

Long-term sustainability of Research Infrastructures A European call for action

Ales Fiala

Head of Unit Research Infrastructures Unit European Commission – DG Research & Innovation

Baltic TRAM Conference, Stockholm, 25 October 2018



A long story...

- Informal Competitiveness Council of July 2014 highlighted the importance of long-term sustainability (LTS) of RI
- Conclusions of the Competitiveness Council of 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."
- Stakeholder consultation on LTS (Dec 2015): results presented during ESFRI Roadmap launch event (March 2016)
- Stakeholders' workshop (Nov 2016): report published in March 2017
- OECD expert group on sustainability (April 2015): report published in Oct 2017





Consultations and contributions

- ESFRI delegates (WG on LTS) / ESFRI projects & landmarks
- ERA stakeholders & observers
- EIROforum members
- ERIC Committee and Network
- PC members & H2020 RI Expert Advisory Group
- International Organisations (e.g. OECD)
- > NCPs

▶ ...



Outcome of the consultations





What is at stake?

- Construction and operation of pan-European Research Infrastructures
- Sustainability of national landscapes



Cost for the 29 ESFRI Landmarks to reach full operational capacity in the next years estimated at EUR 12.4 billion with an operational budget of EUR 1.4 billion/ year

→ Need for an holistic approach to the lifecycle of Research Infrastructures (pre-conditions)





Areas 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 the potential of RIs as innovation hubs:

Supporting the development of ecosystems around RI, facilitating the involvement with industry (co-creation, users)

Assessing the economic and wider societal value of RI: Developing a standardised model to identify the socioeconomic impact of Ris





Areas for an action plan II



Exploiting better the data generated by RIs:

Reinforcing data management policy; federating e-services integrated in the EOSC



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





LTS tentative timetable



September

• Publication of the LTS SWD

October

Presentation to the Council RWP



1st Semester

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

2nd Semester

• ICRI 2018, 12-14 September





