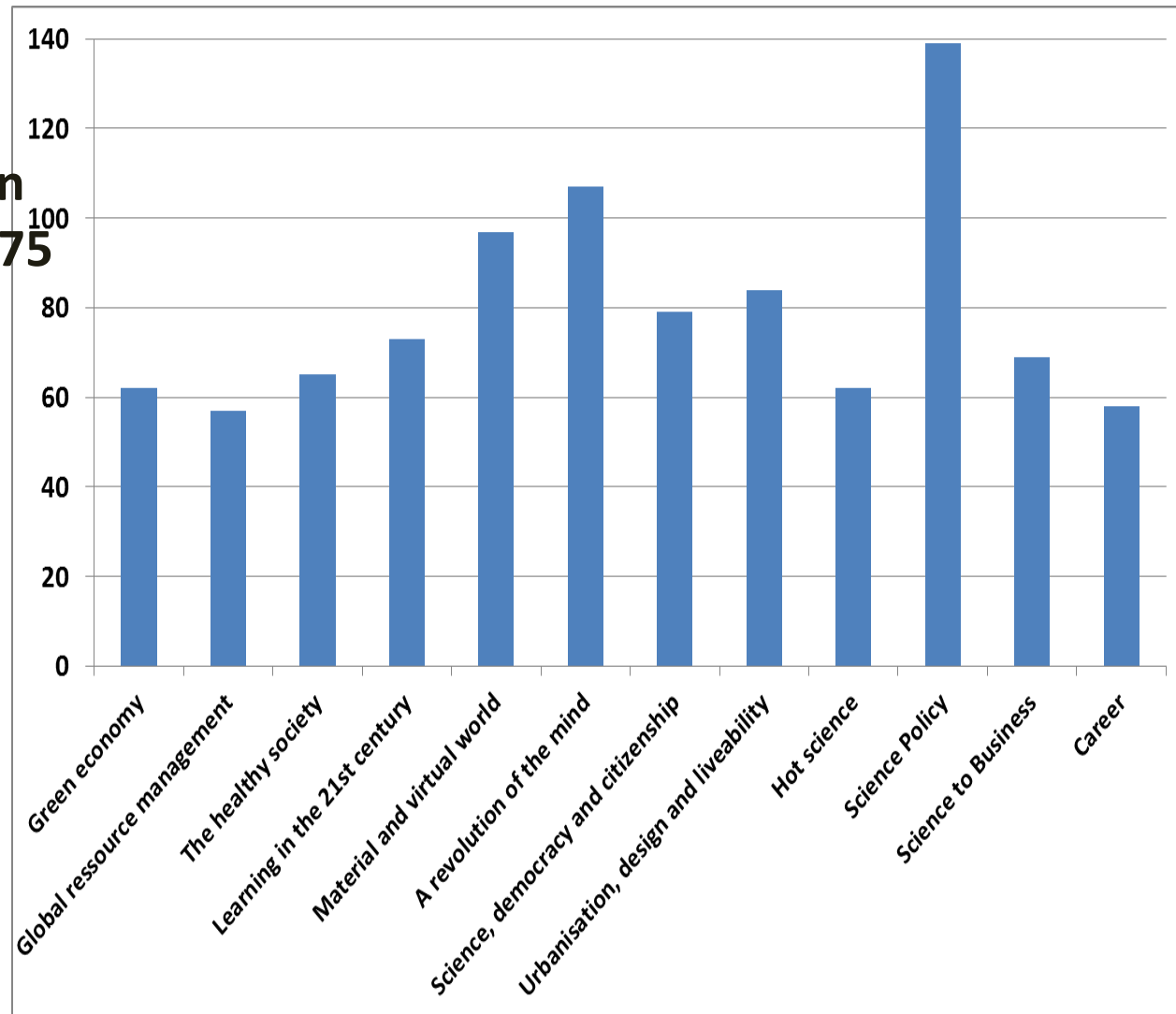
DELEGATES (87 nations) - NATIONALITY



Ministr

PROGRAMME – AVERAGE SESSION

Average session participation - 75





SCIENCE IN THE CITY - PARTICIPANTS

- Questionnaires - 319
- Females - 139 (44%)
- Males - 180 (56%)
- Age average - 34 years old
- Youngest 4 years old
- Oldest 74 years old
- High level of visitor satisfaction – 67%



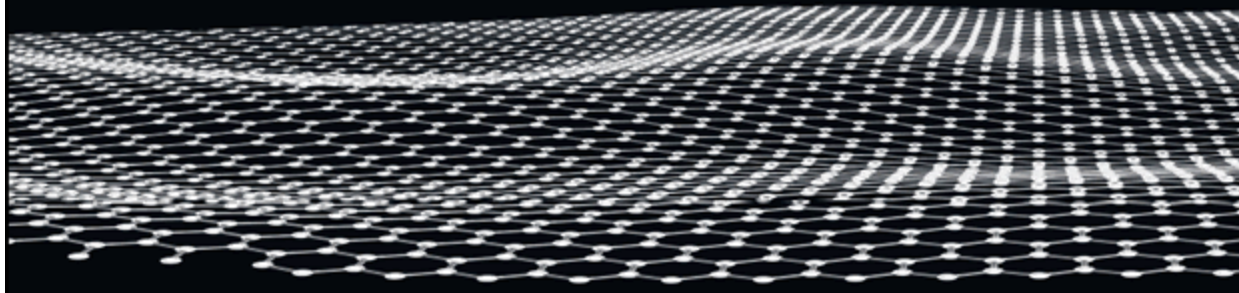




ESOF2016 Manchester

ESOF 2016 MANCHESTER

SCIENCE AS REVOLUTION
FROM COTTONOPOLIS TO GRAPHENE



Reflections on the future

- Should we include in ESOF a structured, well-prepared, full-day debate between scientists and informed citizens from all over Europe?
- Organise in ESOF an even more visible and prominent global session with our Liaison Group partners, now AAAS (USA), CAST (China), SBPC (Brazil), ISCA (India)?
- Beyond ESOF: can EuroScience as grassroots organisation take forward the debate on citizens' involvement throughout Europe, e.g. through Local Sections?