“Journey” to a permanent Governance model

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Overview

• Background
• Stages of the “journey“
• New model in brief
• Benefits from the new model
• Outlook
• First ERIC network meeting
Background
Helsinki / ICOS, 2017

Memorandum of understanding
ERIC network meeting at ICOS-ERIC in Helsinki

• Key elements:
  ✓ Setting up of the ERIC Forum
  ✓ Objectives: identify common challenges, collectively develop responses, contribute to further development, foster visibility, impact and sustainability.
  ✓ Activities: governance framework, common meetings (internal/open), Working Groups, targeted activities for key stakeholders, any other necessary activity.

• All established ERICs can sign this MoU; Depositary is BBMRI-ERIC
Three volunteers coming from different ERICs were given a “mandate“ to propose tentative rules.
• Setting up of temporary internal rules:
  ✓ ½ year rotating voluntary Chairmanship
  ✓ Need of internal meeting before open part
  ✓ Common PR measures
  ✓ Working groups
Stage 1
Amsterdam, ERIC Forum Project, 2019

Project Kick off meeting:

- Setting up of a task force to prepare decisions on governance in WP 2
Stage 2
WP 2 task force activities: Febr – Oct 2019
Main findings

ERICs and the ERIC Forum are new with some unique characteristics; therefore they cannot be compared to other groupings

⇒ governance structure must take this into account

The ERIC Forum has both, internal and external objectives

⇒ governance model shall aim at reaching these objectives

Rules shall not be unnecessary burden

⇒ governance model must be light, but nevertheless highly effective

Reaching finally consensus on a common model is challenging

⇒ governance model must bring different views in line
Stage 3
ERIC Directors’ meeting, Amsterdam, 2019

Based on the results of a written procedure in advance

“Green light“ for the proposed Governance structure
New model in brief

- **Keeping** the already **effective MoU**, which has already been signed by all existing ERICs, as it is broad and therefore acceptable basis for every ERIC.

- Becoming operative by **implementing Rules of Procedure** as an associated document which can be amended separately.

- Shaping of **bodies** (Forum assembly = all powers; Chair = spokesman of the Forum), introduction of new ones (Vice Chair, Executive Board).

- Enabling **common actions** based on **a clear structure (annual working programme)**, as well as ad hoc actions, e.g. writing of Position Papers.

- Possibility to introduce a **budget**, setting up of **working groups** and **additional bodies**.

- Keeping the **special relationship to EC and national Ministries** as main stakeholders.
Next steps

• Possible revision of the RoP:
  • Composition of the Executive Board (?)
  • Introduction of an election process for the next Chair (?)
  • Restriction of re-election of the Chair (?)
• Adoption of bylaws for the Executive Board (?)
• Legal entity (?)
The journey goes on…

We are together on the move:

Good governance is built up over time: new challenges require successive innovations
Thanks for your attention!
Any questions?