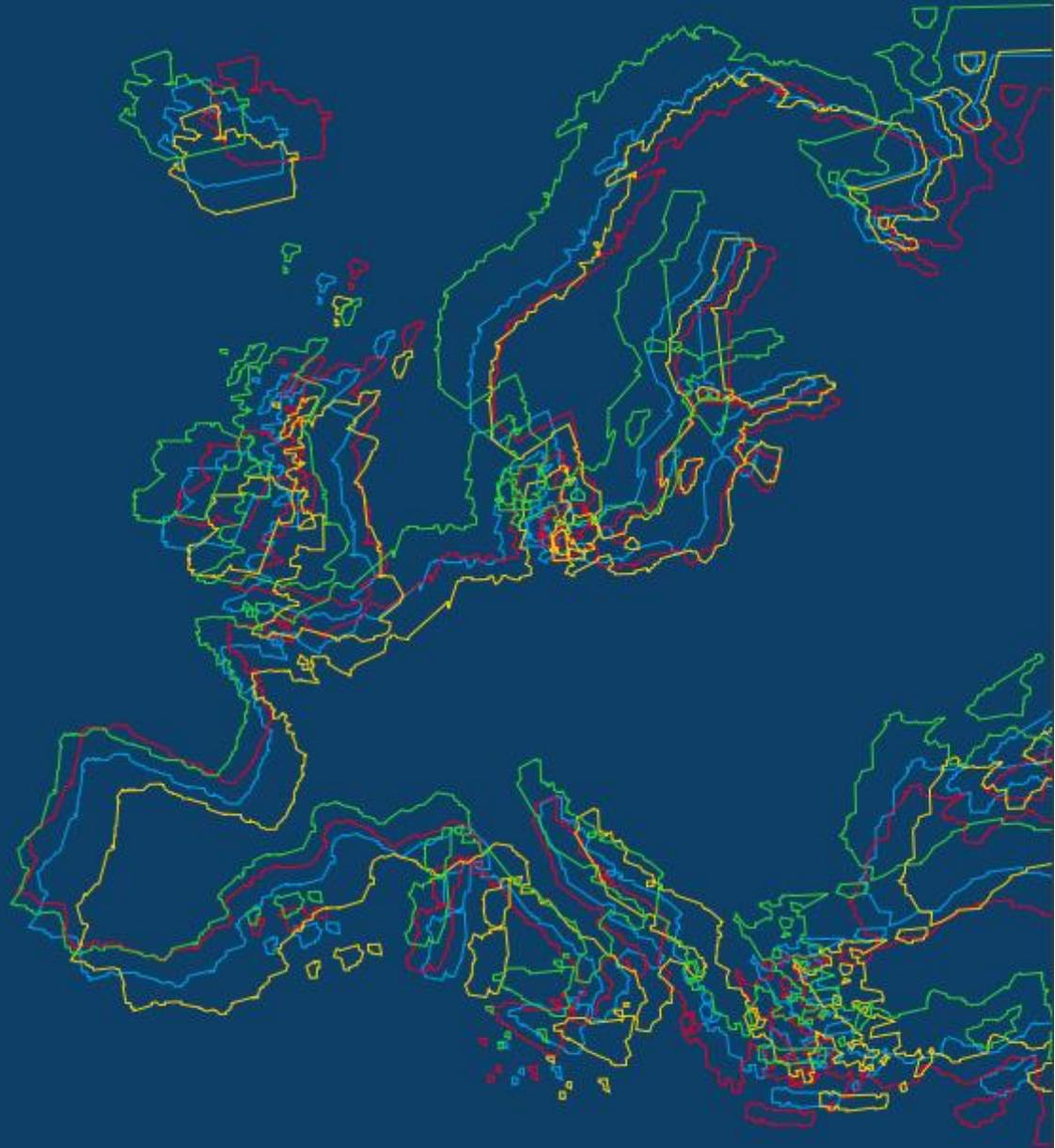




InRoad synchronising research infrastructure
roadmapping in Europe



InRoad Final Conference Brussels, 12. December 2018

InRoad Final Conference Report



InRoad has been funded by the
European Union's Horizon 2020
Research and Innovation programme
under grant agreement No 730928.

InRoad Final Conference Report

Summary of outcomes

Brussels, December 2018
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Workshop report

The [InRoad Final Conference](#) had the objectives to present and discuss the project's final findings, recommendations and good practices, which have been developed in [InRoad Final Report](#).

The Final Conference took place as InRoad reached the last month of the project. It was therefore the ideal moment to present the project final findings and recommendation to Research Infrastructures (RIs) stakeholders. The findings and policy insights touch upon three thematic areas, namely:

- (1) higher degree of coordination between national and European RI roadmapping processes;
- (2) higher degree of coordination between regional, national and European funding frameworks, and;
- (3) best practices and common standards for RI business planning.

In total, **94 participants** from 19 different countries participated in the Final Conference. The event offered a balanced [programme](#) with presentations as well as panel and plenary discussions on the project final policy insights.

Outcome of Presentations and Panel Discussions

The first keynote speaker, Urs **Baltensperger**, Head of Laboratory for Atmospheric Chemistry at PSI and former Chair of the Specialised Committee for International Cooperation at the SNSF, contributed with its expertise in distributed RIs and presented a vision for a future RI landscape in Europe. During his [presentation](#), he underlined the importance of excellent science to tackle global challenges and states that solving global challenges requires state-of-the-art, global RI. In order to achieve this, activities that promote better coordination of policies, planning and funding processes for RIs need to be further supported. Indeed, the planning and construction of single-sited RIs require large investments, which are beyond the capabilities of a country. For distributed RIs, the multiplicity of stakeholders involved call for greater coordination. Therefore, decision-making and funding processes between different countries need to be better aligned to achieve a more efficient and sustainable RI landscape. Finally, he mentioned the importance of having transparent processes and a strong involvement of user communities, host institutions and industry in order to ensure long-term sustainability of the RI landscape.

The first panel discussion focused on RI roadmapping processes and was moderated by Milena **Žic-Fuchs**, member of the InRoad Advisory Board. As members of the first panel, InRoad was pleased to welcome Inmaculada **Figuerola** from the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities of Spain, Philippe **Froissard** from the European Commission and Ricardo **Migueis** from CESAER. The discussions mentioned that for EU MS and AC, ESFRI is a reference in different ways. Moreover, it was stressed out that the importance is not about how far we can coordinate but what we can coordination. In this sense, the share vision of the process is more important than the conclusion itself. The panel also discussed the recommendations and challenges of a higher degree of coordination between national and RI roadmapping processes. InRoad has collected extensive data but now there is a need to act on this data through "missionary" work. This has to be done by involving all relevant stakeholders – including universities – and by involving more countries in coordination activities but also by keeping some flexibility in the coordination in order to respect national specificities. Moreover, the contribution of the European Commission was underlined at different levels notably through its



involvement in ESFRI, the monitoring of the ERA as well as Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. The main challenge stressed was the further consideration of the link between RI roadmapping and funding.

The second panel discussion focused on RI funding frameworks as well as RI business plans and was moderated by Ralph **Eichler**, member of the InRoad Advisory Board. As members of the second panel, InRoad was pleased to welcome Sofie **Björling** from the Swedish Research Council, Dominik **Sobczak** from the European Commission and Jana **Kolar** from CERIC-ERIC. It was stressed out that diversity is a challenge but could also be an advantage and this should not be forgotten. The panel discussed the recommendations and challenges related to funding frameworks and business plans. The need to find a sustainable solution for funding was underlined especially for transnational access. Also, the assessment and monitoring of RIs was recognised as essential to demonstrate their value not only in financial terms, but also with qualitative assessments. Finally, the link between RI funding and business plans was emphasised, as in order to expect long-term financial commitments, there is a need for a sound business plans.

As a closing [keynote](#) speaker, Jan **Hrušák**, Chair-Elect of ESFRI, recognised the valuable research work carried out by InRoad, as well as the inputs of the project for European RI policy notably for further debate in view of the ongoing policy discussions (EU, ERAC, ESFRI, ERF, GSF, and so on).

Next Steps

In his [closing words](#), Martin **Müller**, InRoad Coordinator, addressed ESFRI, Science Europe, ERIC Forum, ERF, EU projects and others to continue the work started by InRoad and to implement policies and practices that will support the whole ecosystems of RIS and keep Europe at the forefront of science.



Programme

From 9:00	Registration and welcome coffee
09:30	Welcome words Martin Müller InRoad Coordinator, Swiss National Science Foundation
09:45	Keynote speech: A vision for a future European Research Infrastructure Landscape Urs Baltensperger SNSF Research Council
10:15	Introduction to InRoad's findings #1 Milena Zic Fuchs InRoad Advisory Board Reactions from selected high-level experts Inmaculada Figueroa (Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities of Spain) Jean-David Malo (DG RTD) Ricardo Migueis (CESAER)
12:00	Lunch
13:00	Presentation of InRoad's findings #2 - #3 Ralph Eichler InRoad Advisory Board Reactions from selected high-level experts Sofie Björling (Swedish Research Council) Dominik Sobczak (DG RTD) Jana Kolar (CEO CERIC-ERIC)
14:30	Integrating InRoad findings in the European context towards long-term sustainability Jan Hrusak, ESFRI Chair-Elect
15:00	Closing words Martin Müller InRoad Coordinator, Swiss National Science Foundation
15:30	Networking reception

