



Big Science
Business
Forum
2022



Tuesday 5
October
2022

EU POLICY FOR RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES – OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDUSTRY

ENRIITC

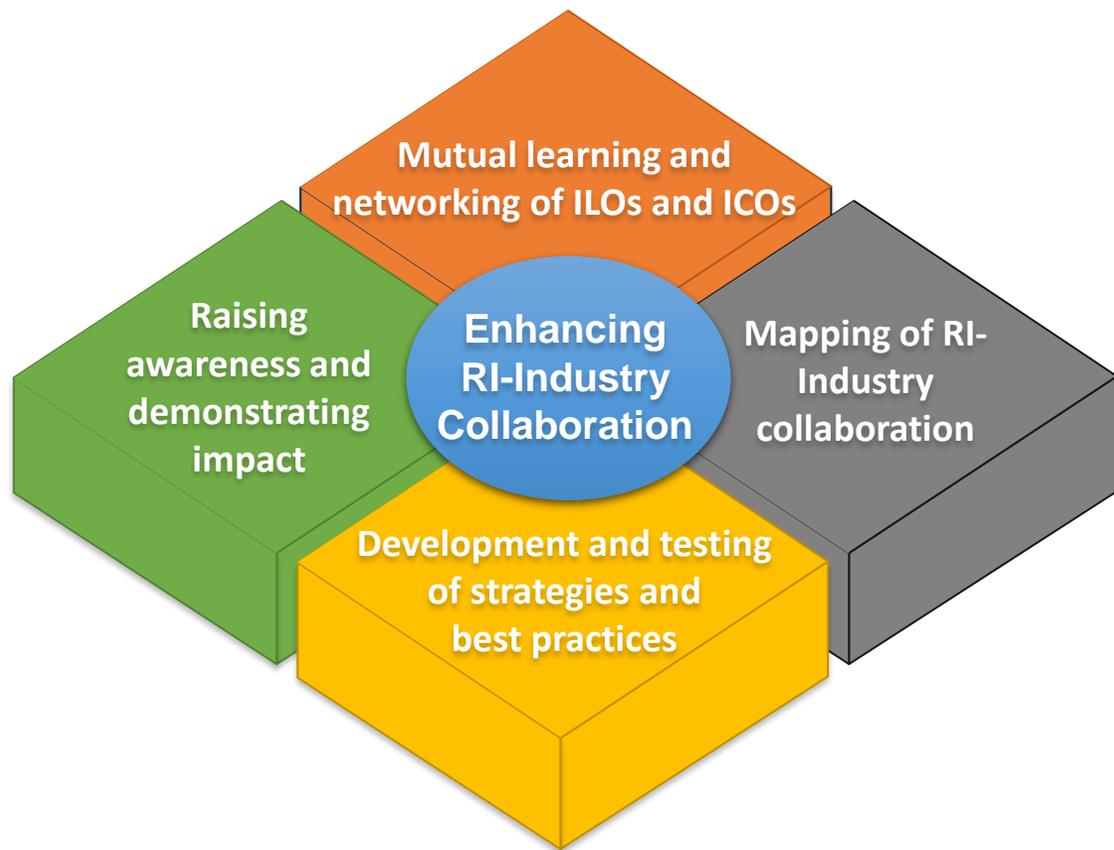


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- **Industry Contact Officer (ICO)** – Research Infrastructure staff responsible for strengthening and **coordinating cooperation strategies and activities with Industry.**
- **Industry Liaison Officer (ILO)** – Expert staff working at Government agencies or Research institutes in the member states to stimulate the collaboration amongst the national industry and the international RIs, providing **advice on business opportunities, R&D collaborations, calls for tender, and industrial services.**

The **European Network of Research Infrastructures and Industry for Collaboration (ENRIITC)** aims to establish a European network of national industry contacts (ILOs) and the RI industry contact points (ICOs) to act together and engage better with industry.



How are we doing this?

Community-driven →

ENRIITC consortium represents 6 ESFRI Landmarks from 4 scientific domains and 5 ILOs ensuring Europe-wide coverage

Cross-functional →

ILOs and ICOs co-lead all Tasks

Cross-sectoral →

All scientific domains of the ESFRI roadmap are involved + all industrial sectors are considered

Multiplier-based →

Broad basis of Associates ensure widest possible outreach

January 2020

88 ENRIITC Network Members



October 2022

> 500 ENRIITC Network Members





The **community is diverse** covering many scientific disciplines, countries and types of infrastructures. **Disparities within and between ICOs and ILOs**



The roles of ICOs and ILOs are often poorly defined and even disconnected from the strategy of the host organisation. **Need to professionalise the sector to fully exploit the innovation potential for co-development.**



A model for implementing the recommended key actions at the RIs needs to be developed.



RIs remain mainly isolated in the innovation ecosystems.
Recommendations for how to engage were presented in deliverable 3.2.



The PERIIA network has managed to gather European ILOs in an informal network which should give a more **solid foundation in a joint ILO-ICO sustainable platform.**



ILOs and ICOs face similar challenges and barriers for engaging companies and should learn from and interact with one another.



Based on the current results of the project, a number of guiding principles important in establishing a sustainable community came out:

Research infrastructures should be regarded as part of a specific **innovation ecosystem** on a European scale.

The uniqueness of this ecosystem is that it can **facilitate** and **support science and innovation** along sustainable and long durations value chains, ranging from high to low Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs), from **new technology development to technology transfer** and **product development**.

In order to give these value chains the required continuity and perspective, **cooperating partners** need to **share vision** and **commitment** during the entire life cycle.

Obstacles to these goals need to be removed on an European scale, sharing **common standards** and a **multidisciplinary approach**, leading to level playing fields for all partners.

Actions are required to reinforce the ecosystem of RIs in order to support long durations partnerships across borders and domains and foster the community that gives ENRIITC its added value.

1. Establish a pan-European ICO and ILO network

- A hub structure to provide advice and support to all manner of RIs in their engagement with industry

2. Adopt a set of core competencies for ICOs & ILOs

- Defining the role of ILO and ICO duties and competencies

3. Each RI should review and implement specific key actions

- 17 key areas with recommended actions are defined to help an RI improve the collaboration with industry

4. Building strategic alliance relationships

- Establishing partnerships at an EU level to help industry understand how the RI operates and interact

5. Develop a European RI Innovation Strategy

- For a better integration between RIs and industry, where RIs can be a core engine in the innovation supply-chain facilitating the constituency of spin-offs, start-ups and partnerships with private entities in close cooperation with universities.

- 1st platform to **bring ICOs/ILOs together**
- Cover **all scientific domains** of the ESFRI roadmap
- **Bridge the gap** between the different RIs to strengthen their engagement with industry
- **Visible outside the typical RI sphere**, engaging with stakeholders from relevant science driven ecosystems (ASTP, innovation agencies, etc.)
- Provide **support the implementation of the new ERA**, and strengthen the EU RI landscape on the innovation and industry aspects

The ENRIITC will reinforce the ecosystem around RIs by offering a platform for exchange of experiences and practices to all the stakeholders with the aim to promote science-to-business relations and increase the capability of industry to contribute to scientific excellence, across countries and domains



Professionalise the sector

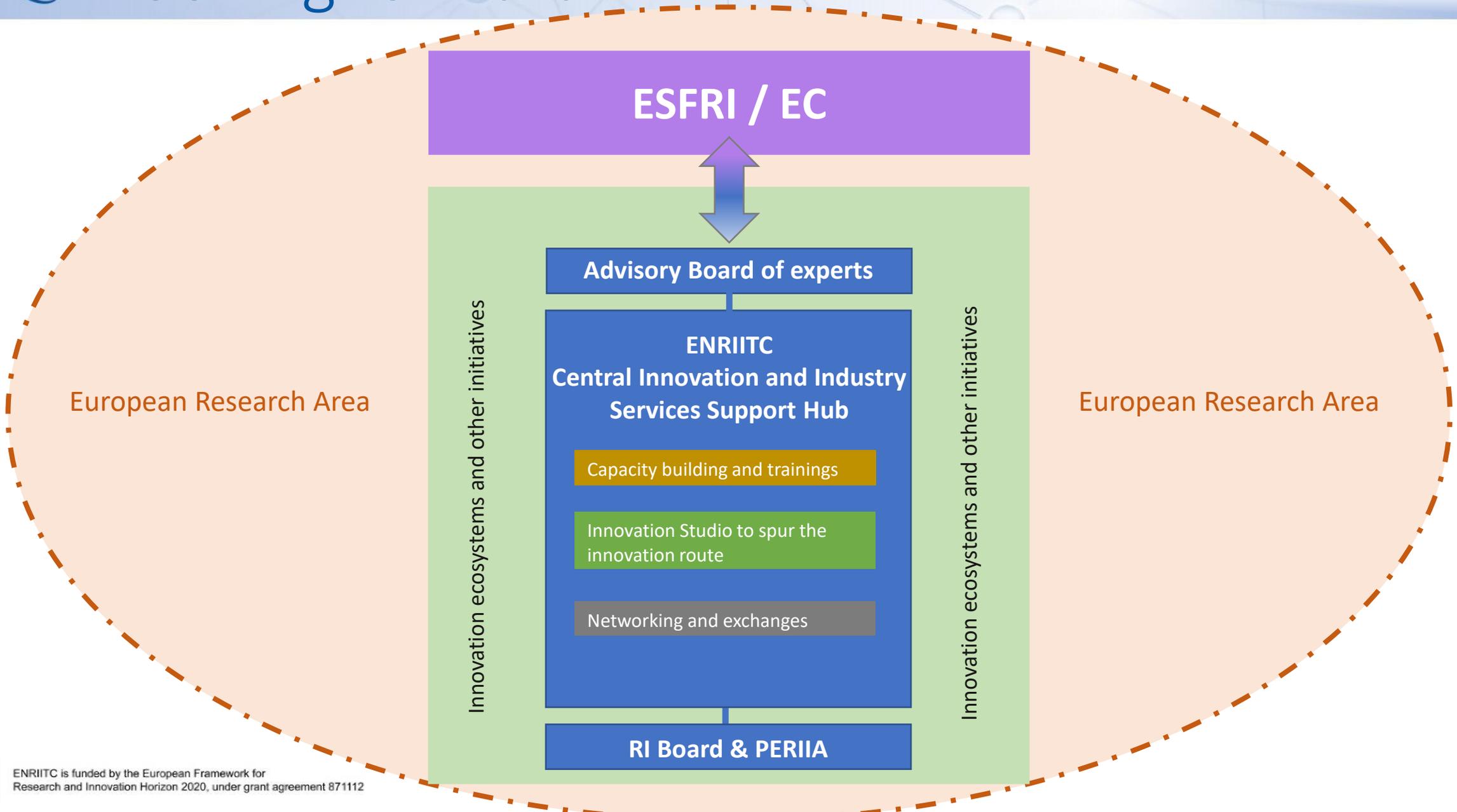
- To develop a **clear understanding of the scope of the missions/mandates of both roles** in order to create awareness of the type of mutual support available within each group.
- To create **more systematic exchange between the two groups**, and ultimately create a strong network of professionals in order to facilitate the collaboration between RIs and industry by establishing a shared database of contacts (ILOs, ICOs, companies).

Activate the potential of the common ground

- To **raise awareness within RIs on opportunities related to collaboration and innovation** as an additional track for RIs going forward (new business/services opportunities, new technologies, etc.)
- To **explore the innovation topic** further to better understand the possibilities and scope of action for ICOs and ILOs, and for collaboration with industry. To identify synergies and challenges for ICOs and ILOs and develop capacity building activities.

Integrate into innovation ecosystems

- Identify relevant stakeholders (allies) **for joint action partnerships** towards industry outreach and relationship building (whether as a supplier, user, co-creator)
- **Establish channels for engagement with industry** on the opportunities/services existing when dealing with RIs (demonstrate the added values)
- To **promote the innovation capacities and economic impact of RIs within the RIs** but also within the entire innovation ecosystem in order to boost the recognition of RIs as a full partner of innovation





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