

StR-ESFRI project provides support to critical ESFRI activities, and aims at a reinforced ESFRI, strengthened with all the appropriate resources, tools and expertise to meet the commitments of the ERA Communication and the Innovation Union initiative

Support to Reinforce ESFRI

STR
ESFRI

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Support to Reinforce the European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures, STR-ESFRI, is a project funded under H2020

About StR-ESFRI

StR-ESFRI is a project funded under H2020. It aims to **Support** and to **Reinforce** the **European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)** under the guidance of its Chair, providing additional resources, tools and expertise in performing its activities and supporting its structures.

StR-ESFRI strengthens the current ESFRI secretariat, provided by the European Commission, with additional resources and tools.

The project renders high-quality support to critical ESFRI activities in the following areas:

- ❑ support to the daily work of the Chair and in particular for the preparation of ESFRI Forum and Executive Board meetings
- ❑ support to the development of the **ESFRI Roadmaps** for 2016 and 2018, and the organisation of the **international peer-review** of scientific and implementation aspects of ESFRI infrastructures, both for the selection of new projects and for the assessment of currently running projects
- ❑ **exchange of experiences** and sharing of best practices among RI coordinators, along with the corresponding facilitation and **monitoring** of the exchange of experience through appropriate expert groups, workshops and reports
- ❑ realisation of an effective **communication and dissemination plan** for ESFRI related activities through web-instruments, social media and publications
- ❑ **liaisons** with key stakeholders (policy makers, funding bodies or advisory groups), including among others the e-Infrastructure Reflection Group (e-IRG) and the Research Data Alliance (RDA)

The above action lines are aligned with ESFRI's new mandate which adequately addresses the existing challenges in the field of research infrastructures, towards a reinforced European research area partnership for excellence and growth. The new mandate calls for a reinforced ESFRI, strengthened with all the appropriate resources, tools and expertise to cope with the existing and upcoming challenges and to meet some of the commitments of the **ERA Communication** and the **Innovation Union** initiative.

About ESFRI

ESFRI, the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, is a strategic instrument to develop the **scientific integration of Europe** and to strengthen its **international outreach**. The competitive and **open access** to high quality Research Infrastructures supports and benchmarks the quality of the activities of European scientists, and attracts the **best researchers** from around the world.

The mandate of ESFRI is to support a coherent and **strategy-led approach** to policy-making on research infrastructures in Europe, and to facilitate **multilateral initiatives** leading to the better use and development of research infrastructures, at EU and international level. ESFRI thus address the existing challenges and has to deal with the follow-up of the implementation of already on-going ESFRI projects after a **comprehensive assessment**, as well as with the prioritization of the infrastructure projects listed in the **ESFRI Roadmap**.

ESFRI ROADMAP

The ESFRI Roadmap identifies new Research Infrastructures (RI) of pan-European interest corresponding to the long term needs of the European research communities, covering all scientific areas.



PARTNERS

The StR-ESFRI Project is led by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) and the project members include experienced entities from Italy, Greece and Germany with strong involvement in ESFRI and its activities.

Science and Technology Facilities Council, STFC

The Science and Technology Facilities Council is a UK Government agency set up to fund UK Scientific Research. It provides Research Grants to UK Universities in the areas of astronomy and particle /nuclear physics and operates Research Infrastructures which are used by researchers from both the UK and outside the UK. STFC is the project co-ordinator.



Università degli Studi di Milano, UMIL

The University of Milan is a public teaching and research-intensive university, the only Italian among the 21 members of LERU (League of European Research Universities), and an internationally high-ranked university. Research activities are conducted in 31 Departments and 29 Inter-departmental Research Centres and their results are attested by a significant quantity of scientific publications. UMIL's team is responsible for providing support to ESFRI Chair and has direct responsibilities in all Roadmap related activities.

"Athena" Research and Innovation Center in Information, Communication and Knowledge Technologies

The advancement of excellence, innovativeness and competitiveness in the crucial sector of Information and Knowledge Technologies lies at the center of the Athena Research and Innovation Center value system. Through national and international R&D projects, technological ecosystem development initiatives, innovative application activities and knowledge transfer to the social and economic environment, Athena RIC fulfills its mission to support the participation of Greece in the "Europe 2020". Athena RIC is responsible for all StR-ESFRI dissemination and liaison activities.



German Aerospace Center, DLR

DLR is the National Aeronautics and Space Research Centre of the Federal Republic of Germany. Its extensive research and development work in aeronautics, space, energy, transport and security is integrated into national and international cooperative ventures. In StR-ESFRI project, the DLR team has undertaken all activities related to developing the monitoring system for Research Infrastructures in Europe and the structured Exchange of Experience among new and older RI projects

