



# New proposals – submission form and procedure

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Strategy Report on Research Infrastructures

# ROADMAP 2026

# IN A NUTSHELL

- Questionnaire slightly revised
  - < robust methodology which proved its strengths since several ESFRI Roadmap update cycles (2016, 2018, 2021),
  - < eligibility criteria reinforced taking into account sustainability issue
  - < Questionnaire and Minimal Key Requirements slightly evolved with the introduction of new aspects or reinforcement of the previous ones (ex. environmental considerations in Questionnaire; sustainability and financial issues in MKRs)
  
- Electronic submission through MoS (electronic system) by **08.04.2025 at 17:00 CET**
  - > request for a *New Proposal Account* by the LEAD ESFRI Delegation / EIROForum Member



# QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaire consists in 3 parts:

- **PART A: GENERAL INFORMATION**

- General data: name, type of RI, timeline, costs, description, etc.
- Political support, financial commitment, research infrastructure consortium

-> used for the eligibility check by the EB and – if selected – for the public description of the Project in the Roadmap 2026.

- **PART B: SCIENTIFIC CASE**

- **PART C: IMPLEMENTATION CASE**

-> used by the SWG(s) and IG to assess the proposal.



# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

## 1. provide proof of political support

-> i.e. Expression of political Support (EoS) by the LEAD country and at least two additional MS and AC signed by the national ministries responsible for RI – in case of an **EIROforum Member** provide a **Council resolution**;

## 2. provide proof of financial commitment

-> i.e. Expression of Commitment (EoC) to financially contribute to the Preparation and Implementation Phases **by an authority from at least two MS, AC, or EIROForum Members: the LEAD country and at least one additional member**– in case of an **EIROforum Member** the **financial commitment should be explained in the Council resolution**);

## 3. 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.



# SUBMISSION

- MoS : electronic submission system
- Online submission form available in November 2024
- Request for an account through the Lead ESFRI Delegation / EIROForum Member
- Coordinator fills in the form
- > possibility to resume
- Preliminary submission to the Lead ESFRI Delegation/EIROForum Member for inspection
- > if updates are necessary, it is still possible to edit the questionnaire
- Final validation and submission by Lead ESFRI Delegation / EIROForum Member



# AFTER SUBMISSION

- Eligibility check and attribution to SWG(s)
- Evaluation by SWGs and IG with the support of external experts
- Validation of political support and financial commitment by ESFRI Delegates of Lead and Partner Countries



# SPECIAL ATTENTION: MKRs !

ESFRI applies minimal key requirements on all the considered dimensions and along the RI life cycle.

For the **SCIENTIFIC CASE**, these are described in ANNEX II and for the **IMPLEMENTATION CASE** in ANNEX III.

These minimal key requirements serve as the basis for the scoring in the evaluations.

**Read the guide carefully & answer the questions with the related minimal key requirements in mind**

-> new proposals will be evaluated along the MKRs for “Preparation”



# REMINDER: SCORING

- **VERY HIGH** = key requirements are outstandingly met
- **HIGH** = key requirements are comprehensively met
- **MEDIUM** = key requirements are partly met, but the proposal/Project/Landmark shows weaknesses with regard to specific requirements. Enhancing the RI's future success requires (significant) changes to (specific parts of) the proposal/plans.
- **LOW** = key requirements are insufficiently met and the evidence for future success of the RI is not convincing

In order to be considered as a **Project**, a proposal must meet the key requirements for the **Preparation Phase** and score a grading of at least 'High' for both the **SCIENTIFIC CASE** and the **IMPLEMENTATION CASE**.





# SCIENTIFIC CASE

Six reference scientific domains represented by the following SWGs:

ENE SWG - ENERGY

ENV SWG - ENVIRONMENT

H&F SWG – Health & Food

PSE SWG – PHYSICAL SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

SSH SWG – SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES

DIGIT SWG – DATA, COMPUTING AND DIGITAL RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

The SWGs evaluate the **SCIENTIFIC CASE** along **six** dimensions:

- scientific excellence
- pan-European relevance
- socio-economic impact
- user strategy and access policy
- e-needs & data
- environmental considerations

When evaluating the **SCIENTIFIC CASE**, the SWGs take the dimensions of the **IMPLEMENTATION CASE** into account.

# IMPLEMENTATION CASE

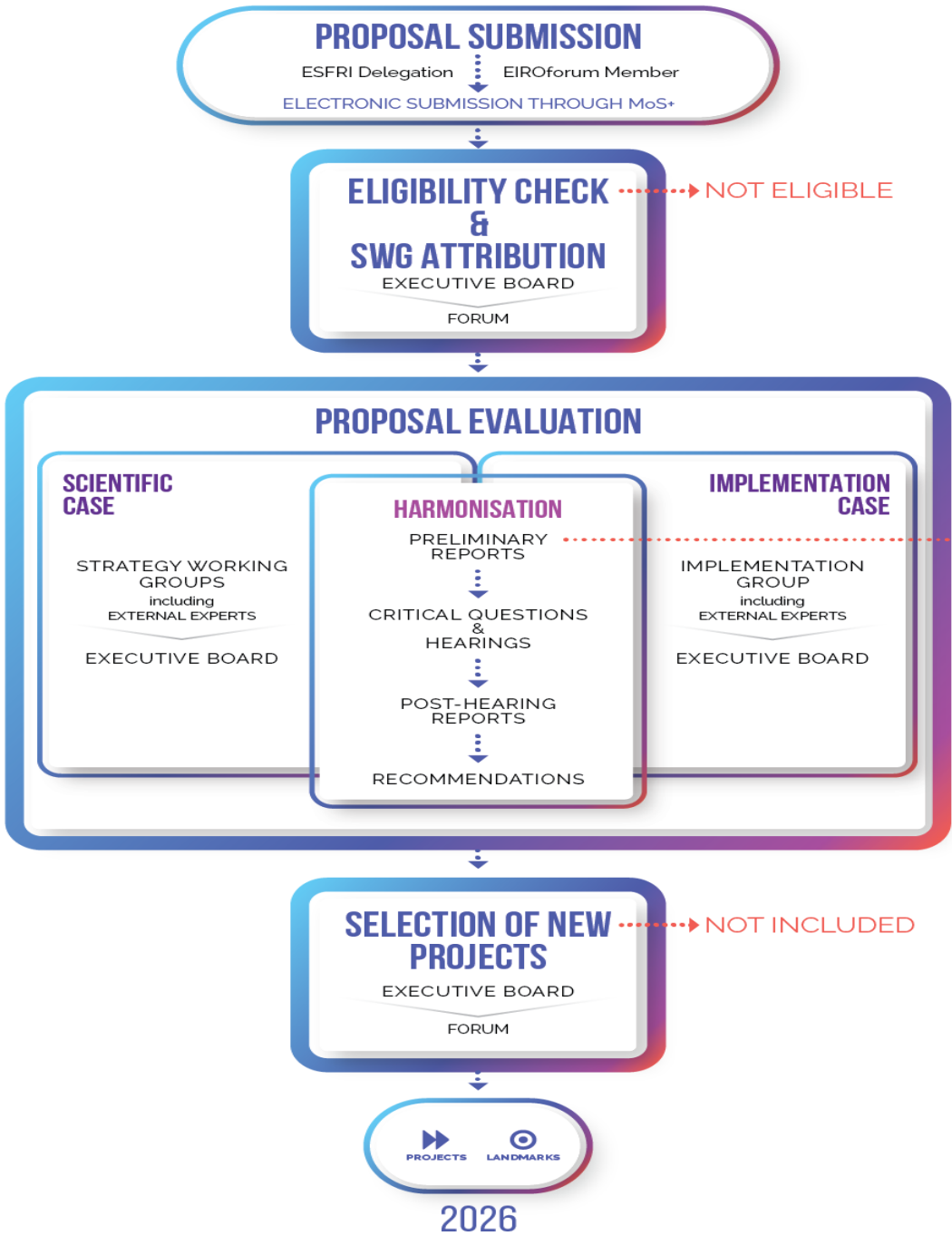
The Implementation Group (IG) evaluates the **IMPLEMENTATION CASE** along five dimensions:

- stakeholder commitment
- preparatory work and planning
- governance, management & human resources
- finances
- Risks

When evaluating the **IMPLEMENTATION CASE**, the IG takes the dimensions of the **SCIENTIFIC CASE** into account.



# SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION OF NEW PROPOSALS



NOT COMPETITIVE & NOT FURTHER EVALUATED

These projects will not be invited to Hearings and the process stops



# DOCUMENTATION

- Documents related to the Roadmap 2026 will be available on the ESFRI website after this event:
  - Public Guide
  - Questionnaire for submission of proposals
  - MoS submission procedure

<https://www.esfri.eu/roadmap-2026>



**Good work to all of you !!**

**&**

**Thank you to the StR-ESFRI colleagues for support!**

