Session B5

Room: Brookfield, Thursday 9.30-12.15

Towards a Global TA- Possibilities and Challenges

Chairs: Miltos Ladikas, Michael Decker, Julia Hahn, Constanze Scherz

- Constanze Scherz & Miltos Ladikas, KIT-ITAS Karlsruhe, Germany
  - Towards a global TA – *National perspectives and aims of the session*
- Miao Liao, CASTED - Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development, China), via Skype
  - TA functions and institutionalization – *A Chinese perspective*
- Pankaj Sekhsaria at al., Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology), via Skype
  - TA and Visioning – The India story
- Benedikt Rosskamp, SPIRAL ULg & CRIDS UNamur, Belgium
  - The epistemic politics of TA institutionalization and international TA collaboration– *A cosmopolitan perspective*
- Julia Hahn &Miltos Ladikas, KIT-ITAS Karlsruhe, Germany
  - RRI in Industry – *Lessons learned for TA?*
- Denis Chaikovsky & Natalia Cherepanova, Technical University Tomsk, Russia
  - The application of TA in the Russian context
- Elena Seredkina (Perm) and Ilya Klabukov (Moscow), Russia
  - Partisan TA from a Russian perspective: the case of the NTI and Healthnet

TA is far from a European or U.S. affair. It has been introduced in a number of countries that represent new hotspots of S&T activity, yet can be very diverse in terms of policymaking settings. A reflection of TA or TA-like activities in different national setting is therefore needed in order to understand developments towards a global level as well as nationally applied versions of TA. Here, exchanging experiences, identifying similarities as well as differences is essential. The similarities in the issues that TA focuses on in different countries and the will to learn from the European experience is evident - also apparent is the need to adapt TA to the unique cultural and political parameters of each country. For example, the idea of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) as used in the European context may present useful insights for a global approach towards improving interactions between various stakeholders ranging from civil society to industry. Concerning its topics TA often investigates questions that are global in scope such as sustainability, climate change or societal challenges. Most technologies are also global in the sense that their development, production and regulation are no longer limited to national or binational boundaries. In this context a global level of assessment is needed, which also changes the process of TA itself. Thus, there is a need to reconsider the conceptual parameters that define TA and possibilities of a global TA framework. The session focuses on cultural and political differences as well as a common understanding of TA, even in seemingly very different contexts. The starting point is the assumption that a standardization of concepts and methods is possible. For this we look closer at experiences from around the world in order to shed light on differences as well as similarities in approaches to TA. The session aims at opening up discussions between established forms of European TA institutes and newer approaches from Russia, India, and China.

Final discussion: The required parameters for a Global TA