

ECRI 2007[★]


★ *european conference on research infrastructures*

The European Roadmap: status of the process, implementation of the first Roadmap

John Wood, ECRI 2007, Hamburg, 6th June

Introduction

After only a period of gestation of 9 months from the publication of the Roadmap we begin to have a more defined scenario of what countries support which projects of the ESFRI Roadmap either as a result of the Framework Program call for the Preparatory Phase and as an ongoing discussion inside ESFRI itself. ESFRI has also had a fruitful meeting with the Competitiveness Council.

The Implementation

FP7

There has been a call for proposals related to the preparatory phase of the ESFRI Roadmap projects.

ESFRI dynamics

- *Contacts with the Council*
- *Informal discussions and variable geometry pre-agreement are foreseen starting from the very next meeting here in Hamburg on the 7th June.*

All Member States, Associated Candidate States, Associated States and some Third Countries (all the main Countries strongly active in global Research Infrastructures) are involved in at least one ESFRI Preparatory Phase proposal.

The number of different institution involved is of the order of 500.

About 10% of the total participants are from Convergence Regions, eligible to receive Structural Funds

On May 22 at the Competitiveness Council in Brussels there was a hearing related to ESFRI with the Research Ministers and the Commissioner, some remarks:

Europe has to do more for science if we want to reach the Lisbon goals. Europe has to invest in knowledge.

Europe needs to develop the Research Infrastructures which are the necessary tools to be successful. For good research, you need the best people and the right design of Infrastructures.

Now the implementation of the projects identified in the first roadmap should be focused on.

Decisions are required from the different Member States with the corresponding financial means.

The efficient use of structural funds is also crucial. Coordination between Research Ministers and those in charge of structural funds is essential.

New Risk Sharing Finance Facility loans by EIB.

Study on new legal instruments, based on art. 171, which should help the emergence of new facilities

..... two Working Groups have been created to tackle issues that have a link with the implementation of the Roadmap

- Digital Repositories
- Regional Issues

A draft statement related to the coordination between ESFRI and e-IRG is under discussion.

..... there is a continuous informal discussion about the Roadmap projects. In particular amongst the topics in discussion there are:

- Roadmap implementation and the update
- Siting selection issues
- Construction and operation issues
- Governance, management and open access

This discussion will continue on the next ESFRI meeting here in Hamburg tomorrow !

The conference discussion will significantly help !