



Slovenia – National Embedment

1. RI definition	
In which points does the National Roadmap deviate from the ESFRI Roadmap?	
Categories	National Roadmap
Funding	
Categorisation of RI	
Access to RI	
Organisation within national procedure	
<p>Research infrastructures are facilities, resources or services that constitute larger sets of research equipment or instruments and represent or complement knowledge resources such as collections, archives and databases. Research infrastructures can be concentrated on a single spot, distributed or virtual (enabling services electronically). They often require a structured information system for data management and for enabling information and communications. In the wording of national Roadmap, these are centres or consortiums of public research organisations that have research infrastructure at their disposal, and enable access to unique capabilities and means and services that were identified by researchers as necessary for research in all the research fields, from social sciences to geology and astrophysics.</p>	

Source: Slovenian Roadmap for Research Infrastructures 2012



2. RI players in the national R&I system

The RI players within the R&I system are displayed in figure 20.

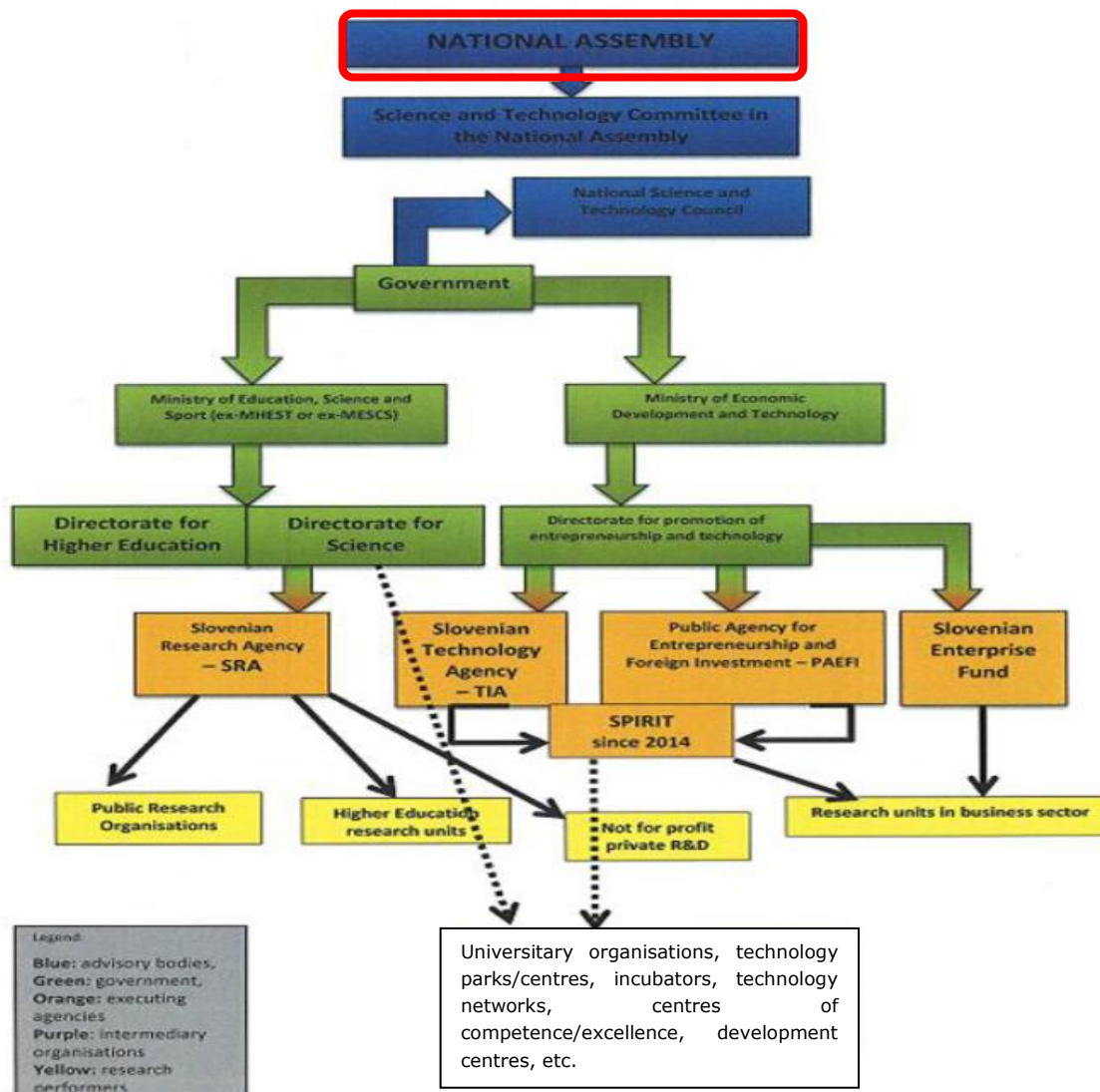


Figure 1 Organisation structure of the Slovenian RDI system

Figure 20: Organisational chart of the R&I system of Slovenia (Udovic, Bucar, Hristov, 2015, p. 15). Red colour indicates the bodies with the main decision power regarding RI.

National relevance of RI

The primary objective of the Roadmap is to set-up and present priorities of the Republic of Slovenia in the area of research infrastructure. Regarding its content, it complements the Research and Innovation Strategy of Slovenia 2011–2020, and presents the area implementation document. An important function of the document, serving as a guide and a point of reference for the state administration bodies and bearers of public authority in this area, is the integration of their activities, the enabling of more synergy and the avoidance of duplication, and thereby more effective distribution of public funds. At the same time, the document enables a certain level of predictability and understanding of plans of the state, and monitoring of implementation of public policy and goals in the RI area. Speed and scope of achieving the goals depend in particular on year to year capacity of the budget and public financial circumstances in the state, respectively. The document is not legally binding, and it is inadmissible that any of its parts should be understood in a sense other than the one that is stated. (InRoad Consultation on RI, 2017)



Embedding of RI in the national R&I system

Several instruments have been put in place in Slovenian RDI system to promote knowledge transfer, including the establishment of special institutional set-up, like centres of excellence and competence centres, where cooperation between public sector research organisations and business sector could flourish. Yet most of them are no longer receiving any financial support from the government.

The Centres of Excellence is a measure within the framework of the scientific and technology policy of Slovenia aimed at promoting the concentration of knowledge at priority technological areas and horizontal linking along the entire chain of knowledge development, which is realised on the basis of strategic partnerships between the private sector and academia (Udovic, Bucar, Hristov, 2016, p. 69).

3. RI in the National R&I System

Slovenian Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) system is quite complex, with two major characteristics: it is centralised and its financing is executed mostly on a competitive-basis. The most important players in the field are two ministries (Ministry of Education, Science and Sport – MESS; and Ministry of Economic Development and Technology – MEDT), entitled to promulgate relevant documents and policy measures, but also to co-finance projects, mostly indirectly (MEDT through SPIRIT, MESS through SRA). The main RDI funders are the business and government sector – where the business funds play an increasingly more important role in the last eight years. (Udovic, Bucar, Hristov, 2016, p. 16)

4. Major national strategies for international cooperation in R&I and strategic integration of RI

In May 2011 the Slovenian National Assembly adopted a long-term strategic document of research and innovation (covering RDI in an integrated manner), named Research and Innovation Strategy of Slovenia (RISS) 2011–2020, which reflects the main EU priorities in the field of RDI. RISS defined the R&D priorities for the next decade (2011–2020) summarised as follows:

- a) Better integration of research and innovation;
- b) Publicly funded sciences and scientists shall contribute to economic and social restructuring;
- c) Enhancing/ensuring closer cooperation between PROs and the business sector;
- d) Increasing scientific excellence, partly by increasing competitiveness within S&T stakeholders and partly by providing necessary resources, both human and financial. (Udovic, Bucar, Hristov, 2016, p. 16)

References

- Government of the Republic of Slovenia (2011). Research Infrastructure Roadmap 2011 – 2020: Revision 2016 [online]. <http://www.mizs.gov.si/fileadmin/mizs.gov.si/pageuploads/zakonodaja/predlogi/znanost/NRRI_2016_ENG.pdf>. [Last access: 09/2017].
- Udovič, B., Bučar, M. and Hristov, H. (2016), RIO Country Report Slovenia 2015. <<https://rio.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/library/rio-country-report-slovenia-2015>> [Last access: 09/2017].