

Research Infrastructures: the regional dimension


With a particular focus on new
Member States

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Introduction

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- ◆ Rationale.
 - ◆ Issues Under Discussion.
 - ◆ Working Group Creation.
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Rationale (1)

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- ◆ The European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures has the following scope:
 - *to support a coherent and strategy-led approach to policy making on research infrastructures in Europe.*
 - *to facilitate multilateral initiatives leading to a better use and development of research infrastructures.*



Rationale (2)

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- ◆ Need for preparation of coherent view on *regional issues* related with pan-European RIs
 - ◆ “regional” applies to nationwide, regional, and local issues
 - ◆ The importance of involving the “newer” Member States in the Roadmap in a meaningful way
 - ◆ Second level infrastructure – ‘Hub and spoke’, ‘Planet and Satellites’ approach?




Issues Under Discussion (1)

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- ◆ The role and importance of regions - and for regions - in the development of a strategic European policy on Research Infrastructures
 - ◆ Contribution to the analysis of the socioeconomic impacts of research infrastructures at regional level
 - ◆ Identification of gaps in regional research capacities associated with lack of research infrastructure on pan-European level

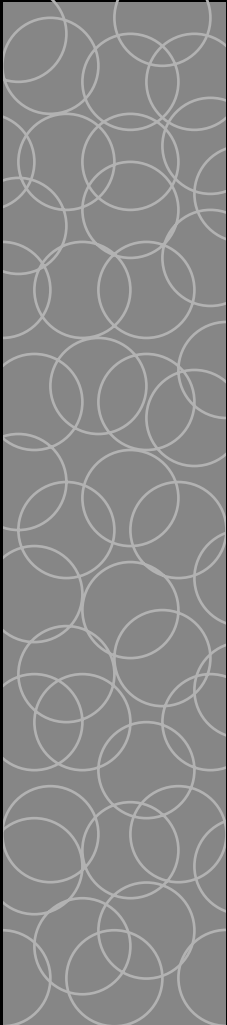


Issues Under Discussion (2)

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- ◆ Potential of regional funding instruments and institutional arrangements for pan-European research infrastructures.
 - ◆ Communication to a wider public about significance and importance of research infrastructures within and for regions;
Developing awareness, willingness and cooperation spirit



Working Group Creation

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- ◆ ESFRI decided in its meeting of March 9, 2007 to set-up a specific time-limited Working Group devoted to Regional Issues
 - ◆ Currently, delegations of AT, IT, RO, SI, and EC, together with PL and BE have expressed particular interest



Working Group Tasks (1)

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- ◆ Take stock of previous experiences in different regions showing not only the impact of what has been achieved but also the process taken to arrive to such results.
 - ◆ Evaluate the general development of the EU regional RI landscape, and in particular the participation of the 12 "newer" Member States in RI activities at pan-European level



Working Group Tasks (2)

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- ◆ Reflect on the "long term sustainability" issues of maintaining and upgrading of the facilities
 - ◆ Reflect on the use of "Structural Funds" for attracting and realizing new research infrastructures or upgrading of existing ones (for example "satellite facilities" in these countries).
 - ◆ Reflect on the use of the "Research Potential" or "Regions of Knowledge" EC actions.



Working Group Tasks (3)

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- ◆ Assess the development of MT-LT visions as well as the improvement of local parameters (environment, local transport, education)
 - ◆ Examine proposed examples and/or initiatives forwarded by ESFRI delegations.
 - ◆ Report to and advise ESFRI on the best process to stimulate identified needed actions.



Deliverables (1)

- ◆ The Working Group is required to deliver a final report by the ESFRI 2007 December meeting. The final report should also present some “best practice” examples.
- ◆ A progress report should be presented to ESFRI for the September meeting (2007).



Deliverables (2)

- ◆ This report would serve as an input to the SI presidency conference in March 2008.
- ◆ General information on the WG activities and the WG report will be available through the ESFRI Secretariat and the ESFRI web site.
- ◆ It is reminded that input from every stakeholder is welcome. Please provide this through the ESFRI Secretariat (rtd_esfri@ec.europa.eu).