



InRoad

'Towards better synchronisation of priority settings
and evaluation mechanisms for research
infrastructures beyond National relevance'

Roadmapping Engagement Workshop

BELSPO, Avenue Louise 231, Brussels, Belgium

14 March 2017

workshop objectives

InRoad is a project funded under Horizon 2020 that aims to support Research Infrastructure (RI) policy development in terms of exchange of best practices for national roadmap drafting and evaluation procedures for RI in order to promote comparability and synchronisation of national procedures and a possible harmonisation evaluation mechanisms.

InRoad will:

1. **identify and share best-practices** and common trends of national RI roadmapping procedures and evaluation mechanisms;
2. **contribute towards a better synchronisation** and the possible harmonisation of those procedures in European countries and at European level;
3. **support RI policy development** by establishing a trustful dialogue and an intensive exchange of information about national RI roadmapping procedures, monitoring and evaluation and sustainable approaches for RI, in line with the objectives of the European Research Area (ERA).

The InRoad '**Roadmapping Engagement Workshop**' is the first of a series of events targeted at RI stakeholders engaged in the national decision-making process. During this workshop, attendants will discuss first results of the analysis of national roadmapping procedures and evaluation methodologies. Participants will also discuss key elements of the InRoad survey that will be launched in spring 2017 as well as the different methodologies and concepts used to carry out InRoad's activities. A second series of workshop will take place in 2018 to discuss and validate the project's findings and recommendations.

programme

TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2017

08:30 – 9:00	registration	14:00 – 16:00	report from the four break-out sessions and discussion in plenary
09:00 – 9:15	welcome and presentation of InRoad: objectives and activities Martin Müller , InRoad coordinator (SwissCore)	16:00 – 16:30	coffee break
09:15 – 9:45	engagement speech: barriers and challenges for research infrastructures roadmapping in Europe Ricardo Migueis , Advisor on technological infrastructures and international programmes (Portuguese National Innovation Agency)	16:30 – 17:30	wrap-up and next engagements Martin Müller , InRoad coordinator (Swiss National Science Foundation)
09:45 – 10:00	ERA: the European RI context Dominik Sobzack , Policy Officer at Research Infrastructure Unit (European Commission)	17:30 – ...	networking reception
10:00 – 10:30	towards better synchronisation of national roadmapping and evaluation procedures for research infrastructures – first findings and InRoad survey Gerd Rücker , Senior Scientific Officer (DLR Project Management Agency)		
10:30 – 11:00	coffee break		
11:00 – 12:30	discussions in four parallel groups group 1: main characteristics of national research infrastructures roadmapping and evaluation procedures group 2: coordination and synchronization between national procedures, ESFRI and others group 3: funding instruments for research infrastructures group 4: research infrastructures business models and their links to national roadmapping procedures		
12:30 – 14:00	lunch and group photo		

group 1: main characteristics of national research infrastructures roadmapping and evaluation procedures

Moderator: Gerd **Rücker**, Senior Scientific Officer (DLR Project Management Agency)

Rapporteur: Isabel **Bolliger**, Scientific Advisor (*Université de Lausanne*)

InRoad conducts **a review of national research infrastructures roadmapping procedures** and corresponding research infrastructures monitoring and evaluation procedures in European countries. To do this, InRoad extracts key information essential structural issues such as:

- the stakeholder responsibilities for research infrastructure evaluation;
- definitions;
- criteria for inclusion in calls;
- synergies to ESFRI and links to smart specialisation strategies;
- methodologies for evaluation and prioritization;
- implementation and funding.

Group 1 will look at the outcome of first research carried out by InRoad and seek agreement on common characteristics and items to be collected for the second phase of the project.

group 2: coordination and synchronization between national procedures, ESFRI and others

Moderator: Martin **Müller**, InRoad coordinator (SwissCore)

Rapporteur: Max **De Boer**, scientific advisor (Swiss National Science Foundation)

The 2014 European Research Area (ERA) progress report states that, in order to guarantee the sustainability of European RI, "there is a need for further synchronisation of national and European roadmaps for RI and the related pooling of funding"¹. It is evident that **the interaction is far from being optimal between on the one hand European strategic priority-setting through the European Strategic Forum for Research Infrastructures (ESFRI), and on the other hand the national and regional setting of priorities and funding instruments and cost models**. National procedures depend on strategic and political objectives and on the requirements of the national decision-making processes, including those of national budget regulations. The results are very diverse in scope and there is not only a mismatch between strategic priority-setting exercises for RI between the European, national and regional levels, but

there is as well a great diversity of funding instruments and cost models across countries and regions. As soon as the RI are gaining a European scope, this diversity brings the risks of making the funding of construction and operation of RI across Europe inefficient and not transparent for the communities of users. In other words, **the lack of comparability and synchronisation challenges the sustainability of RI**. Group 2 will examine existing barriers for more coordination and synchronisation in Europe.

group 3: funding instruments for research infrastructures

Moderator: Teresa **Jorge**, head of the cooperation and promotion unit (Comissão de coordenação e desenvolvimento regional do centro)

Rapporteur: to be defined

There is broad agreement that the widening of access and investment into research infrastructures across geographical, disciplinary and sectoral borders would foster the creation of a true ERA. There is, however, **a lack of synchronisation and interoperability amongst RI funding instruments** available at different levels (regional, national and European) to support the needs of research infrastructures and the community of users along the full life cycle. With this objective in mind, InRoad discusses in a first step:

- how the national research infrastructures roadmapping procedures are interlinked with funding of the different life cycle stages and in general, how are funding decisions on RI taken in the different regions/countries;
- assess the synergies between roadmapping and the different mechanisms for financing RI, at regional, national and European levels, and the resulting implications for financing pan-European infrastructures.
- analyse the mechanisms that link with, or have emerged from national roadmapping and evaluation procedures for funding RIs, in terms of management of intersectorial coordination and implementation plans with mechanisms: funding calls, eligible recipients, industry partnerships, requirements, evaluation process, timings, etc.

Group 3 will discuss a first series of categorization and definitions of funding instruments that will feed the InRoad survey.

¹ ERA 2014 progress report

group 4: research infrastructures business models and their links to national roadmapping procedures

Moderator: Mehran **Mostafavi**, deputy director (CNRS institute of chemistry Paris)

Rapporteur: Stéphanie **Lecocq**, chargée d'affaire (CNRS institute of chemistry Paris)

National research infrastructures roadmapping procedures often consider the business models of the facilities. However a big disparity exists between different countries and methodologies on which items to consider and the terminology and concepts used. This concerns definitions around, e.g. the category of facilities, the components of the business plan and its designing parameters. Group 4 will have a closer look at:

- the definitions and contents of business plans items;
- the business plan assessment in national research infrastructures roadmapping procedures;
- the identification of the relevant stakeholders to contact and engage.

The outcome of the discussion will also feed into a section of the InRoad survey where the link between business plans assessment and research infrastructure roadmapping procedures is analysed.
