



TOOLS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE AND OFFERED BY RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES TO SMES

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES (RIS), AS HIGHLIGHTED IN THE EUROPEAN STRATEGY FORUM ON RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES (ESFRI) WHITE PAPER, HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CONTRIBUTE TO LOCAL AND REGIONAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUPPORTING REGIONAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SMART SPECIALIZATION STRATEGIES (S3).

Example

Research infrastructures (RIs) are facilities that provide resources and services for the research communities to conduct scientific research and foster innovation in their fields. RIs usually have and utilise major equipment or sets of instruments, knowledge-related facilities such as collections, archives and scientific data libraries/repositories.

Centers of Competence are usually collaborative entities established to facilitate synergy on regional or national level between scientific research organisations and industry/business. Centers of Competence, by default, are resourced by highly-qualified and experienced researchers associated with research institutions who are tasked to carry out focused strategic research for the benefit of society and national economy.

Example

Example

A **Center of Excellence** is usually a national consortium of research organisations and universities set up with the purpose to unite existing resources, infrastructure and expertise and become a highly competitive and internationally recognized research complex.

A **Research Institute** (usually affiliated to the respective National Academy of Sciences) or research organization is an establishment founded for doing scientific research. Research institutes may specialise in basic research (expanding the boundaries of scientific knowledge) or may be oriented towards applied research (scientific, technological and innovative compounds and technologies that could be transformed into products and services for the benefit of society, business and industry. Research institutes affiliated to the respective National Academy of Sciences are predominantly financed by public funds

Example

Please keep in mind that **the competent Ministry in your country should have publicly shared information and links on its website** to the National Roadmap for Research Infrastructures, to relevant partner organisations, to thematic websites and portals, as well as to dedicated tools and service lists that facilitate the partnership between education, science and business/industry.

LINKS AND REFERENCES

INNOVATION-ORIENTED COOPERATION OF RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES



- This ESFRI Scripta volume describes the different forms of industry and Research Infrastructure collaboration that generate innovation: industry as supplier for the construction / upgrade of the RIs, being instructed and guided in developing new technologies or production protocols; industry as partner of RIs and industry as user exploiting the specific dedicated access modes as well as through the academic access supported by research grants.

MERIL

- The MERIL (Mapping of the European Research Infrastructure Landscape) portal provides access to a database that stores information about openly accessible research infrastructures (RIs) in Europe, across all scientific domains, including the social sciences and humanities.
- The MERIL database is a dynamic resource that is being continuously populated. MERIL data consist of lists of identified, eligible RIs, and a set of data for each individual RI, collected and displayed in a standardised format. The MERIL public portal is an open access resource displaying available information that has been collected with input from European Member States and Associated Countries, and the RI scientific community. The information is quality-checked by the MERIL Team.

SME GUIDE FOR ACCESS TO RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

- This guide is aimed at small and medium-sized companies, SMEs with an interest in collaboration with research infrastructures in the Stockholm region. Other stakeholders in Stockholm's innovation system who have close contact with SMEs and research infrastructures can also benefit from the material.

HOW EFFICIENTLY DOES THE EU SUPPORT RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN SMES

The [European Regional Development Fund](#) devoted around 66 billion Euros to the financial support of innovation and productivity in European enterprises over the 2014–2020 programming period. In this framework, the research team assessed the implementation of the Operational Programmes dedicated to fostering research and innovation, particularly in small and medium-sized enterprises. With this aim, the research team used a network slack-based [data envelopment analysis](#) model paired with cluster analysis that encompasses a multitude of performance framework indicators to assess 53 Operational Programmes from 19 countries.

SERVICES CATEGORIES OFFERED BY RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES FOR INDUSTRIES

MAIN TYPES OF SERVICES PROVIDED TO USERS

1) Access service

- a) Access to data
- b) Access to aggregators
- c) Access to facilities
- d) Access to equipment

2) Analysis service

- a) Data analysis services
- b) Material analysis services

3) Expertise (consultancy) service

4) Data Management

- a) Maintenance service
- b) Data storage service

5) Material processing service

- a) Material maintenance and modification
- b) Material production service
- c) Materials testing and validation
- d) Materials storage service

6) Support service

- a) Project development
- b) Development of models and tools
- c) Development of solutions

7) Training and education service

8) Transport service

This classification does not reflect on a potential third level of services, which may be more specific to science fields

**LET'S START THE
COLLABORATION
WITH THE RIs**