



Setting EPOS R&I priorities with the EU and ESFRI: feedback from the recent workshops

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EU – ESFRI Workshops in 2022

1. ERIC Forum Annual Meeting 2022 (26-27 January 2022)

The meeting stimulated discussions about ERICs' sustainability and their role in the ERA

2. ESFRI 20th Anniversary Conference (25 March 2022)

The conference provided an opportunity to explore the range of cutting-edge work being undertaken across the research domains that relies on the services provided by European RIs.

Several outstanding scientists as well as promising young researchers shared with the audience their major discoveries and illustrated how they have benefited from these unique facilities.

3. Joint Commission/ESFRI Workshop (30-31 March 2022):

The workshop stimulated discussions on how to align further the European research infrastructures and the operational support as shaped in the Horizon Europe Strategic Orientations (EC and ESFRI)

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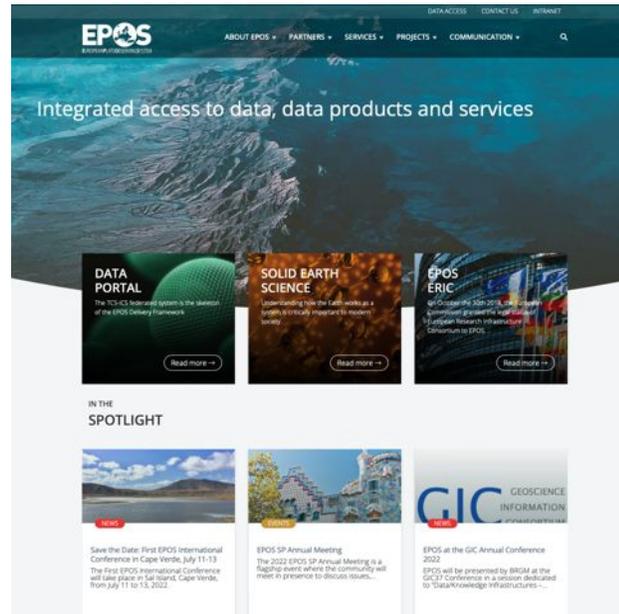
Questions from EC and ESFRI to the RIs

- **Sustainability of ESFRI Landmarks and ERICs: which EU supported activities would be the most effective? (e.g. revision of business plan, international cooperation, development of synergies and/or integration b/w RIs):**
- **What are the lessons learnt from past H2020 actions?**
- **What are the needs, how to support them?**

Answers from Ris to EC and ESFRI

- Encourage the use and inclusion of RIs in all sort of Horizon Europe projects, in general (not only INFRA).
- Help RIs to evolve, for example by supporting integration of new themes into existing RIs rather than develop new RIs.
- International cooperation should be more and more supported because it will strengthen the worth of RIs as they enable compatibility amongst countries/regions outside of Europe (EU contribute to global science).
- Foster interaction between Ris for a better coordination and effective collaboration and coordinated response on common themes (e.g. data standardization, data access, ethical, legal, social Implications, technological transfer).
- Sustainability would be improved by recognising the “construction phase” of RIs.
- Support of RI participating institutions; no strong engagement or perceived prestige in being involved in RI.
- Industry engagement is hugely challenging and one of the many activities expected of the RIs. The wrong approach is more damaging than low level of engagement. It requires a lot of time and effort, and clear goals and targets are needed.

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