



European Strategy Forum  
on Research Infrastructures

# ESFRI

## Foreseen activities 2026-2029

Version 1, May 2025



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## ESFRI at a glance

ESFRI, the **European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures**, is a strategy forum of funders and policy makers with expertise in the field of Research Infrastructures. Its mandate is defined by the **Council of the European Union (EU)** and it acts as an **informal body** advising the **Competitiveness Council**. The Forum is composed by the **ESFRI delegations representing the Member States (MS) - Associated Countries (AC)** together with **senior science-policy officials representing the European Commission (EC)**. The ESFRI delegations are typically composed of up to two Delegates per MS/AC (senior science policy officials or equivalent, representing the Minister(s) responsible for Research in each of those MS/AC). Additionally, the delegations may include up to two permanent experts.

The ESFRI Forum is **organized around a Chair** who is appointed from among the ESFRI delegates, for a two-year non-renewable term. Additionally, an **Executive Board (EB)** composed by the ESFRI Chair and Vice Chair(s), an EC representative and a few ESFRI Delegates selected by consensus assists the Chair in carrying on his/her duties. These include, among others, conduct meetings of the Forum and of the EB, propose priorities for ESFRI activities and planning, prepare draft agendas for meetings, and the corresponding draft summaries, represent ESFRI in matters agreed by the Forum or overview the public relations strategy.

The ESFRI organization also includes the **ESFRI Secretariat** who is provided by the EC. The secretariat's role is to assist the forum's operation. In particular, the secretariat assists the chair and executive board to prepare and circulate draft agendas, meeting summaries and related documents.

In addition to the governance body ESFRI is composed by 8 permanent working groups plus a series of "ad-hoc" working groups created to fulfill specific needs and perform an in-depth analysis of specific issues.

The current **8 permanent working groups** are:

- 6 Strategy Working Groups (SWG) representing the six scientific research domains in ESFRI
  - **Data, Computing and Digital research Infrastructures (DIGIT)**
  - **Energy (ENE)**
  - **Environment (ENV)**
  - **Health & Food (H&F)**
  - **Physical Sciences and Engineering (PSE)**
  - **Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)**
- The **Implementation Group (IG)** is transversal to all research areas and is the ESFRI instrument to analyse the maturity features of Research Infrastructures in all fields of research. The group advises ESFRI on the managerial and financial maturity of all projects on the roadmap (RM).

- The **Monitoring Committee (MC)**, responsible for overseeing the monitoring process of implemented RIs Landmarks (LM) on behalf of ESFRI.

## List of foreseen ESFRI activities 2026-2029

Below there is a succinct list stating the main activities expected to be executed during the period 2026-2029, along with some of the tasks that each activity entails. This is not a closed list and the list of activities may be increased, decreased or change regarding the RI and political landscape.

### Roadmap

- General (budget + personnel)
  - organization of meetings (agendas, minutes, reports...)
  - organization of workflow under the Roadmap Group Chair guidance
  - activities of the Roadmap Group Chair
  - activities of Panels
  - organization of information (shared folders, timely distribution, repositories...)
  - coordination with all interested parties
  - coordination with the Chair, ESFRI EB and SWGs
- 2018 projects: evaluation to become LM (36 experts approx.)
- RM 2026 presentation (Book and e-book)
- RM 2030 (initial organization)
- RM 2030 info day preparation

### Landscape Analysis 2028

- General (budget + personnel)
  - organization of meetings (agendas, minutes, reports...)
  - organization of workflow under Landscape Analysis Group Chair guidance
  - activities of the Landscape Analysis Group Chair
  - activities of Panels
  - organization of information (shared folders, timely distribution, repositories...)
  - coordination with all interested parties
  - coordination with the ESFRI Chair, EB and SWGs
- Book and e-book publication
- Hiring of external experts for analysis drafting and consolidating report (12-18 experts)

### ERA actions for the period 2025-2027 and 2028-2030 (budget + personnel)

## Events (budget + personnel)

- 2 workshops with Stakeholders Forum (aprox. 150 pax per event)
- 3-4 Exchange of Experiences/workshops. Usually in a 1-day format or lunch to lunch. (typically, around 70 attendees).
- 4 ESFRI Forum (2 of them virtual) / year = 16 Forums. In person ESFRI Forums typically have 70 attendees.
- Roadmap 2026 presentation (approx. 150 pax)
- ICRI 2026 (IT), 2028 and 2030. Attendance of ESFRI + organization of ESFRI information booths (depending on the location of ICRI).

## Groups (budget + personnel)

- 6 SWG (general organization)
  - organization of meetings (agendas, minutes, reports...)
  - organization of workflow under SWG Chairs guidance
  - activities of the SWG Chairs
  - organization of information (shared folders, timely distribution, repositories...)
  - coordination with all interested parties
  - coordination with the ESFRI Chair, EB and SWGs
  - travel of ESFRI representation in particular Fora
- IG (general organization)
  - organization of meetings (agendas, minutes, reports...)
  - organization of workflow under IG Chair guidance
  - activities of the IG Chair
  - organization of information (shared folders, timely distribution, repositories...)
  - coordination with all interested parties
  - coordination with the ESFRI Chair, EB and SWGs
  - travel of ESFRI representation in particular Fora
- Monitoring Committee (general organization)
  - organization of meetings (agendas, minutes, reports...)
  - organization of workflow under MC Chair guidance
  - activities of the MC Chair
  - activities of Panels
  - organization of information (shared folders, timely distribution, repositories...)
  - coordination with all interested parties
  - coordination with the ESFRI Chair, EB and SWGs
  - travel of ESFRI representation in particular Fora
- EB
- ESFRI Chair
  - During 2026-2029 there will be at least two different ESFRI Chairs, therefore requiring some resources for the transition between ESFRI Chairs
- Inter-WG meetings organization



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### Monitoring of Landmarks (budget + personnel)

- External experts (3 per project)
- Organization of 3 monitoring virtual workshops

### ESFRI (budget + personnel)

- Travel of ESFRI presentations (at least 3 /year)
- Public Relations (PR) in coordination with ESFRI Chair and EB
- Software support for ESFRI (Web page, organization, workshops registration, shared storage, office soft, video meeting soft)
- MoS + support, data base in coordination with ESFRI Chair and EB

### Sub-contract the ESFRI Impact Assessment after 25 years (budget)

Main principles of support activities are flexibility and adaptability to unforeseen new changes/circumstances, requiring regular reviews of the activities and meetings with the ESFRI Chair and the Executive Board to adapt to changing needs.