

PSF Mutual Learning Exercises (MLEs)



A PSF MLE promotes **mutual learning between national R&I policymakers** and the identification of good practices in relation to the design and implementations of **national R&I policies** on a specific topic of common interest.

Its methodology is based on a collaborative learning process with **in-depth exchanges of experiences**, lessons learned and success factors among a limited numbers of **highly committed peers** having similar functions in their administration, supported by a panel of independent experts.

Through the interactions between policymakers who are themselves in charge inside their administrations of the policy tools on which the MLE might have an impact and the best European experts on the MLE topic, **the MLE methodology enables a unique type of discussions, group dynamic and outcomes.**



MLE PROCESS

1) Preparatory stage:

Definition of the scope and of the focus areas based on participants' demand

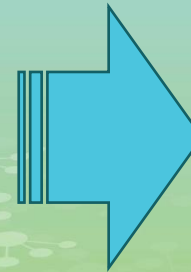
Based on focus areas, **hiring of independent experts**

2) Implementation :

Country visits:

Open, frank and confidential exchanges of experiences between peers, assisted by independent experts

Possibility of field visits and **meetings with stakeholders/ practitioners**



3) Dissemination:

Findings are disseminated beyond participants through the **PSF webpage (thematic and final reports)** and a **dissemination event**

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Policy Support Facility

Since 2015, the **Horizon Policy Support Facility** gives Member States and countries associated to Horizon Europe practical support to design, implement and evaluate reforms that enhance the quality of their research and innovation investments, policies and systems.

The Horizon Europe Policy Support Facility, launched in February 2021, provides good practice, independent high-level expertise and guidance at the request of Member States and Associated Countries through a number of services:

- PSF Country** (formerly PSF Peer Reviews & Specific support to countries) is an in-depth assessments of a country's R&I system (or of parts of it) carried out by a panel of experts and peers and leading to actionable policy recommendations to the national authorities on reforms necessary to strengthen their R&I system.
- PSF Challenge** includes the PSF Mutual Learning Exercises and is focused on specific and operational R&I challenges of interest to several volunteering countries. It aims to identify good practice, lessons learned and success factors.

MLE PREPARATORY PROCESS

- **MLE concept note** sent to national delegates (MS/AC) members of the ERA Policy Forum (+survey on MS/AC needs/ expectation)
- Online **Scoping workshop** with interested MS/AC
- TOR sent to PSF Contractor
- Agreement COM/ PSF contractor on independent experts and budget; contract signed
- **Kick-off meeting**



NEXT TOPICS

Applying equity in Open Science

R&I policies for advancing the circular economy

More information/concept note:
by March &
at ERA Forum meetings

