D2.4 Research ethics guidelines for project II - Summary

Ethical guidelines represent a necessary although complex framework. It requires the right pressure and precision to regulate research processes but it also needs to be flexible enough to preserve the freedom of the investigators and the field of application of the research. Therefore, there are different levels of regulation also in research ethics. The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, different codes of conduct, and ethical theories are surely powerful tools to help researchers in designing their products and processes. However, these tools need to be used in a dialogue, a dialectic with society and the agents who will use the outcome of research. Accordingly, if a general reference can be found in those documents, the appropriate way of dealing with contingent issues is to involve different stakeholders and try to co-construct the technology or the processes that are needed and desirable. This deliverable addresses all the different levels of regulation and tunes the results to the specific case of Bodega and its field of investigation.

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Month of delivery: May 2018