

European Strategy Forum
on Research Infrastructures

ESFRI

Strategy Report on Research Infrastructures

ROADMAP 2018

Launch event
ICRI 2016
Cape Town
South Africa





On March 10th 2016, ESFRI published its Roadmap 2016 based on a thoroughly updated evaluation and selection procedure, and introduced the ESFRI Landmarks - successfully implemented Research Infrastructures - along with the ESFRI Projects to be guided towards implementation in less than a decade.

Following the mandate of the Council of the European Union, we “kick-off” the new Roadmap 2018 process. We do it here in Cape Town, hosted by ICRI and just after the GSO meeting, to stress the openness of European Research Infrastructures to international use and to consider the possibilities to enforce the concept of global Research Infrastructures.

We look forward to the engagement of the research and innovation communities, as well as of the stakeholders, to identify potential new projects and the ways to strengthen the running ones, and to maximise the return in terms of science, international collaboration and innovation from the ESFRI Research Infrastructures.

Giorgio Rossi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Giorgio Rossi'.

ROADMAP 2018



On October 4th 2016, ESFRI launches its Roadmap 2018 update to identify new Research Infrastructures of pan-European strategic value for the long-term needs of the European science and innovation communities in all areas of research.

The ESFRI Roadmap is a collective and on-going process, mandated by the Council of the European Union¹, depending on a continuous commitment from the European research communities. The Roadmap 2018 will be the fifth European Roadmap for Research Infrastructures.

New Proposals demonstrating adequate maturity will be selected. Among the running **ESFRI Projects** reaching the 10-year term before 2018 those that have moved to implementation/construction or operation and are actually delivering excellent scientific results and services might qualify - through a dedicated evaluation - as **ESFRI Landmarks**. ESFRI evaluates and monitors all the Roadmap Research Infrastructures at all stages of the lifecycle².

ESFRI will publish soon a Guide for Proposers and organise an Information Day early in 2017 in Spain.

The deadline for the submission of proposals is 31st August 2017 at 18:00 CET.

¹ <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-9527-2016-INIT/en/pdf>


² <https://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures>

<http://www.esfri.eu/roadmap-2016>

RATIONALE


Research Infrastructures provide unique science services to the benefit of large research communities that - through competition - can exploit the most advanced resources to support frontier research as well as advanced innovation projects. The return on investment of Research Infrastructures is very high, but their absolute value needs to be understood and monitored as it represents a relevant fraction (3-4%) of the European Union Gross Expenditure on Research and Development.



 ESFRI supplies the Council of the European Union with regularly updated information on the landscape of the Research Infrastructures and with a strategy for strengthening it through the implementation of selected **new Proposals**, the monitoring of **ESFRI Projects** and the periodic reviewing of **ESFRI Landmarks**, also identifying opportunities for integration and internationalisation of the Research Infrastructures portfolio.



Evaluation and monitoring are applied at all stages of the **lifecycle** of the ESFRI Research Infrastructure. Specific – non financial - support is offered by ESFRI to help the Projects moving towards full implementation and to help the Landmarks to consolidate their leadership.

 ESFRI develops the **Land-scape Analysis**, covering the existing Research Infrastructures of pan-European relevance that grant access, as well as the international opportunities for European scientists. It represents the reference frame for the Roadmap 2018.



ESFRI also supports specific studies on strategically relevant issues through the creation of *ad hoc* expert groups, and - when the results are of broad interest - publishes the outcomes as **ESFRI Scripta**, contributing to the culture of Research Infrastructures and providing reference data. The European and international landscape of neutron scattering research in the next decades is analysed in the first volume of ESFRI Scripta, that we present here at ICRI.



ESFRI addresses the optimal strategy for the investment in e-Infrastructures for research. This includes the contribution to standardization that each Research Infrastructure must perform and the external infrastructure of computing, data management, archiving and data exchange network that are needed to fully exploit the knowledge generated at the Research Infrastructures and to foster its usage by new communities.

SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION PROCESS

ESFRI Delegations or EIROforum Members are enabled to electronically submit Research Infrastructure proposals. New Proposals must:

1

**FEASIBILITY
STUDY**

**have successfully completed
a design/feasibility study**

2

**BUSINESS
CASE**

**have planned its business
case/delivery strategy**

3

**POLITICAL
SUPPORT**

provide proof of political support

i.e. Expression of political Support (EoS) by the lead country and at least two additional Member States and Associated Countries signed by the national ministries responsible for the Research Infrastructure (in case of an EIROforum Member, a Council resolution is needed)

4

**FINANCIAL
COMMITMENT**

provide proof of financial commitment

i.e. Expression of Commitment (EoC) to financially contribute to the preparation and implementation phases by an authority from the lead country (in case of an EIROforum Member, the financial commitment should be explained in the Council resolution)

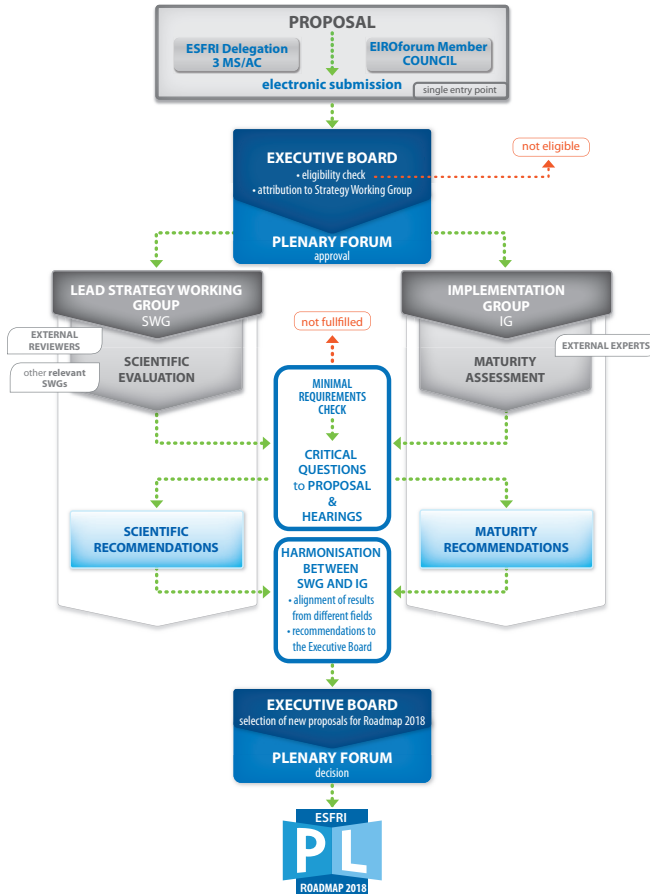
5

**MULTI-LATERAL
AGREEMENT**

**provide proof of an inter-institutional and
multi-lateral agreement**

e.g. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the core partners - being research institutions - formally involved in the consortium

Eligible proposals will be evaluated about the scientific case (scientific excellence, pan-European relevance, socio-economic impact and e-needs) and the maturity for implementation (stakeholder commitment, user strategy & access policy, preparatory work, governance & management, human resources policy, finances and risks) by a parallel process lead by the ESFRI Strategy Working Groups and the Implementation Group, also involving international experts.



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