# European Roadmap for Research Infrastructures

Robert Jan Smits European Commission 21 March 2007 Greece



# Research Infrastructures and capacity building

Research Infrastructures of pan-European relevance provide unique opportunities for:

- world-level research
- world-level training
- stimulating technology & knowledge transfer
- ensuring knowledge preservation

#### ... in brief for European Capacity Building



# Excellence and Research Infrastructures

Europe has a long-standing tradition of excellence in research and its teams continue to lead progress in many fields

- However our centres of excellence often
  fail to reach critical mass
- There is a need to bring resources together and to build a research and innovation area equivalent to the "common market"

# What is ESFRI?

- A European Strategy Forum
  on Research Infrastructures
- Launched in April 02
- Brings together representatives of the 25 Member States, 7 Associated States, and one representative of the European Commission (EC)





# **Role of ESFRI**

- To foster an "open method of coordination" between different countries
- To discuss the long term vision at European level and to support the development of a European RI policy
- To bring initiatives and projects to a point where decisions by ministers are possible

#### A stimulation and incubator role



## The Roadmap

- Mandate from the Council of Ministers, November 2004
- The Roadmap is the result of two years of intensive work
- About 1000 high-level experts were involved, from every MS and AS, from most fields and user communities, giving the end product credibility and quality.

It is the beginning of an ongoing process



# The Roadmap (2)

- Addressing seven (7) fields of Research and major challenges
- From about original 200 proposals, thirty five (35) projects have been identified through several review stages
- Community produced ideas that will open up new and unexpected areas of knowledge

Some fields should be stimulated for further integration

### Social Science and Humanities



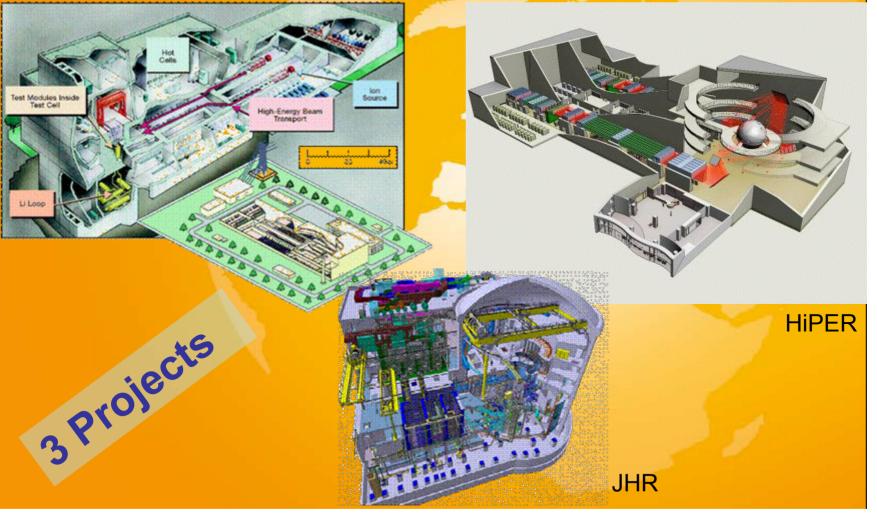
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#### **Environmental Sciences**



Energy

#### **IFMIF**



#### **Biomedical and Life Sciences**



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#### **Material Sciences**



# Astronomy, Astrophysics and Nuclear Physics



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Computer Data Treatment, Particle and Space Physics Inputs from e-IRG, ESA, CERN

esa\_



The European strategy



The CERN Council strategy for particle physics



The ESA Cosmic Vision

Cosmic Vision



## **Global Dimension**

- Several of the projects on the Roadmap require a global approach
- ESFRI will enter into a dialogue with the OECD Global Science Forum for the identification, planning, discussion and monitoring of such projects
- Major players are Australia, China, India, Japan, Russia, South Africa, USA



# Who is the Roadmap for ?

- Policy Makers
- Researchers
- Funders
- Industry

ESFRI welcomes the active role which the European Commission intends to play under the 7th Framework Programme.



#### More is to come

- Implementation of the Roadmap: some of the projects will be in place already next year
- Strengthening the European Research Area: Research Infrastructures as major cornerstones
- Continuation of the ESFRI work:
  ESFRI encourages constructive debate

Grazie Danke Bedankt Gracias **Kiitos** Tack

# Many thanks for your attention

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Köszönöm Teşekkür ederim