

A policy focus (not restricted to e-infrastructures)

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3 Key messages

- Inter-operability : A key element for cost efficiency of public money. Identify new scientific domains emerging from cross-disciplinarity
- Ex-post evaluation of research infrastructures : Need for justifying long term and sustainable funding. Because of the cross border dimension of all e-infrastructures, harmonisation of national evaluation agencies must be developed.
- Openness and dissemination : Requirements to make all scientific communities (beyond ICT stakeholders) aware of the potential benefits of using e-infrastructures

Inter-operability

- New science domains will emerge from intersections between existing disciplines (environment, life sciences, SSH), through the sharing/merging of data and the sharing of large scale instruments (like matter analysis).
- Ris bear the responsibility of data they produce: interoperability with other Ris' data is challenging and requires data global policy (RDA)?
- Still a long way to go: At the raw data or at the information levels, but also for Authentication/ Autorisation infrastructures.
- Crossing of data may also endanger human privacy

Ex-post evaluation

- Harmonised systems of ex-post evaluation is not existing yet at the pan-European level, outside per-RI basis (stakeholders)
- Exchange of best practice exists for HE and Research organisations, but not for Ris
- The number of labelled pan-European RI keeps increasing while Research budgets stagnate or decrease: rationale for opt-out may be needed!
- If no harmonised evaluation system is in place, budget cuts may impact very negatively entire disciplines in the future.

Openness and dissemination

- Openness is not sufficiently installed today. Access to open data (through federated identity management) may become a severe drawback to private partnerships. A stronger policy framework is needed for benefiting the economic world
- RIs including e-Infrastructures are still not enough known as usable instruments by the whole scientific user base.