

# InRoad: Sustainable funding for RIs: findings from the regional workshops in Prague and Rome and outlook for Hamburg

Carme de Andrés Sanchis -  
Helmholtz Association



[www.inroad.eu](http://www.inroad.eu)



[info@inroad.eu](mailto:info@inroad.eu)



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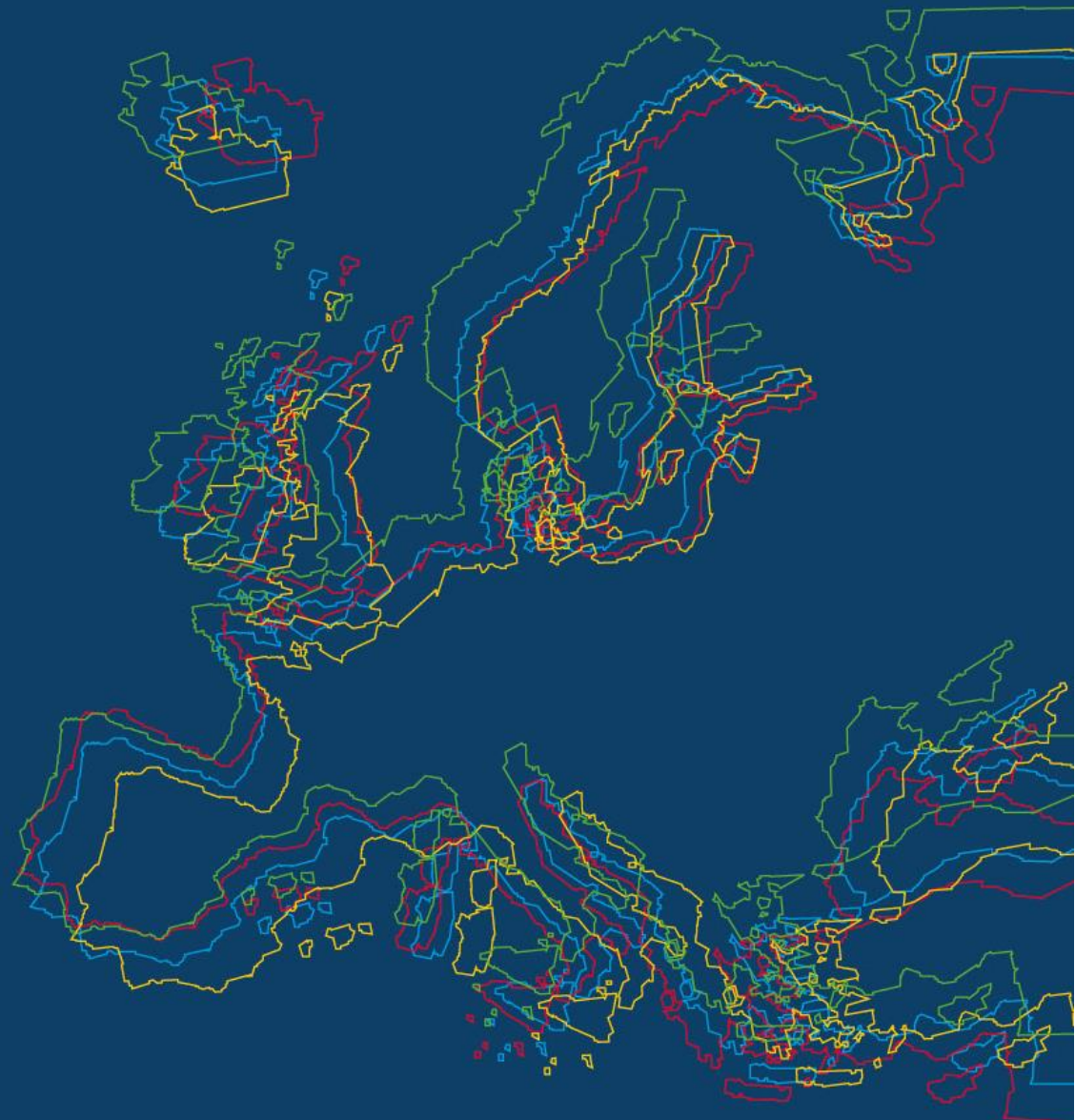
InRoad



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synchronising research infrastructure  
roadmapping in Europe



# Regional Workshops: Objective

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- Provide a **space** for **stakeholders** from different research facilities and public funding organisations to **discuss** and deliver **recommendations** for the improvement of RI funding in the **next** generation of structural funds (**ESIF**) and EU Research and Innovation framework Programme (**FP9**).

# Regional Workshops: Topics (i)

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**The role of ESIF, national, institutional and European funding in RI**, with an emphasis on:

- the **bottlenecks** and **benefits**;
- their **relevance** to the different **life cycle** phases;
- **links** between **national** strategies & **European priorities**;
- the role of the **EC** as a funder **influencing national processes**; and
- **recommendations** for the next framework programme?

# Regional Workshops:

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## **What did we find out?**

# Regional Workshops: General perceptions (i)

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1. National **pan-European RIs** depend on **national** political **priorities** and to a lesser extent on those set by the European Commission, however;
2. building pan-European **RIs requires** a **combination** of EU, national and regional funds from different funding **instruments**, e.g. state budgets, H2020 and ESIF.
3. The **coordination** of **multi-level funding** is crucial for the financial **sustainability** and operability of RIs.

# Regional Workshops: General perceptions (ii)

4. **MS financial commitment** is **essential** for the operation of RIs.
5. **EU funding** is **important** to:
  - ✓ start **discussions** among scientific communities & public funding organisations;
  - ✓ **develop** national and transnational **networks** of players;
  - ✓ define **common agendas** & design **strategies** around these; and
  - ✓ construct **state-of-the-art** research **facilities**.

# Regional Workshops:

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## **What are the bottlenecks of RI funding?**

# Regional Workshops: Bottlenecks (i)

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## 1. Time factor:

- The **integration** of **strategies** and funding **frameworks** is a **long process** that can take many years.

## 2. Simplification factor:

- Long-drawn efforts to meet **different** funding **requirements**.  
**Simplification** of **administrative conditions** and regulations in different funding programmes needed.



# Regional Workshops: Bottlenecks (ii)

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## 3. Alignment factor:

- Closer **synergies** between **national strategies**, funding frameworks & **European priorities** needed to enable fast & firm **development** of RIs, as well as long-term **planning**.

## 4. Foresight factor:

- **Link** between science **strategy** & **innovation** is sometimes **feeble**. **Connecting** national science **strategy** to coordinated future **innovation** systems requires continuous environmental **scanning**.

# Regional Workshops: Bottlenecks (iii)

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## 5. Demonstration factor:

- Socio-economic **impact** in some scientific areas often only **measurable after** several **years**; therefore, **difficult** to **demonstrate**. (Relevant to fund RI at regional & national levels with ESIF).

## 6. Continuity factor:

- **Time** span of RI **funding** typically **lasts 1 to 5 years**. Feasible **solutions** to enable a more **stable flow needed**. Coverage of **operational costs**?

# Regional Workshops:

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## **Recommendations**

# Regional Workshops: Recommendations (i)

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## 1. Alignment/flexibility of framework conditions:

- **Aligning ESIF** framework **conditions** with **FP9** to better suit RI purposes (e.g. financial regulations and state aid), make a more **effective use** of available funding and increase **socio-economic** impact of **investments**.
- **Explore** further the use of **ESIF** as national **contribution** to RI **outside** the **country**. Support from scientific communities & funding authorities (inside and outside the hosting country) needed.

## Regional Workshops: Recommendations (ii)

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- **New instruments** to fill **gaps** in existing RI **funding** schemes based on an **analysis** of their **limits** and **restrictions** (especially their **coherence** with European and national processes).
- **Flexibility** to spread out **funding** over several **years** and between cost **categories** to provide some **continuity** or to accommodate **alternative funding** sources for RI development that leverage **private investments**.

# Regional Workshops: Recommendations (iii)

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## 2. Increase Awareness/Mobility:

- Through **trainings** for RI Operators / an **ERASMUS**-type of **scheme** for short secondments of **public civil servants** working in RI policy and funding to:
  - ✓ **familiarize** themselves with the different available **funding sources**;
  - ✓ better **understand** factors that determine the **use** and **non-use** of specific funding **instruments** as potential sources for RI funding (e.g. to **cover** the whole **life cycle**) in different countries; and
  - ✓ enable more **informed** funding **decisions**.

# Regional Workshops: Recommendations (iv)

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## 4. Increase Awareness:

- Through a **marketing strategy** to improve **visibility** of RIs (their portfolio of services and products). –Vital for their long-term sustainability.
- How?
- ✓ **Identifying users** and their **needs** and designing promotional **strategies** around these to increase RI **presence** and user **involvement** (inside and outside the scientific community).

# Regional Workshops: Recommendations (v)

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## 5. Increase availability:

- **Improve** transnational **access policies** to increase quality of services and extend **availability** to a wider range of **users** on a European and international scale.



# Next Regional Workshops:

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## 1. **Germany**

Date: 1-2nd March 2018

Location: Hamburg, at the German Electron Synchrotron (DESY)

For additional information: [carme.deandres-sanchis@helmholtz.de](mailto:carme.deandres-sanchis@helmholtz.de)

## 2. **Portugal**

Date: 12-13 April 2018

Location: Aveiro, at the University of Aveiro

For additional Information: [teresa.jorge@ccdrc.pt](mailto:teresa.jorge@ccdrc.pt)

## 3. **Poland**

Date: 10-11 May 2018

Location: Wroclaw, at the Wroclaw Research Centre EIT+



# Thank you for your attention



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[carme.deandres-sanchis@helmholtz.de](mailto:carme.deandres-sanchis@helmholtz.de)



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Coordinators' contact:  
[mueller@inroad.eu](mailto:mueller@inroad.eu)  
[deboer@inroad.eu](mailto:deboer@inroad.eu)