

Press Release

Regional Workshop, Hamburg, DE

Bern/Hamburg, 7 March 2018

From 1-2 March 2018, 39 experts met at the **Regional Workshop** of the InRoad project in Hamburg, co-organised between DESY and the Helmholtz Association. It was the third workshop of this kind after Prague and Rome. The workshop started with a visit to the PETRA III accelerator in the morning of 1 March and was finished with a site visit to the European XFEL in the afternoon of 2 March as well.

The event opened with a presentation on the international collaboration that is being carried out at DESY. Following this orientation of the RI in situ, the aims of the workshop were laid out:

The overall goal was to bring together the local scientific community and representatives from public funding organizations to:

- identify the main bottlenecks during the different RI phases
- discuss the importance of the national roadmap process, its timing and funding
- share experiences with regard to the long-term funding of RIs
- provide recommendations for a better coordination of the different levels of RI funding.

The complex interplay of regional, national, institutional and EU funding should not become an obstacle for the development of research infrastructures (RI). With this in mind, the two-day event aimed to gain an understanding of the issues faced by RI Operators and public funding organisations with respect to the different funding schemes, the link between funding and roadmaps, and to deliver recommendations to improve RI funding in the next generation of structural funds and the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

The two-day-workshop was structured in two thematic blocks. **Block 1** on the first day was about the coordination of regional, national, institutional and EU frameworks for RI long-term funding. The German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) and the Helmholtz Association were presented as examples in order to give insight into the German system and gave the opportunity to intensely discuss roles of different actors in the funding of RI, including the roadmap processes and procedures, the evaluation metrics used for assessment and the lessons learned. **Block 2** dealt with the experiences of RI operators combining regional, national, institutional and EU-level programmes for their long-term funding of RI. Within this block, the participants were invited to learn from experiences of operators from research facilities and identify room for improvement.

The main take away of the first day was the diversity of RI and of their funding sources, which is both a strength and a challenge. Sustainable funding in particular can be challenging to secure. It was also pointed out that roadmapping could be improved for distributed RI, as opposed to single-sited RI. At the end of the second day, the workshop rapporteurs identified some key issues that came out in the discussions. It became very clear that the real bottleneck is in securing funding for the operational phase. Given the complexity of the system, the need for the RI to have access to centralized support and expertise on the realities of the regional



and national funding options was underlined. The important role of institutional funding was also an important point of discussion, in relation to what it means for the development of a pan-European vision. The difficulty of combining a pan-European vision with regional funding was also discussed in light of the importance of structural funds. Finally, the question of widening and its relevance for smaller-scale RIs was raised.

Overall, discussions showed that InRoad has a key role to play in providing insight and best practices that respect both the specificity of different RI and their need for a better alignment between different funding programmes and instruments.

The InRoad coordination team would like to thank the Helmholtz Association for the excellent organisation of this event and DESY for hosting it.

More information

- A full report on the Workshop will be released shortly.
- For more information about InRoad, please consult our project presentation or visit our [website](#), like us on [Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) or on [Linkedin](#).

Contact

For questions or requests, please contact info@inroad.eu.





Workshop agenda

THE ROLE OF REGIONAL, NATIONAL, INSTITUTIONAL & EU FRAMEWORKS IN THE LONG-TERM FUNDING OF RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

Hamburg, 1-2nd March, 2018

Day 1- Thursday, 1st of March 2018

09h00 – 09h30 Registration (DESY, Building 1b, 2nd floor, foyer of room 4a/b,)

10h00 – 11h00 Visit to Petra III facility (Building 1b, 2nd floor, foyer of room 4a/b)

12h00 – 12h45 **Lunch**

12h45 – 13h15 **Opening session**

12h45 – 13h00 Welcome: Dr. Frank **Lehner** (Head of International Cooperation and Strategic Partnerships at DESY).

13h00 – 13h15 Aims of the workshop, short overview of the InRoad project: Annika **Thies** (Director of the Helmholtz Association's Brussels Office (Helmholtz Association)).

13h15 – 14h30 **Block 1** Moderator: Dr. Martin **Müller** (InRoad Coordinator, Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF))

Context The coordination of regional, national, institutional and EU frameworks for RI long-term funding. How do these four levels interact? Current policies, bottlenecks and differences between scientific communities.

13h15 – 13h45 The role of national funding in RIs: Peter **Wenzel-Constabel** (Head of the Research Infrastructures Section, Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF)).

13h45 – 14h15 The role of institutional funding in RIs: Dr. Sören **Wiesenfeldt** (Head of Research, Helmholtz Association).

14h15 – 14h30 Wrap-up with recommendations from speakers.

14h30 – 14h45 **Coffee break**

14h45 – 18h15 **Panel (part 1)**

Context Experiences of RI Operators combining regional/national/institutional/EU-level programmes for the long-term funding of RI. Bottlenecks identified during the different phases and recommendations for the future.





Panel (part 1)	Moderator: Dr. Jan Hrušák (Advisor to the Council at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Member of ESFRI Executive Board)
14h45 – 15h15	The German-Dutch Wind Tunnels Foundation (DNW): Prof. Dr. Georg Eitelberg (Director DNW).
15h15 – 15h45	The European XFEL: Dr. Thomas Tschentscher (Scientific Director, Member of the Management Board of the European XFEL and member of EIROforum).
15h45 – 16h15	Infrafrontier: Dr. Michael Räb (Head of General Management, INFRAFRONTIER).
16h15-16h30	Wrap-up with recommendations.
16h30 –17h00	Coffee break
Panel (part 2)	Moderator: Dr. Jan Hrušák (Advisor to the Council at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Member of ESFRI Executive Board)
17h00 – 17h30	Petra III: Dr. Herman Franz (Deputy Director of Photon Science at DESY)
17h30 – 18h00	EMPHASIS: Prof. Dr. Ulrich Schurr (Coordinator; Head of Plant Sciences, Institute of Bio-and Geosciences at Jülich Research Centre GmbH)
18h00 – 18h15	Wrap-up with recommendations from panelists
18h50 –22h00	Dinner at Au Quai, Große Elbstraße 145 b-d, 22767 Hamburg. Please wait for the bus in front of building 1 at DESY.

Day 2 - Friday, 2nd of March 2018

09h00 – 09h30	Coffee
09h30 –10h30	Block 1 Moderator: Dr. Martin Müller (InRoad Coordinator, Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF))
09h30 – 10h00	The Role of the European Commission funding RI + status of long-term sustainability action plan: Dominik Sobczak (ESFRI Executive Secretary, Research Infrastructures Unit, DG RTD).
10h00 –10h30	InRoad: aims, interim results and next steps: Dr. Teresa Jorge (Head of Cooperation and Promotion at the Centro Regional Coordination and Development Commission).
10h30 –10h40	Format and expectations of the parallel sessions: Carme de Andrés Sanchis (Project Manager at the Helmholtz Association).
10h40 –12h40	Block 2 (Parallel sessions) Moderators: Ute Krell (Head of the EU Project Office at DESY) and Annika Thies (Helmholtz Association)
10h40 –12h40	Recommendations for the future: Funding and the National roadmap process. Group 1 Moderator: Ute Krell ; Group 2 Moderator: Annika Thies .





12h40 –13h30	Lunch
13h30 –16h00	Block 3 (Wrap-up, closure and visit to XFEL facility) Moderators: Ute Krell (DESY) and Annika Thies (Helmholtz Association)
13h30 –14h00	Summary of rapporteurs of the break-out sessions and conclusions.
14h30 – 16h00	Visit to the European XFEL.

END of workshop—

