



Workshop to be held on 28 February 2024, via Zoom, 12:00-16:00, Paris time.

This OECD Global Science Forum (GSF) workshop is the first of two events dedicated to investigate added values, challenges and new models for the development of Research Infrastructure (RI) ecosystems. The goal of this first workshop will be to explore the rationale for developing RI ecosystems and interesting options and solutions developed regarding their governance, sustainability, user access, data policy and potential impact, based on the results of a survey conducted by the GSF among RI ecosystem managers and on interesting case studies.

Background

The [OECD Global Science Forum](#) launched in 2023 a new activity on Research Infrastructure ecosystems. The objective of this activity is to investigate the opportunities as well as the practical models for the development of integrated RI ecosystems so that their true added-value could be fully exploited. Expected added values of those ecosystems include:

- Providing opportunities to address complex/interdisciplinary scientific questions and challenges that a single RI could not address in isolation;
- Opening access to the ecosystem's equipment and data to broader communities of users;
- Developing common long-term strategies for all ecosystem partners and serve as a reference towards funders and policy makers;
- Optimising resources through enhanced cooperation, the development of necessary human resource training and opportunities, etc.

While the development of RI ecosystems can generate true added value to participating RIs, there are also a number of challenges that they have to face such as regarding their rationale and organisation, which governance and business model can ensure their sustainability, how to develop practical common user access and data policies, how to assess their impact and added value to all partners, etc.

The goal of this workshop will be to discuss these challenges and explore the options and solutions developed by RI ecosystems, based on interesting case studies. The lessons learned from the workshop will be integrated in the final policy report of the GSF for this activity that will be circulated to OECD governments and RI stakeholders.

Participants to this workshop are members of the GSF expert group on RI ecosystems, invited experts (RI managers and decision-makers involved in RI policy) and GSF delegates.

12:00-12:15

Introduction

Presentation of the activity and workshop goals by the GSF expert group co-chairs and secretariat (Maria Faury, CEA, Roland Roberts, NSF, and Frédéric Sgard, GSF Secretariat).

12:15-13:45

Session 1: Why should you develop RI ecosystems? Enhancing the value and impact of RIs and responding to complex challenges through synergies and partnerships

Session chair: Maria Faury

- Feedback from the GSF secretariat on the survey carried out among RI ecosystem managers
- Case study presentations:

Asia Oceania Forum for Synchrotron Radiation Research (AOFSTR)

Richard Garrett, Secretary AOFSTR, Senior Advisor ANSTO

European Cancer Research Services (CanSERV)

Jens K. Habermann, Coordinator of canSERV, Director General of BBMRI-ERIC (tbc)

European Social Sciences and Humanities Open Cluster

Bonnie Wolf-Bonnisch, chair of the EU SSH Open Cluster, Director General CESSDA (tbc)

- Discussion

13:45-14:00 Break

14:00-15:00

Session 2: How to ensure the sustainability of RI ecosystems: possible governance and business models

Session chair: Cherif Ould Hamou

- Feedback from the GSF secretariat on the survey carried out among RI ecosystem managers
- Case study presentations:

South Africa Environmental Observation Network (SAEON)

Mary-Jane Bopape, Managing Director SAEON, National Research Foundation (NRF)

Eurofusion

Sibylle Günter, Coordinator Eurofusion, Scientific Director of the Max Planck Institute for Plasma Physics (tbc)

- Discussion

15:00-16:00

Session 3: How to increase access to RIs through synergistic ecosystems: User access and data policy

Session chair: Roland Roberts

- Feedback from the GSF secretariat on the survey carried out among RI ecosystem managers
- Case study presentations:

Engineering Research Infrastructures for European Synergies (ERIES)

Gerard O'Reilly, ERIES Deputy coordinator, Professor at the School of Advanced Studies IUSS Pavia

ARGO

Claire Gourcuff, Science Officer, Euro-ARGO

- Discussion

Concluding remarks by chairs