**NRC FLIS webinar on Horizon Scanning**

**Monday 13th October 2014, 11.00 – 13.00 CET**

**Introduction to the webinar and objectives**

This webinar has been organised by the EEA as part of the networking activities of the EIONET FLIS. All members of NRC FLIS have been invited to participate. The objectives of the webinar are:

* To provide a platform for the presentation of recent and current horizon scanning methods and initiatives in the UK
* To provide an opportunity for members of NRC FLIS to learn from the experience of horizon scanning in the UK from a leading expert in the field
* To provide an opportunity for participants to discuss horizon scanning methods and share knowledge and experience
* To trial the use of webinars as a tool for further use by NRC FLIS, e.g. for meetings and to share knowledge and experience

The webinar will be based around a presentation from Fiona Lickorish, Head of the Institute for Environment, Health, Risks and Futures and Principal Research Fellow, Horizon Scanning & Futures, Cranfield University (UK).

**Summary**

The focus of this webinar will be a presentation by Fiona Lickorish on *forward-looking information in policy making*, drawing on experience from the UK. The presentation will set out key definitions and approaches to ‘forward-looking’ which are used at Cranfield University, and describe the benefits and users of horizon scanning and futures research. Using the example of horizon scanning work at Cranfield University, Fiona will provide an overview of the methodological approach, including the process of identifying key factors and insights as well as methods used to organise, select and prioritise insights.

Fiona will also describe how insights from horizon scanning are used and communicated – linking to policy and informing evidence needs. In addition the presentation will set out some of the reasons why clients of Cranfield University engage with forward-looking research, and other uses of horizon scanning work in medium- to large-scale research projects. Finally Fiona will set out lessons learned from her experience in futures research, such as: finding and selecting appropriate methods; involving and empowering critics; the power of multidisciplinarity; and ownership and keeping it relevant.

**For more information**

* Cranfield Futures: <http://www.cranfieldfutures.com/>
* Centre for Environmental Risks and Futures: <http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/about/people-and-resources/schools-and-departments/school-of-applied-sciences/groups-institutes-and-centres/centre-for-environmental-risks-and-futures.html>
* UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra):
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>