Research infrastructure (RI) lifecycle categories A and B and associated expectations

Lifecycle category A applies to RIs that are at planning, construction and/or implementation stage.

Lifecycle category B applies to RIs that are at operation and/or termination stage.

Subject	Expectations for RIs in lifecycle category A	Expectations for RIs in lifecycle category B
Significance	The scientific significance of the RI has been described and long-term scientific objectives have been defined.	The scientific significance of the RI has been demonstrated (e.g. publications, access policy based on scientific quality and other scientific merits) and long-term scientific objectives have been defined and made concrete.
	The role and significance of the RI in the national and international research environment have been described.	The RI has a clear, justified role and significance in the national and/or international research environment.
Wide and versatile impact	The RI has a vision of its societal accessibility, added value and impact, including a possible vision of its links to business activities and new business initiatives.	The social accessibility, added value and impact of the RI, including possible links to business activities and new business initiatives, can be demonstrated.
Ownership, know-how and organisational structure	The main ownership of the RI is known.	The ownership of the RI is clear, and each owner recognises their rights and obligations and implements them in their own activities. The owners also assume their responsibility for the dismantling and termination of the RI.
	The commitment of the host organisations and the need for the services have been demonstrated.	The commitment of the host organisations to developing the RI and maintaining its services has been demonstrated.
	The organisational structure of the RI and the organisation of tasks have been planned.	The organisational structure of the RI is appropriate and clearly described.
	The competence needs of the personnel of the RI have been planned.	The RI has a personnel policy, and competence needs have been addressed, for example through recruitment. During the dismantling stage, issues concerning the employment relationships of the personnel (necessary transfers or dismissals) have been taken care of in good time.

	Persons of key importance to RI activities have been identified.	Career paths have been created for people of key importance to RI activities.
	The RI has plans for the training and/or development of the personnel.	The RI implements plans for the training and/or development of the personnel.
Operations	The estimated lifecycle of the RI has been described and its stages have been scheduled.	The lifecycle of the RI has been described and its stages have been scheduled. The lifecycle description includes an exit plan. The RI being terminated complies with the plan for the dismantling and termination of operations.
	The RI has an overall action plan covering the entire lifecycle.	The RI has an action plan covering the continuing lifecycle of the RI.
	The RI has identified and is able to demonstrate its potential user base, the scientific community and any other actors, as well as the need for the services it provides.	The RI is able to describe its user base and provide statistical information on the users.
	The RI has a vision for the sustainable development of the planned activities, e.g. in relation to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.	Sustainability, e.g. the UN Sustainable Development Goals, has been taken into account in the operation and/or dismantling of the RI.
	The RI's access policy has been planned and described.	The RI has an access policy and it is followed.
	The RI has a credible financial plan.	The RI has a credible financial plan not only for upgrades and updates but also for the dismantling and termination stage.
Digital platforms and data	The RI has a data management policy.	The RI has a data management policy that also addresses issues related to long-term storage of data.
Operational risks	The potential risks in the RI activities have been identified, and a plan has been drawn up to manage them.	The risks in the RI activities have been identified, and a plan has been drawn up to manage them.