



Long-term sustainability of Research Infrastructures

A European call for action

Ales Fiala

Head of Unit

Research Infrastructures Unit

European Commission – DG Research & Innovation



A long story...

- Informal Competitiveness Council of July 2014 highlighted the importance of long-term sustainability of RI,
- OECD expert group on sustainability (April 2015): report published in Oct 2017,
- Stakeholder consultation on LTS (Dec 2015): results presented during ESFRI Roadmap launch event (March 2016),
- Conclusions of the Competitiveness Council of 26 May 2016: "*...UNDERLINES the importance of ensuring long-term sustainability of Research Infrastructures and INVITES the Commission to prepare together with ESFRI and relevant stakeholders a targeted action plan.* "
- *Stakeholders' workshop (Nov 2016): report published in March 2017*

What is at stake?

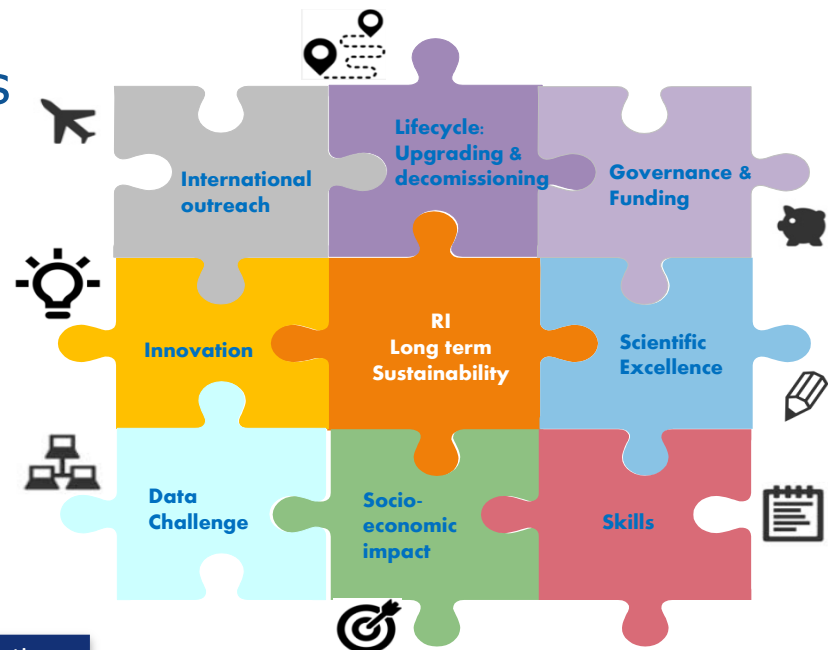


- Construction and operation of pan-European Research Infrastructures (29 ESFRI Landmarks - investment of EUR 12.4 bln, operational budget of EUR 1.4 bln/year + 21 ESFRI Projects – investment of EUR 4.3 bln)

- Sustainability of national landscapes



Need for a **holistic approach** to the lifecycle of Research Infrastructures (pre-conditions)



Consultations and contributions

- ESFRI delegates (WG on LTS) / ESFRI projects & landmarks
- ERA stakeholders & observers
- EIROforum members
- ERIC Committee and Network
- PC members & H2020 RI EAG
- International Organisations (eg. OECD)
- NCPs
- ...



Stakeholder Workshop
LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY of
Research Infrastructures
– Exploring RI's full potential –
Brussels, 25 November 2016
Report



Report on the
Consultation on
Long Term Sustainability of
Research Infrastructures

Key issues for an action plan I



Ensuring excellence of the services provided by the RIs:
Guidelines for scientific & technical reviewing processes



Ensuring that RIs have the right people in the right place at the right time:
European curricula for RI managers, fostering a job market for managers and operators



Exploiting better the data generated by RIs:
Reinforcing data management policy; federating e-services integrated in the EOSC



Exploiting the potential of RIs as innovation hubs:
Supporting the development of ecosystems around RI, facilitating the involvement with industry (co-creation, users)

Key issues for an action plan II



Assessing the economic and wider societal value of RI:

Developing a standardised model to identify the socio-economic impact of RIs



Establishing adequate framework conditions for effective governance and sustainable long-term funding of RI:

*Synchronising national roadmaps;
Supporting newly established ESFRI and ERICs;
Increasing visibility of the services offered by pan-European RI;
Establishing guidelines on decommissioning;
Facilitating RI access to EU funds, encouraging new sources of funding including private funding*



Strengthening the international dimension of pan-European RI

Facilitating the international outreach of pan European RI

Next Step I

Preparation and agreement on Council Conclusions on the proposed Action Plan:

- **Identification of Priority Actions**
- **Attribution of the agreed actions**
- **Time table for reporting on progress achieved and on possible adjustments**



Next Step II

Identification of Priority Actions:

- **Put in place effective governance mechanisms leading to a more synchronized decision making for setting up and participating in ESFRI and ERIC Research Infrastructures in particular by establishing national budget lines for their contributions to ESFRIs and ERICs (Commission, MS, ESFRI and ERIC Forum)**
- **Make European Research Infrastructures more broadly available by establishing cross-border access schemes, for example on the basis of co-funding (Commission, MS, Funders)**

Next Step III

Identification of Priority Actions:

- **Agree strategy on data stewardship and relation of RIs with EOSC (Commission, MS, RI Operators)**
- **Launch large-scale pilots involving European Research Infrastructures and industry in order to implement in a short time frame a number of public/private initiatives (Commission, MS, RI operators, industrial users, EIB)**
- **Agree strategy for promoting the international outreach of European Research Infrastructures (Commission, MS)**

Next Step IV

- **Propose concrete measures to facilitate synergies between Structural Funds and Framework programs to construct, operate and upgrade European Research Infrastructures after consultation with the relevant stakeholders (Commission)**
- **Report on progress achieved and possible adjustments at least bi-annually**



LTS Timetable

2017

September

- Publication of the LTS SWD

October

- Presentation to CRWP

2018

1st Semester

- Bulgarian Presidency event – 22-23 March,
- Council Conclusions on priority actions, FP9 concept for RI

2nd Semester

- ICRI – 12-14 September

