

## Berlin-Brandenburg Capital Region Innovation Camp

### Challenge 3

**How promote dialogue and interaction between science and society?**

**How to enable evidence-informed policy and decision- making?**

*Challenge owner: professor Taina Tukiainen, Aalto University*

The reasons for building dialogue and interaction between science and society are numerous. First, all citizens have the democratic right to access research results. Businesses, start-ups and innovators should be able to gain new ideas for pursuing their innovation activities. Organizations and government should be able to make their decisions based on scientific evidence. Societal acceptance and understanding of scientific progress and important for continuing to provide public funds for research.

According to EU Science Hub, public confidence in science has been declining due to increased complexity of societal challenges, the economic crises, as well as the debates around the extent, reasons and impact of climate change. On the other hand, an increasing proportion of citizens is expecting more participatory approach when it comes to governance and acquiring better understanding of the factors that affect decision-making on national, regional and community levels. Therefore, it is necessary to explore the ways of establishing more structured and systematic dialogue between science, policy and society. Achieving a better understanding of the current public's perception of science is needed to improve scientific explanations and public communication. Thus, one of the primary goals is to adapt and shape the communication in such a way that it is accessible to different sectors and social groups.

#### **Key questions of the challenge:**

- How to create dialogue and interaction between science and policy?
- How to promote participatory decision-making and governance?

#### **Challenge 3 outputs:**

- 3.1 Proposal on evidence-informed policy and decision-making
- 3.2 Proposal and pilot plan how a university can support structured and systemic dialogue between science, policy and society
- 3.3 Proposal and a pilot plan for innovative educational activities to promote the dialogue and interaction between science and society