

ERIC Forum meeting,
5-6 February 2020

“Journey” to a permanent Governance model

Andrea Oepen, SHARE-ERIC, WP 2 Leader



► Overview

- Background
- Stages of the “journey“
- New model in brief
- Benefits from the new model
- Outlook

► Background

Brussels / EC, 2014

- First ERIC network meeting



Brussels,
rtd.ddg2.b.4(2014) 1686171

by e-mail only

Note for the delegates of the ERIC Committee and the representatives of ERICs

Subject: Invitation for the 1st ERIC Network Meeting on Friday, 13 June 10:00-16:00, Centre Albert Borschette

Dear delegates and representatives,

It is my pleasure to invite you for the 1st ERIC Network Meeting that will take place on 13 June in Brussels. As there have been seven ERICs established and another six ERIC applications ongoing we thought it useful to organise a first network meeting dedicated to ERICs in order to exchange best practices and gather information amongst the participants.

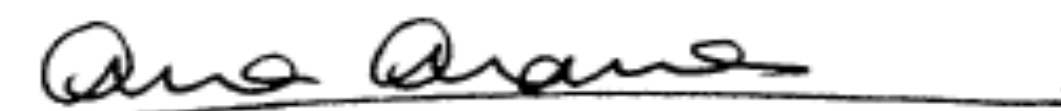
Apart from ERIC representatives we hope that ERIC Committee delegates will be able to participate as we can all learn from the experiences of the first ERICs with respect to their implementation as a new legal entity in the Member States.

In order to make the 1st Network meeting a success we would appreciate it very much if the ERIC representatives could fill in a short questionnaire which is attached to this mail. The responses will help us understanding your experience and will form the basis for the agenda and the discussions so that the most important subjects for the ERICs can be properly addressed.

Attached to this invitation you will find the template that we ask you to fill in and send back to us before Monday 2 June.

Importantly, we would like to ask you for a confirmation of your participation by e-mail to Rodica.MORARIU@ec.europa.eu by 6 June cob.

Yours sincerely,



Ana Arana-Antelo

▶ 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**

► Background

Graz / BBMRI, 2017

Three volunteers coming from different ERICs were given a “mandate” to propose tentative rules

FIRST ERIC FORUM MEETING IN GRAZ, AUSTRIA

On November 16 and 17, BBMRI hosted the first ERIC Forum meeting in Graz, Austria. Representatives from all operational as well as from future European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERICs) came together for two days to identify common issues and discuss best practice examples. The meeting was very well received and it was agreed that ERICs can greatly benefit from learning from each other. Let's make sure we keep the momentum going and continue to advance research in Europe.

Find out more:

[What is an ERIC?](#)

[Which ERICs are there?](#)



▶ Background

Oxford / INSTRUMENT, 2018

- Setting up of temporary internal rules:
- Introduction of a light structure:
 - ✓ 1/2 year rotating voluntary Chairmanship
 - ✓ Need of internal meeting before open part
 - ✓ Common PR measures
 - ✓ Working groups



2nd ERIC Forum: 19-20 April, 2018
 Hosted by the UK in Oxford

Venue: Instruct-ERIC at the Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics, University of Oxford,
 Roosevelt Drive, Oxford OX3 7BN, UK

European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERICs) are specific legal forms to facilitate the establishment and operation of research infrastructures with European interest. Developed through the ESFRI Roadmap, ERICs collectively provide quality infrastructure to support excellent research across the major thematic areas of Energy, Environment, Health & Food, Physical Sciences and Social & Cultural Innovation.

The ERIC Forum was established by joint signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with the aim to further intensify collaboration between ERICs. In particular, its objectives are to identify and develop collective responses to common challenges, contribute to the further development of the ERIC Regulation, the ESFRI framework and to European and international research in general. The Forum will support and develop visibility, impact and sustainability of ERICs.

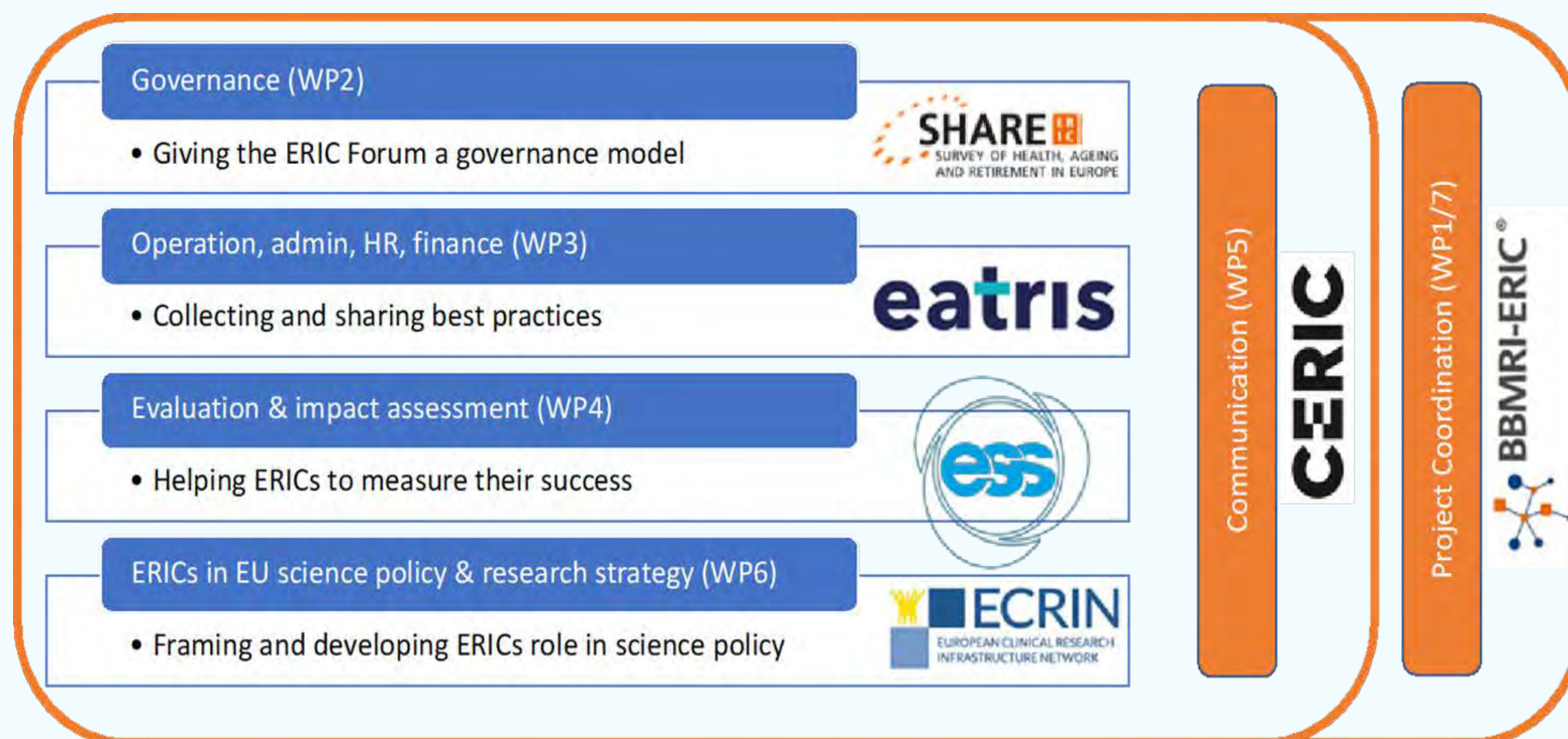
The 2nd ERIC Forum meeting will host a closed meeting on Thursday 19th April 09.00 – 11.15 followed by an open meeting for all participants from Thursday 19th April 11.30 – Friday 20th April 13.00.

Thursday 19 th April – closed meeting	
09.00	Registration desk open
11.30	Internal Forum Matters (for established and Step1, Step2 RIs, ERICs) Chair: Susan Daenke
09.30	Outline of the meeting
10.15	Round table Introductions Susan Daenke
10.15	Actions arising from 1 st ERIC-Forum:
11.15	Draft internal rules for the Forum + contacts per RI Website progress Plans for representation at ICRI (Vienna) Fabio Mazzolini / Andrea Oepen
11.15	Tea, coffee
11.30	

► 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 have 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 build up over time: new challenges require successive innovations





Thanks for your attention!
Any questions?