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#3 Higher degree of coordination between regional, national and European funding frameworks

Presentation of InRoad's insights on theme 3

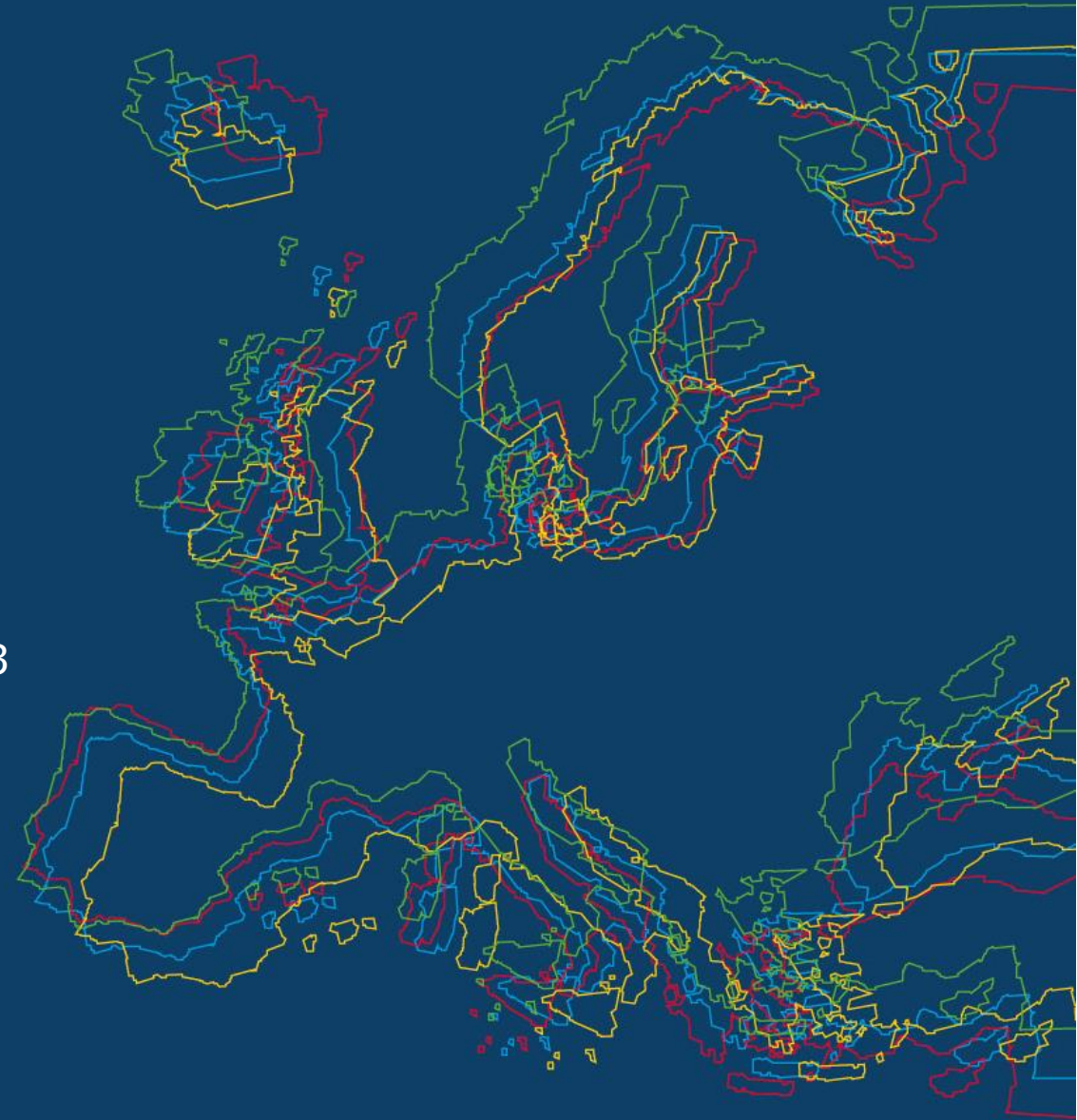
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Development Commission



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synchronising research infrastructure
roadmapping in Europe



6 InRoad recommends using the lifecycle approach to contribute to the long-term sustainability of RI.

6.1 InRoad encourages EU Member States and Associated Countries to improve financial predictability and stability across the entire lifecycle of RI.

- A combination of **long-term strategic vision, funding and greater commitment** from national governments, agencies and institutions is essential to support these state-of-the-art facilities;
- RI **operational budget should benefit from national contributions** in order to secure the sustainability of RI.

6.2 InRoad stresses the need for a better integration of RI in their related ecosystems.

- Though there is a declared impetus for RI to engage in industrial R&I activities, it is **important to be cautious about pressing incentives to produce short-term results.**

Q. How can RI be **better integrated in their related ecosystems at the different levels** (local, regional, national, European and global)? Besides the relation with industry, how may these engage with other stakeholders from research and innovation systems

6 InRoad recommends using the lifecycle approach to contribute to the long-term sustainability of RI.

6.3 InRoad recommends strengthening the support to funding mechanisms for access to and coordination of facilities, notably the EU transnational access instrument.

- Given the clear imperative to provide high quality and accessible **RI services to a broad user community**, InRoad recommends **related costs to be considered part of the RI mission discussion from early stages on**;
- It is recommended that new and existing funding instruments (for RI access) take into account the **diversity of user profiles and needs**;
- There is a need for an effective implementation of policies that **ensure access to RI through the principles of transparency, non-discrimination, information and competition**.

7 InRoad calls for closer synergies between regional, national and European funding frameworks to promote an integrated European Research Area.

7.1 InRoad calls for greater coherence among the priority-setting tools within research and innovation policies across different levels.

- The success of RI priority setting exercises seems highly dependent on the ability to set in motion **national long-term perspectives and commitments** and on the **embeddedness of RI roadmaps in different national policies**;
- There is room for improvement in the **alignment of national strategies for the implementation of ESIF** in each region/country **with other national and European policies for R&I**.

7 InRoad calls for closer synergies between regional, national and European funding frameworks to promote an integrated European Research Area.

7.2 InRoad recommends an adjustment of the funding regulatory frameworks across different levels to favour synergies between funding mechanisms.

- InRoad calls for **simplification and alignment of rules between ESIF (for R&I) and EU RTD Framework Programmes** – or even the adoption of a common regulation;
- A **transitional period between the implementation and operational phase** allowing the funding of operational costs through ESIF would contribute to bridging an existing gap;
- **A common approach among different countries and the EC** is needed on issues that affect the multilevel articulation that the European RI ecosystem demands (e.g. in-kind contributions, secondments or Value Added Tax (VAT)/excise duty).

Q. What elements would be needed for a common regulation on RI between ESIF and the EU R&I Framework Programme? E.g. Who? Where? How? Where are the challenges? How can these be overcome?

Q. Should there be a transitional period between the implementation and operational phases allowing funding of operational costs with the structural funds? If so, which elements should be taken into consideration? E.g. Who? What? How? Where? If not, why?

8 InRoad calls for fostering of mutual learning and cooperation through the exchange of information.

8.1 InRoad encourages further action to improve and facilitate sharing of practices and common development of funding solutions.

- Requires a **shared understanding** among all stakeholders (including funders), supported by an alignment of terminology;
- Requires people with highly **specialised knowledge**;
- Need for **external help and training** on how to apply for funding instruments;
- Training workshops, among other discussion fora, are interesting contexts to promote the **exchange of experiences and** even to foster the **common development of solutions**.

Q. What factors need to be considered to support **exchange of experiences** among RI managers and **common development of solutions** for RI? E.g. parties and bodies involved to make this possible, funding needed, mechanisms to make this feasible, etc...

8 InRoad calls for fostering of mutual learning and cooperation through the exchange of information.

8.2 InRoad stresses the importance of developing and adopting structured mechanisms to demonstrate, communicate and disseminate the scientific and strategic relevance of RI, as well as their broader societal impact.

- Assessing **RI impact** calls for coordinated efforts to develop **quantitative and qualitative models**;
- Commonly agree on a **minimal set of indicators** allowing for benchmarking and international comparisons.

Q. How can the **socio-economic impact** of RI on their related ecosystems be assessed? E.g. criteria. Are there limitations to this? Where?

Group discussion on the insights (45')

Specific topics to address within theme 3

- How can RI be **better integrated in their related ecosystems at different levels** (local, regional, national, European and global)? Besides industry, how can RI engage with other stakeholders from the R&I systems?
- What elements would be needed for a common regulation on RI **between ESIF and EU R&I Framework Programmes**? E.g. Who? Where? How? Where are the challenges? How can these be overcome?
- Should there be a **transitional period between implementation and operational phases** allowing funding of operational costs with structural funds? If so, which elements should be considered? E.g. Who? What? How? Where? If not, why?
- How can the **socio-economic impact** of RI on their related ecosystems be assessed? E.g. criteria. Are there limitations to this? Where?
- What factors need to be considered to support the **exchange of experiences** among RI managers and the **common development of solutions** for RI? E.g. Parties and bodies involved to make this possible, funding needed, mechanisms to make this feasible, etc...
- What elements would have to be considered to achieve a **higher degree of coordination among funding frameworks**? What are the challenges involved? How can these challenges realistically be overcome?