

Research Infrastructures and Contract Research Workshop Joint RCC DG JRC and EU4TECH Meeting

30th October 2018 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Rational

Research Infrastructure (RI) can provide the basis for attracting and retaining good researchers as well as providing contract research services to enterprises and other external organisations. While highly specialised RI such as CERN and ELI can form the basis for global collaborative research programs smaller laboratories, facilities and expertise can form the basis for strengthening Open Science (OA) and Open Innovation (OI) at local, national and regional levels with associated benefit to the economy. Smaller RIs can also form the nucleus for a Centre of Excellence (CoE) to promote collaboration between science, technology and industry and to provide a platform for education of young scientists and engineers.

The EU has published its Open Access Charter for Access to RIs¹ and some EU MS have also developed their own national level guidelines². Individual organisations are encouraged to develop their own policies as well as ‘protocols’ or ‘principals’ that lay out who can use the RI and under what conditions.

Open Access policies and protocols to Research Infrastructure can enable better efficiency and use of the existing RIs, streamline the investments into the future RIs, to ensure optimisation of access to RIs by industry and wider research community, public sector and civil society, as well as cross-border cooperation. Open Access policies and protocols to RI can be a good entry point for a wider discussion and development of long-term management plans for RIs.

The Multi-annual Action Plan for a Regional Economic Area in the Western Balkans Six³ (MAP), under the ‘Mobility’ component, foresees the action to: *e. Map existing research infrastructure in the region to ensure transparent and available information to researchers interested to cooperate with and in the Western Balkans and to identify gaps*⁴. The deadline for this action is 2019.

Some of the WB6 have already completed this mapping activity (ME⁵) while others are in the final stages. Emerging good practices might therefore be shared with good affect between those responsible for this action.

At the same time, the EU4TECH WB project has been mapping contract research activity in the region linked to equipment, facilities and expertise. As a result of this activity the project has identified

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/pdf/2016_charterforaccessto-ris.pdf

² <http://hea.ie/assets/uploads/2017/09/NATIONAL-PRINCIPLES-FOR-ACCESS-TO-RESEARCH-INFRASTRUCTURE.pdf>

³ <https://www.rcc.int/docs/383/multi-annual-action-plan-for-a-regional-economic-area-in-the-western-balkans-six>

⁴ Policy III. Mobility, I. 1. Mobility of Researchers. Objective III.1.1. Removal of obstacles to mobility of researchers.

⁵ https://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/pdf/roadmaps/montenegro_national_roadmap_2015.pdf

barriers to this form of Open Innovation and compared existing WB6 framework conditions to promote such activity, including hard and soft policy measures, against good practice in EU MS.

EU4TECH is now offering support to universities and faculties who want to develop contract research policy and associated protocols for use.

Objective

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- *support peer learning on mapping research infrastructure in the WB6 (methodology, analytics, outcomes)*
- *transfer emerging good practices from those economies who have undertaken the exercise*
- *discuss potential WB6 map of Research Infrastructure (concept to be presented by RCC)*
- *support peer-learning on Open Access Policies and Protocols to Research Infrastructures*
- *provide an over-view of the present status and activity of contract research and advisory services in the region*
- *highlight clear barriers to increased engagement*
- *present examples of possible hard and soft-measures that are being implemented in region and in the EU to support increased contract research services.*

30th October 2018

Research Infrastructures and Contract Research Workshop

Joint RCC and EU4TECH Meeting

Venue: Courtyard by Marriott Sarajevo (Address: Skenderija 1 | 71 000 Sarajevo)

09.00 – 9.30 Welcome remarks, aims of the meeting and structure of the day

RCC

EU4TECH

DG JRC

DG NEAR

DG RTD

9.30.00 – 10.30 Panel 1: Mapping Research Infrastructure and Developing National Research Infrastructure Roadmaps

Aim: The session aims to enable exchange of experience in mapping RIs including purpose, methodologies and use of the data collected. The session will also address the development of National RIs Roadmaps and their efficiency in short-term and longer term plans for development of national RIs and their links to the European RI Roadmap.

- *Montenegro (finished)*
- *Serbia (ongoing)*
- *DG RTD (EC perspective)*

Q&A and Discussion (30')

The background documents for the session include

https://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/pdf/roadmaps/montenegro_national_roadmap_2015.pdf

10.30 – 10.45 Coffee break

10.45 – 12.15 Panel 2: Mapping RIs in the WB6

Tour de table: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia (10' each)

As the economies are in different stages each will be invited to present the either the work already undertaken to their plans to undertake the mapping of the RIs in the WB6.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

The RCC will present a concept for a WB6 Research Infrastructure Map (to be sent out prior to the meeting).

The background documents for the session include the MAP (available at: <https://wbc-rti.info/object/document/16126>) and recent Country level Roadmaps (ME, CR)

Discussion

12.15 – 13.00 Panel 3: Access to EU RIs for the WB6

- Access to EU RIs for the WB6 (Fabio Taucer DG JRC)
- CERIC-ERIC (Matthias Girod)

13.00 – 13.45 Lunch

13.45 – 14.30 Panel 4 Status of and barriers to Contract Research from PROs in the WB6

- Over-view of the main findings by EU4TECH (EU4TECH Lisa Cowey)
- Voice of the Customer (EU4TECH Namik Pokvic STE)
- Labena SME Slovenia (tbc)

Discussion

14.30 – 15.30 Panel 5 On-going triple helix activities to address barriers

- Serbia: Innovation Vouchers (Mlađan Stojanović Innovation Fund)
- The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: (Vladimir Atanasovski INNOFEIT)
- Montenegro: Center of Excellence (Darko Petrušić)
- Poland: PCI (Lisa Cowey)

Q&A and Discussion (30')

15.30 – 16.30 Panel 6 Developing Open Access Policies and Protocols to Research Infrastructures

- Introduction to EC and National and Institutional Guidelines to regulate use of RIs (Lisa Cowey)
- Lithuania and the Valleys project (Artūras Malysis MOSTA)
- Ruđer Bošković Institute Croatia (Milko Jaksic, Committee for Capital Equipment)
- Medical University in Lodz Poland (Marcin Miśtał Centre for Technology Transfer)

16.30 – 17.00 Coffee break

17.00 – 17.30 Conclusions and next steps

RCC/ JRC/ DG NEAR/ DG RTD/ EU4TECH etc

19.00 Meeting Dinner

Target participants

Policy makers from the WB6 with responsibility for RI (equipment and faculties), activities and instruments to support Open Innovation (Innovation Vouchers), Innovation Funds, Vice Rectors for Research, Deans, RI managers, and possibly SMEs who are using RI in an open Innovation relationship.