



## **INFODAY – Research Infrastructures**

**Utilizing the full Potential of Research Infrastructures for Strengthening the ERA**

**Sept 2009 – Maria Douka, European Commission**





# Basics of the development of the European Research Area

The ERA concept combines:

- a European "internal market" for research, where researchers, technology and knowledge freely circulate;
- an effective European-level coordination of national and regional research activities, programmes and policies;
- initiatives implemented and funded jointly.



# Ljubljana Process

as discussed under the SI Presidency , mid 2008

We need to develop a well-organised partnership between the Member States, Associated States and the Commission to exchange information and to steer all initiatives in a coherent way.

- A common **long-term vision** for the future of ERA as the basis for future actions & initiatives
- Better **governance**, notably with better political steering at ministerial level, is needed

# Research Infrastructures (incl. e-infrastructures) are:

- Facilities, resources, and related services used by the scientific community for
  - Conducting leading-edge research
  - Knowledge transmission, exchange and preservation
- Today Research Infrastructures include
  - Major scientific equipment, scientific collections, structured information, ICT-based infrastructures, and
  - Unique experimental sites opened to researchers



# Towards an 'eco-system' of Research Infrastructures within ERA

- a) Large single-sited facilities
- b) Distributed European Facilities
- c) Network of national facilities

Based on

- a) a consistent roadmap  
from the European stakeholders
- b) Links with universities & schools
- c) Network of industrial suppliers / users





# Response to challenges

- Cost-wise efficient research services,
- Optimisation of existing Research Infrastructures,
- (ESFRI roadmap for) new Infrastructures
- An improved working environment (e.g. new Community legal frameworks)

## Next steps:

- Real implementation of foreseen actions
- A real EU Research Infrastructures policy

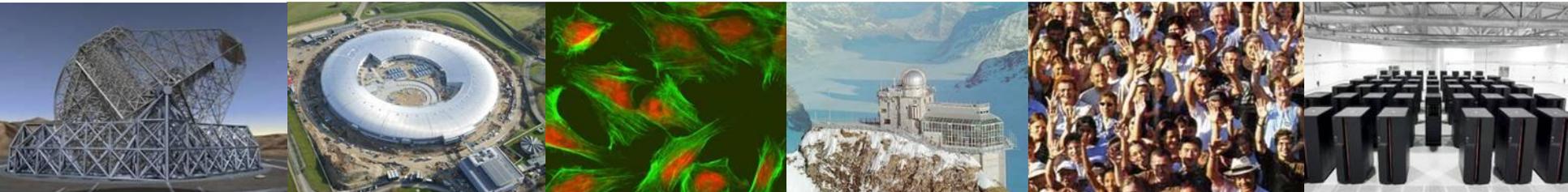


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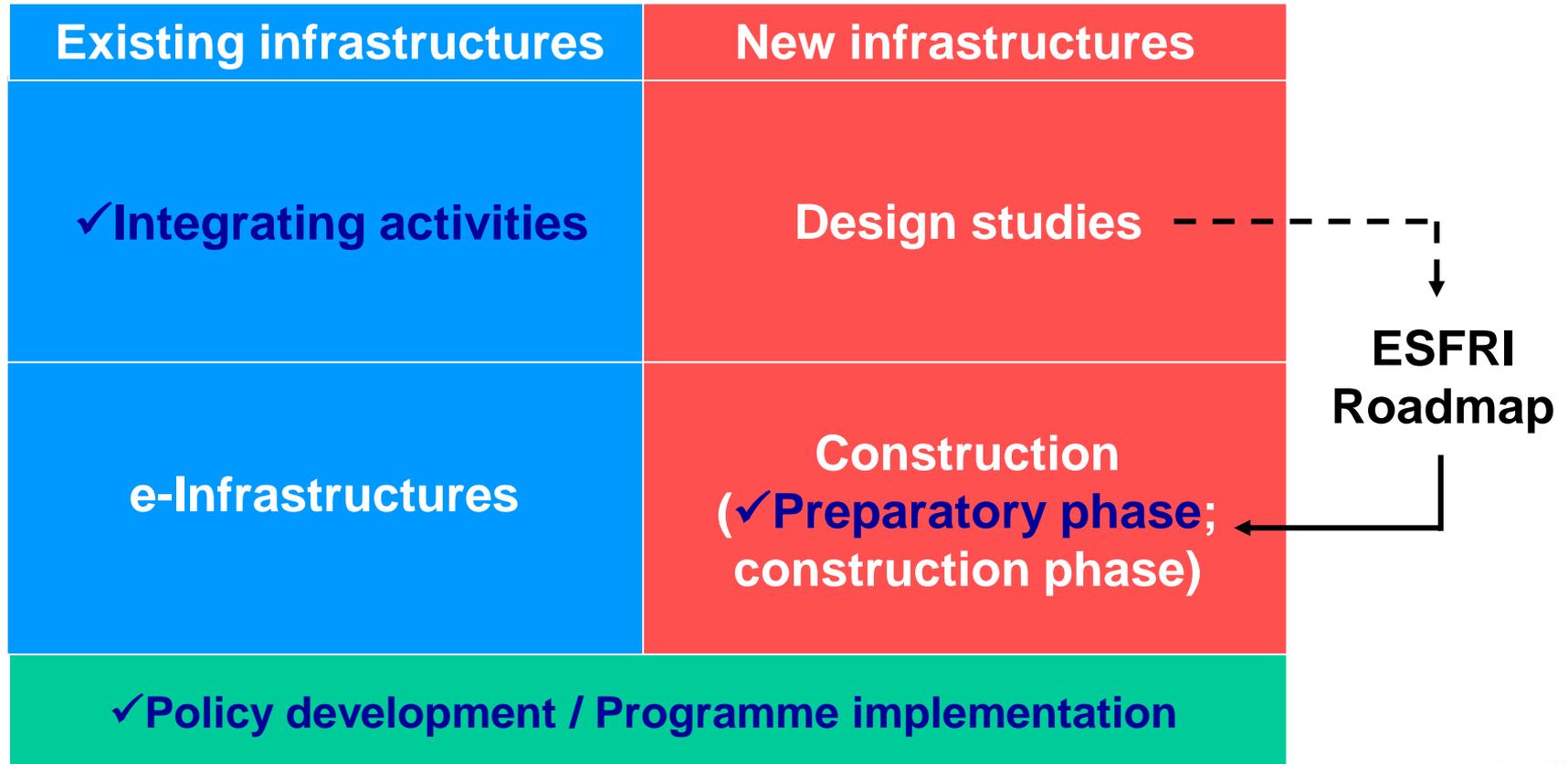
# FP7 Research Infrastructures Call for proposals

## FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2010-1





# FP7 Research Infrastructures action



(✓ call FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2010-1)





# Call budget

## FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2010-1

Indicative total budget: **EUR 217 million (M€)**

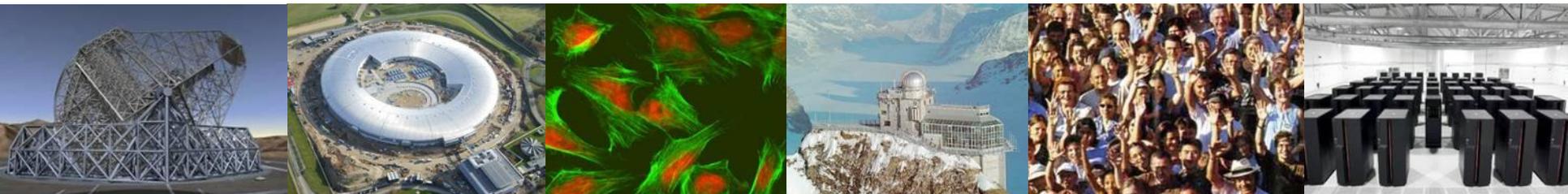
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Support to existing research infrastructures</b>	
	<b>1.1.1 Integrating activities</b>	<b>~ 162 M€</b>
<b>1.2</b>	<b>Support to new research infrastructures</b>	
	<b>1.2.2 Construction of new infrastructures (or major upgrades) – Preparatory phase</b>	<b>~ 45 M€</b>
<b>1.3</b>	<b>Support to policy development and programme implementation</b>	<b>~ 10 M€</b>



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# Integrating activities





# Integrating Activity in FP7

- Continuation of the FP6 instrument "I3"
- Collaboration of **existing research infrastructures**
  - Normally all major RI's in Europe in one field
- Three types of obligatory activities
  - *Networking Activities*
  - *Trans-national Access and/or Service Activities*
  - *Joint Research Activities*

2,5% of EU needs  
About 300 RIs  
supported under FP



# Integrating activities

## Targeted approach

- This call addresses **35 defined topics**, focusing on strategic priorities
- With topics for the potential follow-up of projects and with topics for the opening to new communities
- More topics than can be funded to ensure competition (around 20 projects expected to be selected)

*Funding scheme: **CP-CSA** (combination of 'collaborative project' & 'coordination and support actions')*



# Integrating activities

## Eligibility and requirements

- **Eligibility conditions**

- **General criteria:** deadline, completeness, relevance to topics...
- **Min. 3 independent legal entities from 3 different MS or AC**
- **Max. requested EC funding: 10 M€**  
(warning: € 10.000.000,01 → proposal NOT eligible!)
- **All 3 types of activities are mandatory:** (1) networking, (2) transnational access and/or service, (3) joint research activities

- **Further requirements**

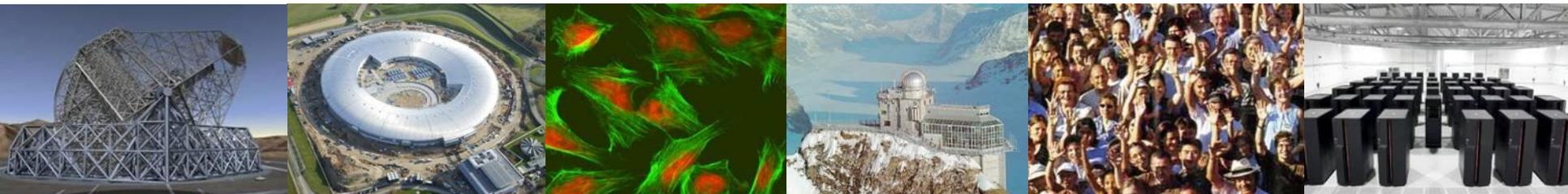
- **Maximum 4 years**
- **One proposal expected per topic**, corresponding in general to a **given class** of RI



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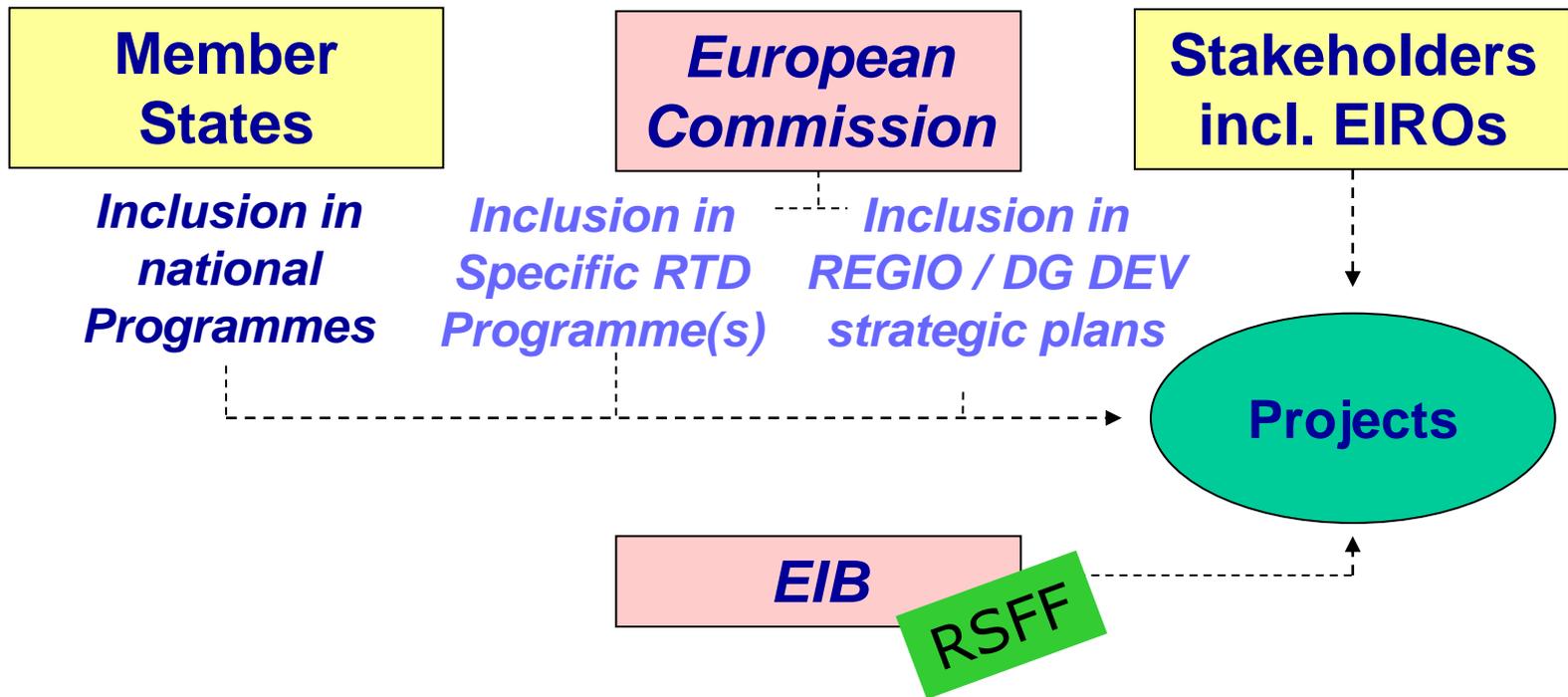
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# Preparatory phase





# Preparatory Phase facilitating financial engineering for new research infrastructures



*New Projects under the ESFRI 2008 roadmap*



# Preparatory phase

## Objectives and activities

- **Objectives:** to provide **catalytic** and leveraging support for the preparatory phase leading to the construction of new RIs
  - ➔ Building primarily upon the work conducted by ESFRI
  - ➔ Bringing the project to the level of legal and financial maturity
  - ➔ Involving all the necessary stakeholders to make the project move forward, take decision, etc.
- **Activities:** legal work, governance, strategic work, financial work and, if necessary, technical work

*Funding scheme: **CP-CSA** (combination of 'collaborative project' & 'coordination and support actions')*





# Preparatory phase

## Eligibility and requirements

- **Eligibility conditions**

- **General criteria: deadline, completeness, relevance to topics...**
- **Min. 3 independent legal entities from 3 different MS or AC**
- **Max. requested EC funding: 6 M€**  
*(warning: € 6.000.000,01 → proposal NOT eligible!)*

- **Further requirements**

- **Maximum 4 years**
- **EC funding normally from 3 to 6 M€ (max.)**



# ERIC: a new Community legal framework

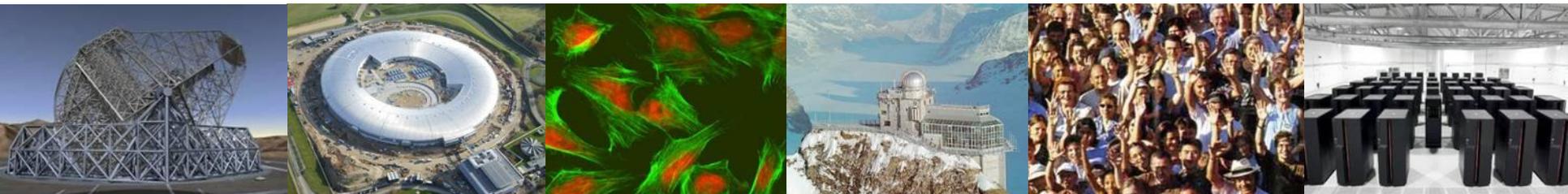
- Recent entry into force (Aug 09)
- Allows the Community to set up European entities necessary for efficient execution of Community RTD programmes (art. 171 EC Treaty)
- The regulation provides an easy-to-use legal tool:
  - ... having legal personality recognized in all MS
  - ... having a spirit of a truly European venture
  - ... being flexible enough (one size doesn't fit all)
  - ... with some privileges / exemptions



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# Support to policy





# Support to policy Objectives and topics

- **Objectives:** to enhance the effectiveness and coherence of national and Community research policies, **international cooperation** and the analysis of **emerging needs** in the field of RIs
- **Two topics**
  - **INFRA-2010-3.1: ERANET** supporting cooperation for RIs in all S&T fields
  - **INFRA-2010-3.2: Studies, conferences and coordination actions** supporting policy development, including international cooperation in all S&T fields



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# ERANET Activities

- **Activities:** (1) information exchange, (2) definition and preparation of joint activities and (3) implementation of joint activities

***Funding scheme: CSA-CA ('coordination and support actions – coordination action')***





# ERANET

## Expected proposals

- **Specific focus on:**
  - **Structuring** specific science and technology fields not yet fully organised at EU level
  - The **regional dimension** of RIs (coordination of RIs hosted by regions and/or financed by Structural Funds)
  - RIs **observatory** at European level.
  - **International cooperation** (helping Europe to speak with one voice)



## Eligibility and requirements

- **Eligibility conditions**
  - **General criteria: deadline, completeness, relevance to topic**
  - **Eligible partners are legal entities defining, financing or managing publicly funded national or regional programmes and/or policy actions**
  - **Minimum 3 eligible partners established in different MS or AC.**
- **Further requirements**
  - **Typically 2 to 3 years**
  - **EC contribution normally from 1 to 2 M€**



# Studies, conferences... Expected proposals

- **Actions related to the socio-economic impacts of RIs**
  - ➔ **Development of new methods and indicators...**
  - ➔ **Forward-looking, prospective, trends per domain...**
- **Development of the “European Portal on RIs’ Services” (as a tool for the scientific community and for policy makers)**
- **Actions fostering a more balanced territorial development and integration of RIs within the ERA (focus on governance and management)**
- **Actions supporting international cooperation and policy initiatives related to RI projects (at global level or with specific interest at international level)**



# Studies, conferences...

## Eligibility and requirements

- **Eligibility conditions**

- **General criteria:** deadline, completeness, relevance to topics

- **For CA:** min. 3 independent legal entities from 3 different MS or AC

- **For SA:** min. 1 independent legal entity

- **Further requirements**

- Typically **1 to 3 years**

- EC contribution normally from **0,2 to 1 M€**



# Evaluation

- **Based on three major criteria**

➔ **Scientific excellence is the major criteria, but...**

➔ **Efficient management of the foreseen action is key for its potential success, and**

**Impacts should not only be measurable on scientific grounds, they also have to cover ERA, socio-economic as well as HR issues**



# Indicative timetable

- **Date of publication** **30 July 2009**
- **Deadline** **3 December 2009 17:00  
(Brussels time)**
- **Evaluation** **Dec. 2009 – Feb. 2010**
- **Evaluation results** **March 2010**
- **Launch of negotiation** **May 2010**
- **Signature grant agreements** **from autumn 2010**
- **Pre-financing** **45 days after signature  
grant agreement**
- **Starting date** **to be negotiated**



# Essential documents

- **Work Programme (FP7 'Capacities', Research Infrastructures, 2010) and 'Call fiche'**
- **Guides for applicants**
  - ➔ **Practical information on how to apply (electronic submission of proposals only)**
  - ➔ **Specific to a call and a funding scheme**
  - ➔ **Instructions for completing 'part A' (forms) and drafting 'part B' (text) of the proposal**

*(on Cordis web site, along with other useful documents)*



# Contact persons

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- General information: *Agnes.Robin* or *Hugues.Crutzen*
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- Energy, engineering: *Brigitte.Weiss*
- Mathematics, computer-related sciences: *Lorenza.Saracco*
- Analytical facilities: *Hugues.Crutzen*
- Physics: *Christian.Kurrer*
- Preparatory phases, int'l cooperation: *Elena.Righi-Steele*
- ERANET, territorial development & ERA: *Christos.Profilis*



# Other relevant information

- **FP7 and Capacities Specific Programme**
  - <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/>
  - <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/capacities/>
- **Research Infrastructures on Europa website**
  - <http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/>
- **ESFRI on CORDIS**
  - <http://cordis.europa.eu/esfri/>

# Thank you!

