

# Responsible Science

Revision points from the first seminar

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# The purpose of this seminar series

- To promote responsible science
- To encourage thinking in relation to the implications of scientific and technological developments
- To enable scientists to communicate their work to people outside of their field

# Expected outcomes

Participants will

- have a greater awareness of the potential misuse of scientific work
- be better science communicators
- be better able to interact with national and international control arrangements
- have benefited from networking

# Responsible science – many definitions

Responsible science core elements:

- research integrity – honesty, no plagiarism, no false use of data
- understanding potential negative impacts of scientific activities and identifying ways to reduce these

Our focus is on the second element

# First seminar (1)

- Scientific and technological developments do not exist in isolation – influenced by a range of factors
- There is no inevitable trajectory of scientific or technological progress
- Many materials and technologies have multiple uses – can be used for hostile purposes as well as peaceful ones

# First seminar (2)

- Some areas of concern emerge when developments in different disciplines converge
- To understand implications of developments in one field may require understanding of other fields
- Scientists have power to influence the future

# First seminar (3)

- Personal choices can be in areas with no absolute difference between right and wrong
- An experiment might be legitimate in one context but not another – examples of narcotics or compounds similar to nerve agents
- A simple choice to do one experiment of minor concern could lead to other activities of greater concern

# Seminar programme

8 June:

- Self-governing science
- Layers of codes
- Science communication
- Breakout rooms



Questions?