Physical sciences

2018.09.24-09.28

Institutional Visits

##  Purpose of the Visits

The Panel Members will visit 17 Units of Assessment (UoA) in Lithuania. During the visits the Panel Members will be able to see the research environment in Lithuania directly and meet with individual researchers, PhD students, and research managers / senior staff. This will provide Panel Members with the opportunity to ask questions and fill gaps in their knowledge.

It is recommended that the visits would be *chaired* by the reviewer/preliminary evaluator of a visited UoA (at least 3 Panel Members must visit a UoA and not all of them will be reviewers of that UoA). If there were two experts, who have preliminary reviewed UoA’s reports, they should decide who will chair the meeting of certain UoA.

The *key purposes* of the visits are to:

* Form a view on the quality of the research environment (meet with people and see infrastructure) of the UoA and the institution it represents, and in Lithuania more generally.
* Ask additional questions that were discussed during the 1st Panel meeting and discuss other uncertainties to fill the knowledge gap.
* Collect the knowledge and insights for providing recommendations for further development of UoA and for filling the international collaboration questionnaire.

The findings of the visits will provide input to the 2nd Panel Meeting to finalise the UoA evaluation and scores.

The total length of the visit cannot exceed 2 hours 30 min to ensure that all UoA have the same amount of time to meet the Panel Members.

The *visits will entail*:

* Interview with administration of institution/UoA (approx. 40 min)
	+ *Each UoA will have maximum 10 minutes for presentation. In the presentation UoA may include any important information that is thought to be relevant to the assessment.*
* Interview with researchers, PhD students (where possible) (approx. 60 min: 30 min with researchers, 30 min with PhD students)
* A tour of the facilities/infrastructure (approx. 50 min);

NB. If employee of a UoA is working in administration and research units, she/he have to choose which interview she/he would like to attend.

The interviews will be led by the Panel Members. During the visits, Panel members are accompanied by a MOSTA representative.

The UoA to be visited have been notified and have agreed to receive the Panel Members.

If necessary, translators from UoA can participate in the meetings.