

From the perspective of a large national research organisation which is a host of research infrastructures, a user through its researchers, and an important part of different local ecosystems, what are the experiences in working with other actors? What are the challenges and success factors?

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On behalf of G6 - Informal group of RPOs

# G6 – Informal group of RPOs

## COMMON GROUND

- We participate to several research infrastructures
- We host several research Infrastructures
- We are multidisciplinary RPOs
- We are widely spreaded over our respective Countries and beyond
  - We have strong connection with national/regional/local ecosystems
  - We have strong links with industries, SMEs and productive system

## COMMON ISSUES

- We are subject to national/regional funds
- We have similar matters of researchers careers (training/assessment)

### Research Infrastructures long--term sustainability

Two factors appear to be particularly relevant to ensure RI sustainability in the long--run:

- the type of relationship that RI are able to establish with their stakeholders,
- the ability to diversify the “portfolio” of their funding opportunities.

**First of all, the relationship with all the stakeholders** (or, better, with the whole reference communities) is crucial.

- Closing attitude entail reactions that are preclusive of any political (and thus financial) public support, and could even reach the level of overt hostility.
- On the contrary, a welcoming attitude towards national, European and international researchers, the openness to the possibility of offering services to the public and private sectors, especially industry (SMEs included), a regular practice of organising open days, school visits etc. will widen the basis for moral and financial support.

**Secondly, RI sustainability** has to be based on a combination of public national funding (e.g. institutional), European (e.g. Horizon Europe, ESIF) and private (e.g. users, donors).

### Protecting RI budget

Nothing to add

### Synergies among different funding sources

In particular, for less research intensive Regions of the EU, substantial amounts of resources can be available via the **European Structural and Investment Funds** (ESIF).

In order to exploit this opportunity, it is important to combine the **long--term competitive advantages** resulting from RI with the short--**to--mid term socio--economic advantages** that qualify for the use of ESIF.

In this way,

- one side the existing RI (upgraded when needed) may **act as drivers of the national/regional smart specialisation strategy,**
- on the other side the plan for the establishment of new RI must be anchored to the agreed smart specialisation strategy.

For this to be translated into reality, **coordination among Member States and with the European Commission** is necessary to ensure synchronisation and synergies between the various instruments, at regional, national as well as EU level.

### Mapping

National Mapping exercises **made visible many small-medium RI** while EU (and ESFRI) are mainly concentrated on large ones. We are fully convinced that, being the place where a lot of substantial activity is carried out. More attention should be paid to Small-Medium RI.

### Shared perception of what a RI is

Linked to the mapping exercise we found out that there is no common understanding of what a RI is.

In the list of RI, together with Clean rooms, lasers or vessels, we retrieved personal microscopes or silly items, nothing to compare with a RI. We have then still work to build a shared mean of RI among the Scientific communities.



### Links between Partnerships and RIs to build (an) homogeneous ecosystem(s)

It is a possibility that should be investigated and elaborated

# G6 Task Force - Towards a Strategy for Research Infrastructures in Horizon Europe and beyond

## Identified priorities

- Russian issue (science diplomacy etc./open data)
- Costs/greening (increase operational costs vs greening EU target)
- Landscape analysis as foreseen by ESFRI
- Horizon EU (on short (financial aspects, networking ) and long perspective (funding mechanisms (co-funding etc.) and instruments)
- RIs beyond ESFRI (i.e. networks and national RIs)
- EU charter of access /remote access Open Science (open data and open access
- ERA Policy agenda (action 8 & 12) . Active involvement of G6.

# Ideal Ecosystem

COUNTRIES -  
STAKEHOLDERS

REGIONS

INFRASTRUCTURES

PARTNERSHIPS

