



# Towards a sustainable European Research Infrastructures ecosystem

**FCC Week, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

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## What is at stake?

*A rapidly evolving European landscape of Research Infrastructures:*

- **International organisations** – ex. EIROs
- **ESFRI projects & ERICs** – EUR 15-16 billion worth of investment
- Estimated **1000 facilities** of more than national relevance (MERIL)

*A complex funding model:*

- **National funding**
- **Framework Programme for R&I** – EUR 4,1 billion for the development and implementation of pan European RIs (1,7 in FP7 and 2,4 in H2020)
- **Development and cohesion funds** – EUR 18,2 billion in the last two programming periods (11,6 in 2007-2013 and 6,6 in 2014-2020)



## The Goal

Developing a **modern, effective** and **sustainable RI ecosystem** in Europe

## The Need

Establishing **adequate framework** for **effective governance, sustainable long-term funding** and ensuring **maximum impact** of RIs on society

## The Challenge

Agree on methodology & ensure commitments of different actors

***Action Plan on Long-term Sustainability of RI***

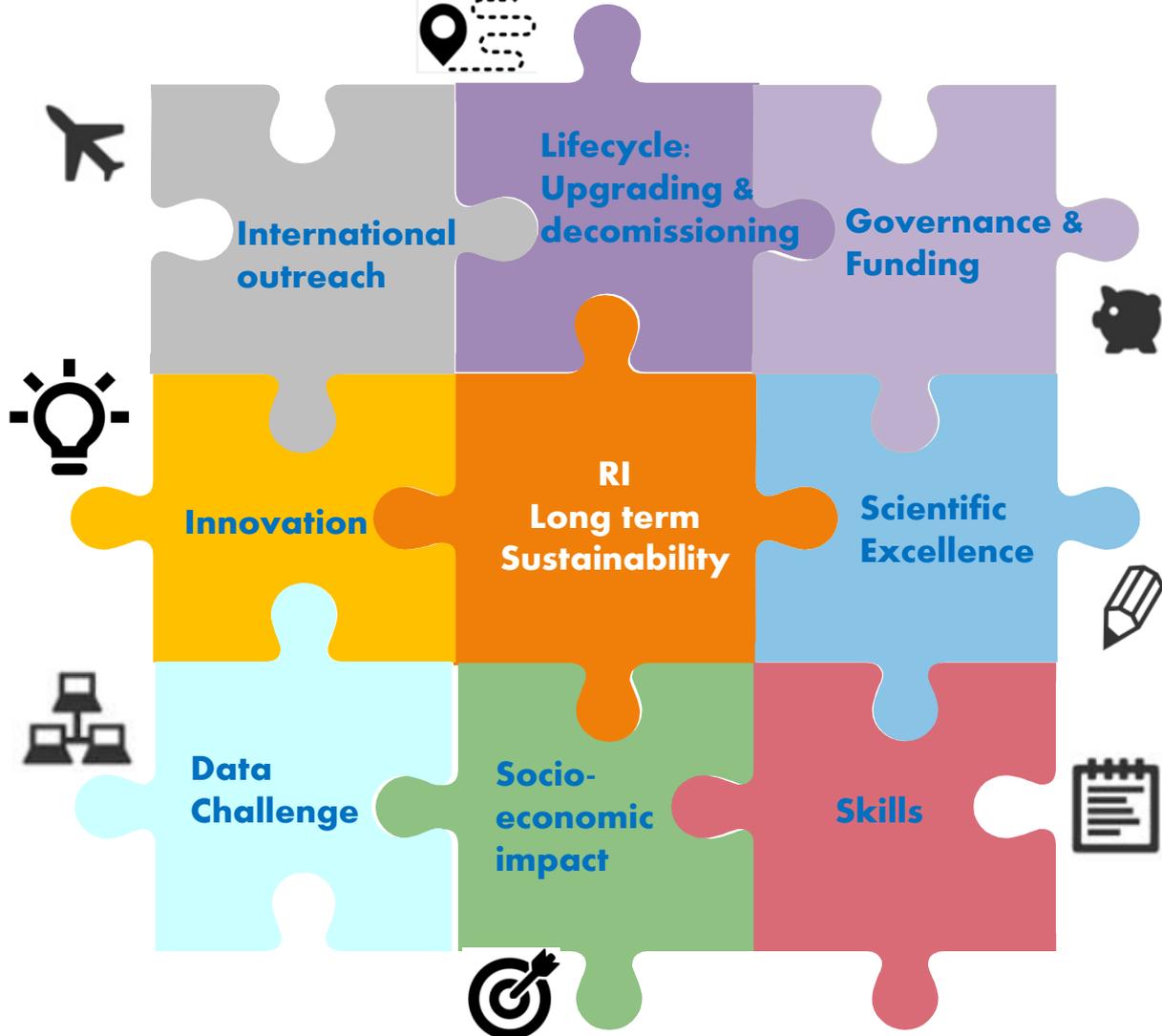


## LTS debate - a long story...

- Informal **Competitiveness Council of July 2014** highlighted the importance of long-term sustainability of RI,
- **Stakeholder consultation** on LTS (Dec 2015); Stakeholder Workshops(*Nov 2016*);
- Conclusions of the **Competitiveness Council of 26 May 2016**: "*...UNDERLINES the importance of ensuring long-term sustainability of Research Infrastructures and INVITES the Commission to prepare together with ESFRI and relevant stakeholders a targeted action plan.* "
- **Commission Staff Working Document** „Sustainable European Research Infrastructures – A Call for Action” (Sep. 2017)



European  
Commission



# Key issues for an action plan



**Ensuring excellence of the services provided by the RIs:**  
*Guidelines for scientific & technical reviewing processes*

**Ensuring that RIs have the right people in the right place at the right time:**



*European curricula for RI managers, fostering a job market for managers and operators*



**Exploiting better the data generated by RIs:**  
*Reinforcing data management policy; federating e-services integrated in the EOSC*



**Exploiting the potential of RIs as innovation hubs:**  
*Supporting the development of ecosystems around RI, facilitating the involvement with industry (co-creation, users)*

# Key issues for an action plan



## **Assessing the economic and wider societal value of RI:**

*Developing a standardised model to identify the socio-economic impact of RIs*



## **Establishing adequate framework conditions for effective governance and sustainable long-term funding of RI:**

*Synchronising national roadmaps;  
Supporting newly established ESFRI and ERICs;  
Increasing visibility of the services offered by pan-European RI;  
Establishing guidelines on decommissioning;  
Facilitating RI access to EU funds, encouraging new sources of funding including private funding*



## **Strengthening the international dimension of pan-European RI**

*Facilitating the international outreach of pan European RI*

# LTS debate - a long story that continued...



- Conclusions of the Bulgarian Presidency May 2018 "Accelerating knowledge circulation in the EU" – priorities highlighted in the Sofia Conference:
  - **develop a common approach for monitoring of their performance – KPIs;**
  - **more coherent use of the different programmes;**
  - **establish cross-border access schemes, for example on the basis of co-funding**



# LTS debate - a long story that continued...

- Conclusions of the Austrian Presidency November 2018:
  - “facilitate the **use of the ERIC instrument**”,
  - “increase transnational and open access to European Research Infrastructures and to enhance their **financial sustainability**”,
  - “pan-European Research Infrastructures to promote their services at **international level** and to reach out, where appropriate, to new international members”

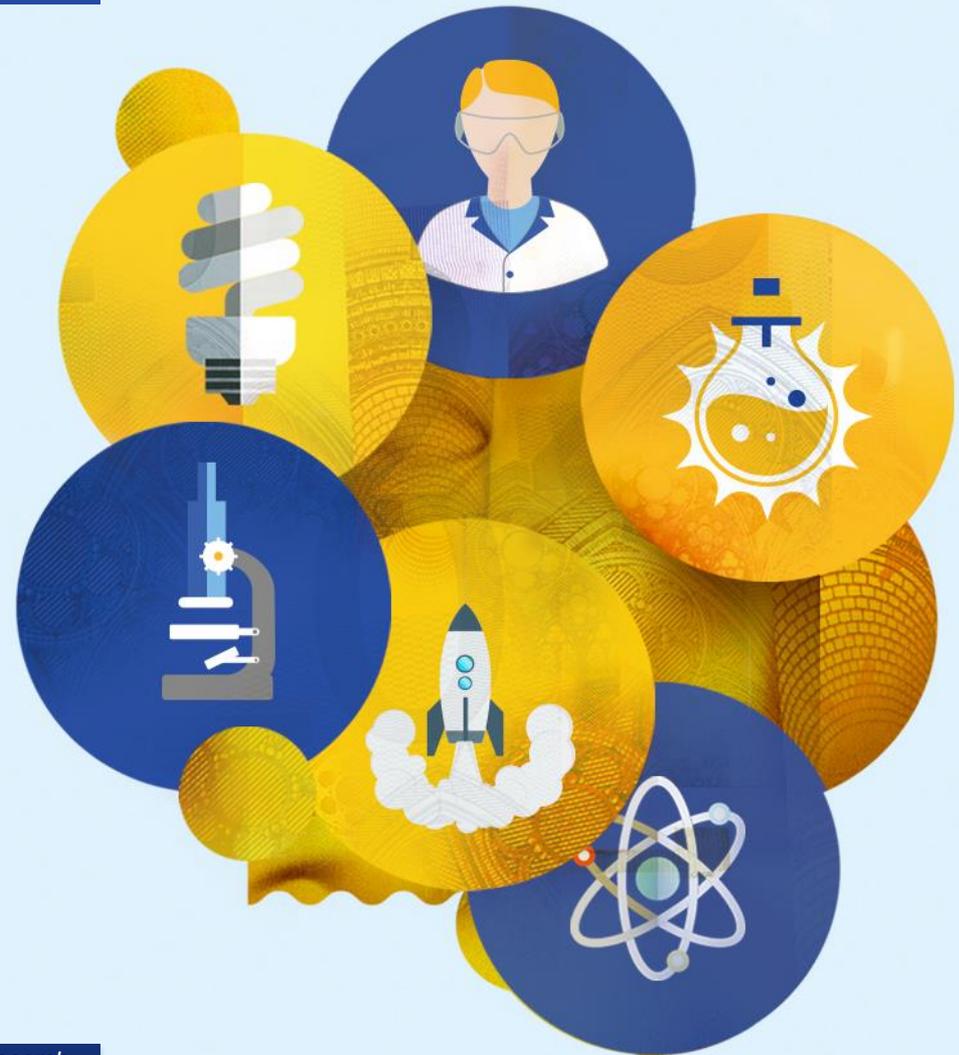
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# Commission proposal for Horizon Europe

THE NEXT EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION  
PROGRAMME (2021 – 2027)

**RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES**

#HorizonEU



# Research Infrastructures Programme Horizon Europe

- 1. Consolidating the Landscape of European Research Infrastructures***
- 2. Opening, Integrating and Interconnecting Research Infrastructures***
- 3. Reinforcing European Research Infrastructure policy and International Cooperation***

# *Consolidating the Landscape of European Research Infrastructures*

## *Lines of action:*

- Design of new RI; preparatory and implementation phase, early-phase operation of pan EU RI in complementarity with other funding sources, consolidation and optimisation of the RI ecosystem by facilitating service agreements, evolutions, mergers or decommissioning;
- Scalability and sustainability of the EOSC access channel; effective federation of European, national, regional and institutional resources; its technical and policy evolution to cope with new research needs and requirements; data inter-operability and compliance with the FAIR principles;
- Support pan-European research and education network underpinning the EOSC and EDI as well as enabling the delivery of HPC/data services in a cloud based environment.

# *Opening, Integrating and Interconnecting Research Infrastructures*

## *Lines of action:*

- Networks of national and regional funders of RI for the **co-funding of trans-national access**;
- Networks of pan EU, national and regional RI addressing **global challenges** for the provision of access and harmonisation & improvement of services;
- Integrated networks of RI for **development and implementation of a common strategy/roadmap** for technological development required to improve their services through **partnership with industry**; as well as high-tech components in areas such as scientific instrumentation; and for fostering the use of RI by industry.

# *Reinforcing the international dimension of European Research Infrastructures*

## *Lines of action:*

- **Survey, monitoring and assessment of** RI at EU level;
- **Policy studies,** communication and training actions;
- **International cooperation actions** for RI;
- Specific activities of relevant policy and advisory bodies



# Next Steps

- Development of the new Research Infrastructures Programme Horizon Europe;
  - **Finetune the FP instruments;**
  - **improve synergies with other Programmes;**
  - Identify **priority actions for Sustainability and lead actors;**
- Prepare the new Communication on the European Research Area (2020)

Thank you for your attention

HORIZON 2020

