



Research infrastructure (RI) lifecycle categories and associated expectations

Action plan items in FIRI roadmap call	Expectations for RIs in lifecycle category a (planning, construction and/or implementation stage)	Expectations for RIs in lifecycle category b (operation and/or dismantling stage)
Scientific 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 international research environment.
	The RI has a plan on how to take into account research ethics, equality and nondiscrimination in its operations.	The RI takes into account research ethics, equality and nondiscrimination in its operations.
Wide and versatile impact	The RI has a vision for its societal impact and added value beyond the scientific community, including its links to business and new business initiatives. The RI has a plan for social transparency, indicators of impact and impact monitoring.	The societal impact and added value of the RI, including possible links to business and new business initiatives, can be demonstrated. Impact objectives and social transparency have been discussed and agreed with stakeholders.
	The RI has a plan for how its activities will support the green transition and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.	The green transition and the UN Sustainable Development Goals have been taken into account in the operation and/or dismantling of the RI. The RI assesses its own carbon footprint.
Activities: lifecycle stage	There is an outline action plan for the RI covering its entire lifecycle, including a timetable for construction and start-up of services.	The lifecycle of the RI is clear and proportionate to the activities. The lifecycle schedule includes a development and exit plan if necessary.
Activities: services and use	The needs of the potential users of the RI's services within the scientific community and potential non-scientific actors have been identified and demonstrated.	The RI is able to demonstrate that its services are used by the scientific community and potential non-scientific actors.
	The RI's access policy has been planned and described.	The RI has an access/usage policy, and it is openly available and respected.



	The RI has a plan on how to increase open access and the number of users.	The RI has a programme to attract and support new users and user groups, and to train experts.
Activities: ownership, know-how and organisational structure	The main ownership of the RI is known, and a plan for the organisational structure has been drawn up with key players.	The capacity to function as a RI organisation has been demonstrated. The organisational structure, roles and tasks of the RI have been agreed in writing between the actors involved. The RI has a clear ownership, and all key players are involved in delivering services according to a joint plan.
	Plans for staff recruitment, training and/or development are in place, and key skills needs and people for the RI activities have been identified.	A plan for staff recruitment, training and/or development is systematically implemented, and career paths have been established for key people involved in the operation of the RI. During the dismantling stage, issues concerning employment relationships (necessary transfers or dismissals) have been taken care of in good time.
Activities: digitalisation and data	The RI's data management policy has been planned and described. The RI has a plan for protecting digital data from corruption, theft or unauthorised access throughout its lifecycle.	The RI's data management policy is easy to find and followed. In its activities, the RI takes account of the needs for change created by the growth of digitalisation and data intensity. The RI has a plan for protecting digital data from corruption, theft or unauthorised access throughout its lifecycle. For the dismantling phase, the data management policy also takes into account issues related to the long-term storage of data.
Activities: long-term funding	A funding plan for the RI has been drawn up for at least five years.	There is demonstrable compliance with the RI's funding plan and a long-term commitment from key stakeholders.
Activities: operational risks	The RI has an understanding and description of the potential risks to its operations.	The potential risks in the RI activities at different lifecycle stages have been identified, and a plan has been drawn up to manage them.