

# Implementation of ERA

by ESFRI

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# ESFRI - historical view

- The idea to develop a more coordinated approach for policy making in the field of research infrastructures in Europe:  
the Strasbourg Conference on Research Infrastructures  
(European Commission, the French Presidency and the European Scientific Foundation, September 2000).

# ESFRI - historical view

- research infrastructures more and more complex
- more and more expensive
- not necessarily single-sited
- more and more research infrastructures require **cooperation at international level** to respond to global needs and to their high complexity and costs.

# ESFRI - historical view

- The first meeting of the **European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)** - Brussels, April 2002.

## **Mission:**

- body supporting a coherent policy of EU Member States in the field of research infrastructures as well as initiatives aiming at better use and development of existing infrastructures;
- incubator for decision-making processes regarding the development of pan-European research infrastructure.

**Composition:** representatives of EU Member States, Associate States and European Commission.

# ESFRI - historical view

- November 2003, the 2nd Conference of Research Infrastructures, Trieste, Italy.
- Objective: to assess the present and future role of the research infrastructures in the construction of the European Research Area, and to further a common EU and Member States policy in their support, as initiated by ESFRI.

# ESFRI - historical view

- **2004 - ESFRI decide to prepare a Roadmap for research infrastructures in Europe, for the next 10 to 20 years.**
- The objective of the Roadmap: to provide an overview of the needs for research infrastructures of pan-European interest, with view to facilitate decision-making by Member States and by the European Commission. Not to prioritise or to decide on funding and the location of future infrastructures.

# ESFRI in FP7

- 2006 - implementation of the **7th Framework Programme** - discussions at Council and European Parliament level highlight the role of ESFRI
- Council:  
*„the Community Framework Programme will aim at supporting the construction of new research infrastructures or major upgrades of existing ones focussing mainly on preparatory phases, to promote the emergence of new research facilities, in accordance with the principle of 'variable geometries', building primarily upon the work conducted by ESFRI”.*

# ESFRI Roadmap

- **2006 – 1st ESFRI Roadmap for Research Infrastructures**
- 35 projects divided into scientific domains (SSH, Environmental Sc., Energy, Biological and Medical Sc., Material and Analytical Facilities, Physical Sc. and Engineering, e-Infrastructures)
- Financing from the EC – 1st call of FP7 *Infrastructures*



# Research Infrastructures in ERA

- **April 2007 - EC launches debate on the European Research Area with the adoption of the ERA Green Paper.**

- **„Fifth freedom”**

6 main axes in the ERA GP, one related with world class research infrastructures:

- integrated,
  - networked,
  - accessible to research teams from across Europe & the world (new generations of electronic communication infrastructures).
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- A long-term policy vision on the position of RIs in the current and future research area seen as essential.

# Research Infrastructures in ERA

- The 4th European Conference on Research Infrastructures (DE presidency, June 2007 in Hamburg), on the **need for a coherent European policy for research infrastructures in order to strengthen and enrich the ERA.**
- The ESFRI Roadmap recognised as an important step in this direction.
- **The implementation of the 35 projects becomes a priority for Europe.**

# Research Infrastructures in ERA

## Challenges highlighted:

- creation of a dedicated legal structure at EU level;
- effective financial management;
- effective use of e-infrastructures (appropriate arrangements for data storage, security and preservation).

# ESFRI Roadmap 2008

- **2008 – ESFRI Roadmap reviewed and updated:** 44 projects (new ones in Environment, Energy and Health fields)
- Preparatory Phase
- Construction Phase
- Enhanced ESFRI monitoring of the Preparatory Phase

# Poland in ESFRI

- **Polish Roadmap of Research Infrastructures** – currently under preparation
- Existing big RIs, international RIs with Polish users, projects financed from the structural funds, ESFRI Roadmap projects with Polish involvement

# Poland in ESFRI

## Selection of ESFRI projects:

- a bottom-up process,
- ranking of projects with regard to the national priorities,
- political decision on the future financing, preferably by the National Center for Research and Development.

# New questions, new solutions

- **Current works: ERI**
  - ✓ *Council Regulation on the Community legal framework for a European Research Infrastructure (ERI)*
  - ✓ Facilitate common setting up and exploitation of research facilities of European dimension by a group of Member States and/or Associate countries
- **Current problem: unbalanced distribution of RIs in Europe**

# Latest news

- Draft Council conclusions on the Research Infrastructures and the Regional dimension of ERA – Competitiveness Council, 28-29.05.2009
- In the current economic crisis - accelerate the investments in the pan-European research infrastructures (as agreed in the European Economic Recovery Plan) => further development of ERA and realisation of the „fifth freedom”.



**Thank you very much!**