

# **FIRI2021 – call info**

## **3.3.2021**

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## **FIRI2021- Call info program**

- 13:35 The strategical context (*10 min*)
- 13:45 Background and highlights (*10 min*)
- 13:55 FIRI action plans (*25 min*)
- 14:20 Questions (*15 min*)

### **14:35-14:45 Break**

- 14:45 How to write a good FIRI-application (*15 min*)
- 15:00 Questions and discussion






# THE STRATEGICAL CONTEXT

# Why have FIRI calls?

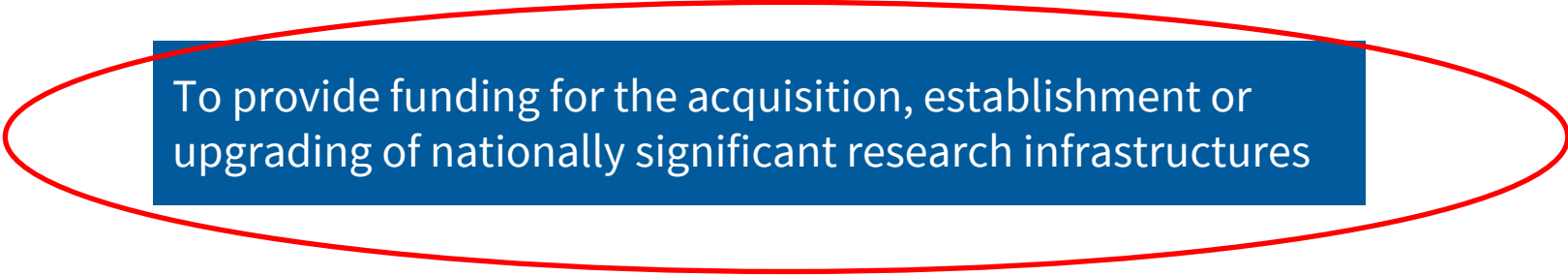
According the National Roadmap for RDI research and the networks must be grouped into larger competence centres and ecosystems



One of the aims of the FIRI Committee is to advance a sufficiently strong, long-term basis for the development and provision of high-quality research infrastructure services



To provide funding for the acquisition, establishment or upgrading of nationally significant research infrastructures



# Strategic overview of the call

## Strategy for national research infrastructures:

-The vision is that high-class research infrastructure services increase the impact and international attraction of the Finnish research, education and innovation system

## Finland's RDI Roadmap

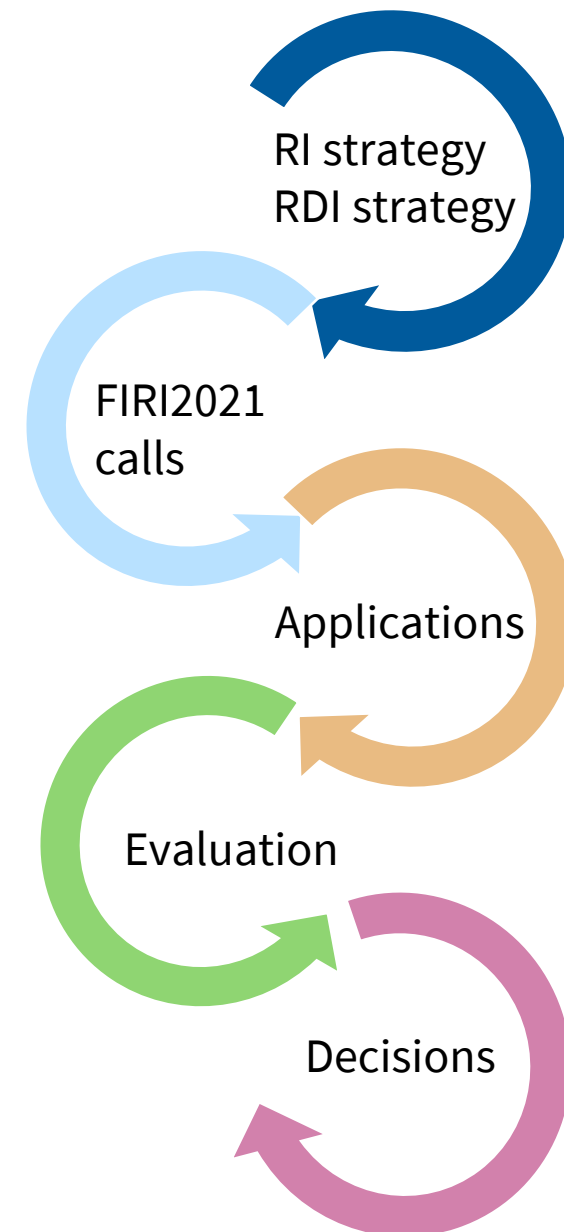
- the building blocks of Finland's competitiveness and wellbeing are strong competence, research and innovation
- The basic idea: research and the networks that utilize it should be grouped into larger **competence centers and ecosystems**

FIRI2021 calls are opened based on both strategies

The focus of the call is to promote the quality, renewal and competitiveness of research, to strengthen the versatile impact of research environments and to increase national and international cooperation. The call also highlights the national focus areas: green transition and digitality

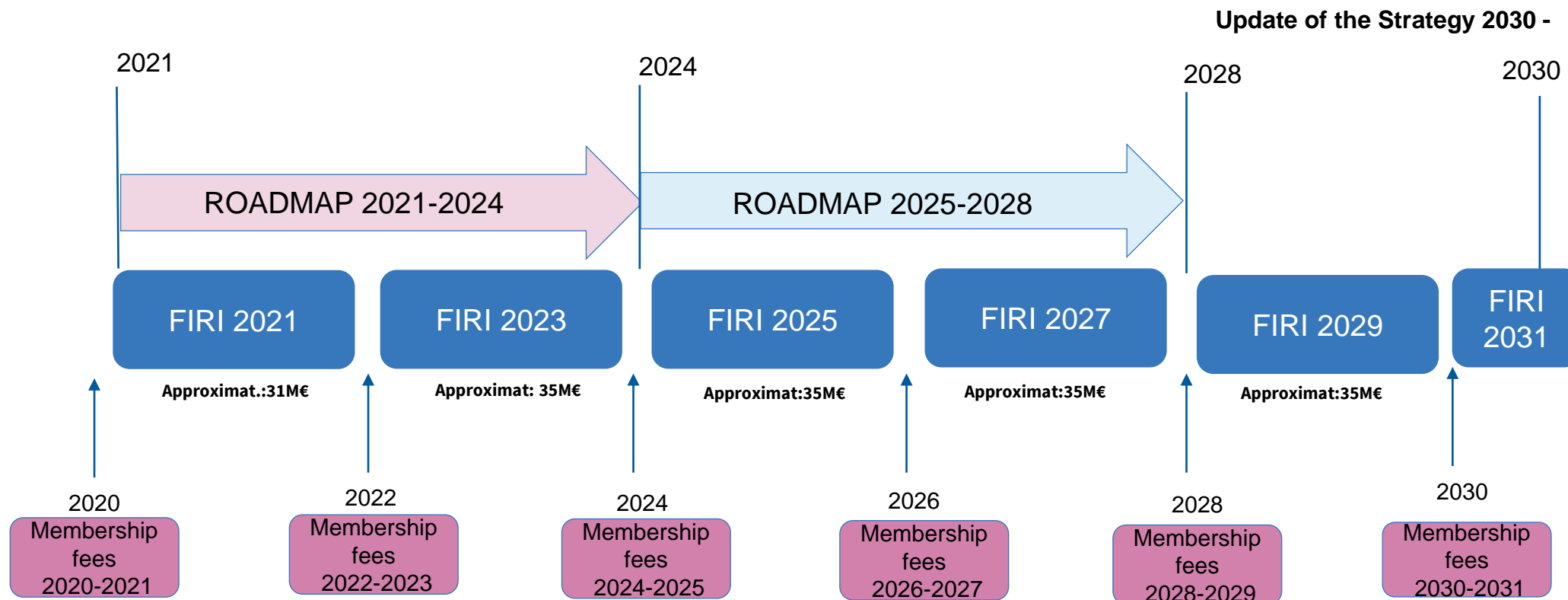
The evaluation is based on the criteria and focus of the call

The FIRI Committee will make the decisions based on peer-review and other national research infrastructure policy dimensions



# Rotation of the roadmaps and FIRI calls

**ROADMAPS:**  
**ROADMAP 2021-2024 > UPDATE 2024 and NEW ROADMAP 2025-2028**







# BACKGROUND AND HIGHLIGHTS

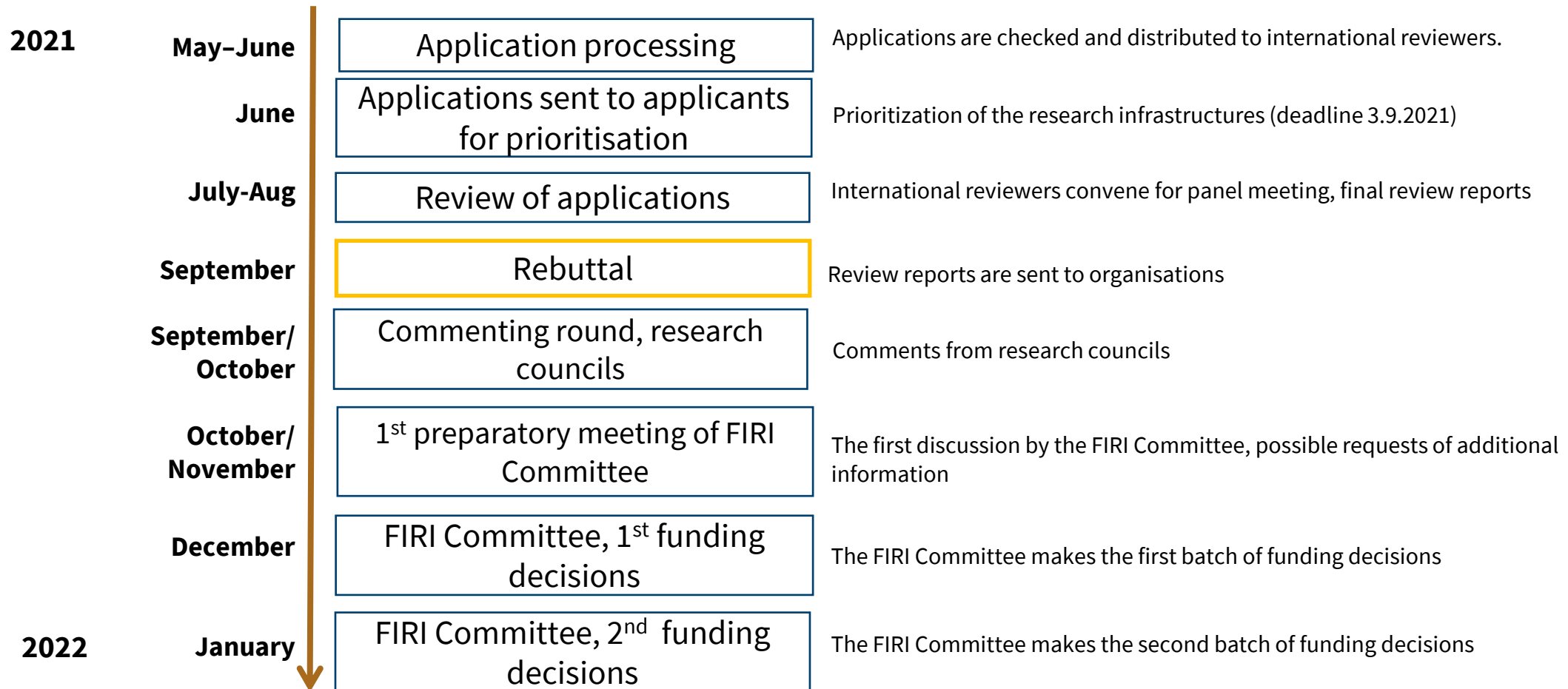
# Background / basics

The Academy of Finland is opening two FIRI-funding calls in April 2021:

- **Research infrastructures on the National Roadmap for RIs 2021-2024 and projects of international memberships** (max. 5 yrs of funding 2022-2026)
  - **Non-roadmap research infrastructures** (max. 3 yrs of funding 2022-2024)
- FIRI-funding is meant for acquisition, establishment or upgrading of nationally significant research infrastructures that promote scientific research.
  - Ca. 30 M euros is available to be granted through the two calls



# Decision process FIRI2021 call



# Updated definitions

- Research infrastructure
- National research infrastructure
- International memberships

# Action plans – general

## Action plan for roadmap call

- Emphasis on the project to be funded
- Max. 20 pages
- NB: Description of research infrastructure on a separate page of the application (4000 characters)

## Action plan for non-roadmap call

- Emphasis on both the research infrastructure and project to be funded
- Max. 25 pages
- Possible to apply for funding for costs stemming from planning of a new research infrastructure

**BOTH CALLS** the action plan is structured in the electronic application system (SARA)



# Progress report

- Applicants with ongoing FIRI-funding need to submit a **progress report** as an attachment to the application

The progress report contains the following information:

- Key information about the ongoing funding (decision number, name of FIRI-project, amount of funding granted)
- Funding period
- Short description of how the funded project has progressed (max. 2500 characters)
- Short description of connection between the funding being applied for and the project being executed with the ongoing funding

# Prioritisation

- Organisations prioritise their applications
- The AoF will send all relevant applications to the organisation once the call has closed (June)
- Organisations are asked to explain the reason for the chosen prioritisation, 1-2 sentences / group
- The deadline for submitting prioritisations is Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021

# Rebuttal

- The rebuttal process is being introduced to this call
- Once the panel reviewed the application, the applicants are sent the review and have one week to comment on possible misunderstandings in the review
- The FIRI Committee will take the rebuttals into account when making funding decisions



# Funding decisions are based on several factors





# FIRI action plans

# Objectives for strategic development areas

- Responsibility and sustainable development
- Long-term perspective and dynamism
- Ownership and know-how
- Digital platforms and data
- Open access and collaboration
- Wide and versatile impact

> All of the above areas are covered in the action plan



# 1. Description

## **ROADMAP: Description of project**

### **1.1 Project to be implemented with the funding applied for**

- Describe project in concrete terms
- Describe how potential collaborators will participate in the implementation.
- What added will the plan bring to the operation of the research infrastructure?
- Describe new services, and how they are available

### **1.2 Description of membership fee contribution**

- Justify why you are applying for funding for a membership fee.

## **NON-ROADMAP: Description of RI and project**

### **1.1 Research infrastructure**

Present the research infrastructure. Also describe the chosen lifecycle category (a/b) in more detail.

(a) planning/construction

(b) operation/termination

### **1.2 Project to be implemented with the funding applied for**

Present the project and how it promotes and develops the research infrastructure's operations and services.

### **1.3 Description of membership fee contribution**

- Justify why you are applying for funding for a membership fee.

# 2. Scientific and educational significance

## ROADMAP

### 2.1 Project

How does the project promote the scientific and educational significance of the research infrastructure?

### 2.2 Description of membership fee contribution

How does the membership promote the scientific and educational significance of the research infrastructure?

## NON-ROADMAP

### 2.1 Research infrastructure

How does the research infrastructure facilitate excellent science and promote scientific achievements and renewal nationally and internationally?

How is the infrastructure linked or how will it be linked to the national and international infrastructure and research landscape? How will the infrastructure strengthen it?

What value will the research infrastructure add for education both nationally and internationally?

### 2.2 Project

How does the project promote the scientific and educational significance of the research infrastructure?

### 2.3 Description of membership fee contribution

How does the membership promote the scientific and educational significance of the research infrastructure?

# 3. Wide and versatile impact

## ROADMAP

### 3.1 Project

What impact will the project seek? Describe, for instance, the following:

- effects on business and industry, the public sector and employment as well as connections with business activities and new business initiatives
- effects on the operation and development of knowledge and innovation ecosystems.

### 3.2 Description of membership fee contribution

- How will membership contribute to the wide and versatile impact of the research infrastructure?

## NON-ROADMAP

### 3.1 Research infrastructure

Describe the expected/realised societal added value of the research infrastructure both within and beyond the scientific community, such as

- effects on business and industry, the public sector and employment as well as connections with business activities and new business initiatives
- effects on the operation and development of knowledge and innovation ecosystems.

### 3.2 Project

How will the project contribute to the wide and versatile impact of the research infrastructure?

### 3.3 Description of membership fee contribution

How will membership contribute to the wide and versatile impact of the research infrastructure?



# 4. Ownership, organisational structure and know-how

## ROADMAP

### 4.1 Project

Describe the knowledge and know-how of the director (coordinator) and key personnel in terms of project implementation.

Describe the knowledge and know-how of other personnel in the research infrastructure in terms of project implementation.

How will the project influence ownership, organisational structure, division of labour and the development of skills?

### 4.2 Description of membership fee contribution

What effects will membership have on the ownership of the research infrastructure and/or the skills of the personnel?

## NON-ROADMAP

### 4.1 Research infrastructure

Which organisation(s) own(s) the research infrastructure? How is ownership reflected in the infrastructure's activities? Is it a legal entity?

Describe the know-how of the personnel

Describe staff skills development plans and possible staff career paths.

### 4.2 Project

How will the project influence ownership, organisational structure, division of labour and the development of skills?

### 4.3 Description of membership fee contribution

What effects will membership have on the ownership of the research infrastructure and/or the skills of the personnel?

# 5. Services and users

## ROADMAP

### 5.1 Project

How will the project influence the access policy, service models and/or user base?

### 5.2 Description of membership fee contribution

What effects will membership have on the access policy, service models and/or user base?

## NON-ROADMAP

### 5.1 Research infrastructure

#### *Services*

Describe the services up to 2030. Describe the access policy for the services.

#### *Users*

Define the user base of the research infrastructure

What is the research infrastructure's current or planned number of users per year on average?

What is the research infrastructure's current or planned utilisation rate (% of time available)?

### 5.2 Project

How will the project influence the access policy, service models and/or user base?

**5.3 Description of membership fee contribution** What effects will the membership fee have on the access policy, service models and/or user base?

# 6. Digital platforms and data

## ROADMAP

### 6.1 Research infrastructure and project – data management policy

- Separate appendix
- needs to be updated only if the project described in this application significantly changes it.

### 6.2 Research Infrastructure and project – increased digitalisation and data intensity

Describe the influence of the growth of digitalisation and data intensity on the infrastructure activities and project.

What is the significance of the data produced by the research infrastructure and/or project in terms of the digital transition?

## NON-ROADMAP

### 6.1 Research infrastructure – data management policy

- Separate appendix

### 6.2 Research Infrastructure and project – increased digitalisation and data intensity

Describe the influence of the growth of digitalisation and data intensity on the infrastructure activities and project.

What is the significance of the data produced by the research infrastructure and/or project in terms of the digital transition?

# 7. Responsible science

## ROADMAP

### 7.1 Research Infrastructure and project – research ethics

### 7.2 Research infrastructure and project – equality and nondiscrimination

### 7.3 Research infrastructure and project – sustainable development and the green transition

Describe how the project advances goals in the UN Agenda 2030 for sustainable development

Is the data produced relevant to the green transition?

Will the activities of the planned project affect the achievement of the national carbon neutrality target in the operation of the research infrastructure?

## NON-ROADMAP

### 7.1 Research infrastructure and project – research ethics

### 7.2 Research infrastructure and project – equality and nondiscrimination

### 7.3 Research infrastructure and project – sustainable development and the green transition

Describe how project advances goals in the UN Agenda 2030 for sustainable development

Is the data produced relevant to the green transition?

Will the activities of the planned project affect the achievement of the national carbon neutrality target in the operation of the research infrastructure?



## 8. Budget and funding

Total funding data for the research infrastructure for **2019–2026**.

**Table 1.** The research infrastructure's expenditure (e.g. personnel costs, rents, equipment acquisitions)

**Table 2.** The research infrastructure's revenue (e.g. contributions from own organisation, other organisations and the Academy of Finland)

- Fill in the information to the nearest EUR 1,000.
- Briefly describe the revenue and expenditure.
- The information will be used in evaluating the sustainability of the research infrastructure's funding base.

## 8. Budget and funding – Table 1. expenditure

Expenditure	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Personnel								
Equipment acquisitions								
Equipment maintenance (installations, maintenance contracts, repairs)								
Rents								
Other (specify on separate rows)								
<b>Total</b>								

## 8. Budget and funding – Table 2. revenue

Revenue	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Organisation funding								
Academy of Finland funding (existing)								
Funding now applied for from the Academy								
Other competitive funding								
Other public funding								
Access and service fees								
Other (specify on separate rows)								
<b>Total</b>								

# 9. Risk management

## ROADMAP

### Project

What are the critical points for success and alternative implementation strategies for the project described in the application?

Briefly describe the risks and a risk management plan.

## NON-ROADMAP

### Research infrastructure and project

What are the critical points for success and alternative implementation strategies for the activities of the research infrastructure and the success of the project?

Briefly describe the risks and a risk management plan.





# How to write a good FIRI application

# How to write a good FIRI-application 1/2

## General tips:

- Remember that only RIs of **national level** (not local) can be funded in the FIRI calls (see definition of a national research infrastructure in the call text)
- Read the evaluation questions before writing the action plan
- Make sure that all of the information that is requested is found in the action plan (and clearly stated)
- Please strive to find a balance between **general and detailed description**

# How to write a good FIRI –application 2/2

## Particular points:

- Please describe the landscape from the research infrastructure perspective not from the research perspective
- Please, fill in the budget part of the action plan using tables similar to the example tables presented
- It is of crucial importance that the users, the usability and services provided by the infrastructure are described clearly
- *The public description will be used **as is** in the press releases etc. Please write it accordingly*

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

## Further questions or comments? Contact us at:

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