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



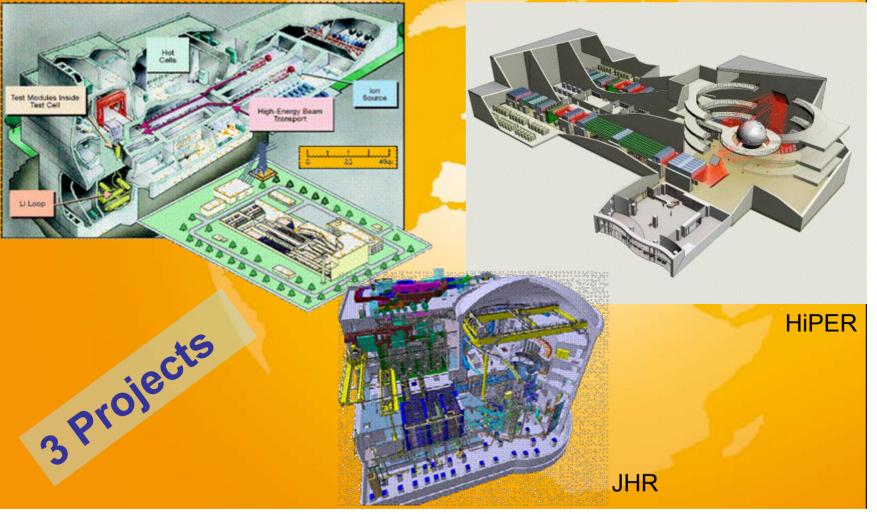
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Environmental Sciences



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

ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ

Köszönöm Teşekkür ederim