



European Strategy Forum
on Research Infrastructures

Drafting Group Greening and Resilience

31 August 2026

Virtual

Greening and Resilience of Research Infrastructures

Background

The world has entered an era of **polycrisis**, marked by **energy shortages**, fragile supply chains, record inflation, increased **Climate challenges**, critical resource scarcities, and shifting geopolitical alliances that are continuously reshaping the global order.

Given the **significant impact** of these crises on the **sustainability and operations** of research infrastructures (RIs), a new initiative is proposed to **advance the greening transition** and **strengthen the resilience** of RIs.

This newly proposed initiative builds on the foundation established by ESFRI's 2022 Energy and Supply Crisis Drafting Group, which addressed supply and energy challenges affecting RIs at the time.

Fulfils ESFRI's commitment to the [ERA Policy Agenda for 2025-2027](#) and aligns with both the European Strategy on Research and Technology Infrastructures and the Competitiveness Council's conclusions on **enhancing the resilience and greening** of RIs.

Greening and Resilience of Research Infrastructures

Objectives, Scope and Deliverables

Objectives

- **Accelerate the greening transition of RIs** by assessing environmental challenges and developing sustainable policies and transition plans including financial implications. Key elements include: climate mitigation, energy optimization, circular economy, recycling, environmental impact (biodiversity, pollution, etc.).
- **Strengthen the resilience, preparedness and crisis prevention of RIs** by enhancing their ability to anticipate, prepare for, and recover from disruptive crises through appropriate protection measures, continuity planning, coordinated emergency response, mutual support mechanisms, and risk management strategies that reduce vulnerabilities and ensure continuity of scientific operations.

Scope

- Encompasses various types of RIs: digital, distributed, and single-site, where applicable.

Key Deliverables

- Policy Report outlining recommendations to ESFRI, European Commission, national policy makers and to RI managers. The report will be structured into two chapters, each dedicated to the topic of Greening and Resilience.

Greening and Resilience of Research Infrastructures

Proposed Approach



Analysis Informed by Existing Material

monitoring exercises and past surveys, conduct environmental scans, perform literature reviews of relevant studies, policies, and publications, and complete benchmarking exercises.



Leveraging synergies with related initiatives

Build on complementary, avoiding duplication of existing work and focusing on synthesizing and translating current evidence into actionable policy recommendations.



Targeted surveys and interviews

Conduct surveys and interviews with policymakers and RI representatives to address information gaps that cannot be filled through the review of existing materials.



Workshop with experts

Organize workshops to validate findings, identify gaps and elaborate practical solutions and actionable recommendations.

Greening and Resilience of Research Infrastructures

Timeline





European Strategy Forum
on Research Infrastructures

Thank you!
