

RESINFRA@DR

Facilitating macro-regional scope and link up to socio-economic actors of
Research Infrastructure in the Danube Region

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION IN A TRAINING TO BUILD CAPACITY FOR EVALUATION, PLANNING, MONITORING, IMPACT STEERED OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

Introduction

The ResInfra@DR project is funded under INTERREG Danube Transnational Programme, supported by European Union funds (ERDF, IPA), and co-funded by the project partners or from national public co-funding and state contributions. The key objective of the ResInfra@DR is to contribute to the efforts for establishing new research infrastructures (RIs) and for upgrading of the existing ones by strengthening the relevant capacities, which adequately reflect the specific situation **in the Danube macro region**.

The core activities of ResInfra@DR include:

- Facilitating a stakeholder dialogue focusing on relevant national, macro regional and EU level policy fields;
- **Providing special trainings for defined target groups (programme owners, financing authorities, RI operators/hosts and reviewers of RIs) from the Danube macro region;**
- Producing a registry of competent and qualified reviewers for research infrastructure assessments;
- Conducting two pilot activities focusing on (1) peer learning involving nine existing RIs and (2) ex-ante assessments of three planned RIs in the macro region.

More detailed information about the ResInfra@DR project can be found here:

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/resinfra-dr>

Objectives and outline of the training

The trainings aim to build capacity for coherent ex-ante evaluation, planning of RIs, monitoring of existing RIs and identification of expected impacts for programme owners and the financing authorities, including the policy delivery organisations, and build capacity of potential reviewers of RIs from the Danube macro-region.

Day 1:

Morning to early afternoon: arrival of trainees.

Late afternoon: Introduction to the project and the training. Introduction of participants – expectations and needs.

Day 2:

Early morning: **Introductory session**

- Research infrastructures – types, strategic importance, structures, functions and roles;
- RI roadmaps;
- Foresight to underpin RI policies and strategic overhauling of individual RIs;
- Ex-ante evaluation – indicators and criteria;
- RI monitoring; RI planning; RI management;
- Scientific and technological excellence;
- Scientific and socio-economic impacts;
- The intersection of research infrastructures and research projects;
- Financial sustainability of RIs and associated risks).

Late morning and afternoon: **Planning and establishing RIs**

- Rationale for establishing RI – purpose, services, needs and demands;
- Risk assessment procedures and strategies;
- User strategy and access policy;
- Links between overall STI policy strategy and RI development strategy;
- Links to national/regional economy;
- Potential for cooperation with the private sector;
- Communication, marketing, PR, promotion;
- International cooperation in the Danube macro-region and beyond.

Lecture to be followed by group work on practical cases and examples proposed by the training participants.

Day 3:

Morning: **Operating, managing and monitoring RIs**

- Functions and roles of RIs;
- RI life cycle – upgrading of RIs and decommissioning of RIs;
- Ensuring scientific excellence;
- Human resources;
- Gender equality in research and RI management;
- User access policy, capacity utilisation, exploitation strategy;
- National and international collaboration;
- RI management (scientific, financial and personnel management);
- Liaising with stakeholders.

Lecture to be followed by group work on practical cases and examples proposed by the training participants.

Afternoon: **Results and impacts of RIs in practice**

- Types of impacts and methods for assessing and measuring socio-economic impacts of an RI;
- Precautionary principle and social responsibility;
- Benefits of RI for society and industry;
- Local / national / international development impact;
- Spin-offs.

Lecture to be followed by group work on practical cases and examples proposed by the training participants.

Day 4:

Morning: Long-term financial sustainability of RIs

- Financial planning and sustainable governance of RIs;
- Synergies between different funding sources to ensure maximum effect;
- Fundraising and predictability of funding;
- Fundraising cooperation in the Danube macro-region and beyond;
- Cooperation between RIs and the businesses.

Lecture to be followed by group work on practical cases and examples proposed by the training participants.

Afternoon: Concluding session

- Comments, opinions, discussions, wrap-up and main lessons learnt).

General conditions for participation

Target audience for this training are RI programme owners and financing authorities, RI managers and operators (hosts), as well as potential reviewers/evaluators of RIs. The participation is restricted to citizens of the Danube macro-region countries.

The training is primarily aimed at current research infrastructures practitioners, who wish to enhance their skills and capacities in planning, monitoring, managing and evaluating of research infrastructures, and share their own experience and knowledge with peers from other countries.

The training applicants must fulfil the following requirements in order to be eligible for participation:

- They must be from one of the Danube macro-region countries (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine). Participants from German states of Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg can also apply, but no financing of their participation is possible (they need to cover their own travel and accommodation costs).
- To be able to contribute professionally towards further development and wider use of research infrastructures in their countries and the Danube macro region.
- They have to demonstrate a basic knowledge about the research infrastructure landscape in their countries.
- Fluency in English (oral and written communication) is obligatory.
- A commitment to participate in the entire (4 days) training workshop must be ensured.
- Applicants have to fill in the online survey, which will serve as a basis for the final selection of participants.

Time and location of the training

The training will be repeated with similar content, attracting different participants in three different cities/countries. Training applicants can select the most convenient place and time and state their preference in the application form (*see Annex at the end of this Call*). However, the training organisers cannot guarantee

that preferences will be taken into consideration in all cases, as participation on each of the three trainings will be limited to approx. four (4) participants from one country.

- Sofia, Bulgaria: 13-16 February 2018
- Banja Luka, Republika Srpska – Bosnia-Herzegovina: 24-27 April 2018 (*preliminary dates – to be confirmed*)
- Bucharest, Romania: 22-25 May 2018 (*preliminary dates – to be confirmed*)

The language of all three training workshops will be English.

Submission of the applications

Please submit the required documents for the application as *training participant* per e-mail to: resinfra@online.bg (Marko Hajdinjak, ARC Fund, 5 Alexander Zhendov, 1113 Sofia, Bulgaria)

Deadline for the submission of applications is **Friday, 5 January 2018, 17:00 CET**.

Your application should consist of the following:

- ✓ Completed application form (see Annex of this Call)
- ✓ An up-to-date CV

You will receive a confirmation once your registration has been processed. In case you do not receive any notification from us within one week, please contact the same e-mail address listed above.

Selection of participants

The planned number of participants for each training workshop is 25 (75 in total for the three training workshops). Participants will be selected on the basis of their demonstrated interests, relevance of their CV, and the information provided in the online survey. Notification of acceptance and request for confirmation of participation will be sent after the selection process is completed. After the approved applicants have confirmed their intention to participate in the training, they will be contacted by the training organisers regarding the travel arrangements. Note that a country balance can limit the participation from a single country. The participation of multiple persons from one organisation might be a reason for non-selection.

Fees and payments

Travel and accommodation of all selected trainees will be covered by the training organisers. The organiser will cover the most economical way of travel and will request a confirmation of participation before any bookings are made or reimbursement is arranged.

There is no fee for training participation. The organisers will cover all costs related with the planning and organisation of the training.

Trainees are expected to cover the costs of personal character, as well as all expenses they will incur while attending the training, which are not directly related to the training itself.

For contact and information:

Marko Hajdinjak, ARC Fund, resinfra@online.bg

Programme of the training

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	09.00 – 10.30 Introduction Main definitions (RI, evaluation, monitoring, impact, sustainability)	09.00 – 10.00 Operating, managing and monitoring RIs - lecture	09.00 – 10.00 Long-term financial sustainability of RIs - lecture
		10.00 – 10.30 Group work: practical cases and examples proposed by project partners, trainers, training participants	10.00 – 10.30 Group work: practical cases and examples proposed by project partners, trainers, training participants
	10.30 – 10.50 Coffee Break	10.30 – 10.50 Coffee Break	10.30 – 10.50 Coffee Break
Morning – 15.00 Arrival of participants	10.50 – 12.20 Planning and establishing RIs - lecture	10.50 – 11.40 Group work continued	10.50 – 11.40 Group work continued
		11.40 – 12.20 Feedback from group work, presentation of findings and core questions, and wrap-up	11.40 – 12.20 Feedback from group work, presentation of findings and core questions, and wrap-up
	12.20 – 13.30 Lunch	12.20 – 13.30 Lunch	12.20 – 13.30 Lunch
	13.30 – 15.00 Group work: practical cases and examples proposed by project partners, trainers and training participants	13.30 – 14.30 Results and impacts of RIs in practice - lecture	13.30 – 15.00 Concluding session: comments, opinions, discussions, wrap-up, evaluation of the training and recommendations for future trainings
	14.30 – 15.00 Group work: practical cases and examples proposed by project partners, trainers, training participants		
	15.00 – 15.15 Coffee Break	15.00 – 15.15 Coffee Break	
15.00 – 16.00 Registration and welcome	15.15 – 16.00 Feedback from group work, presentation of findings and core questions, and wrap-up	15.15 – 16.00 Group work continued	Departure of participants
16.00 – 16.30 Introduction to the project and the training	Free afternoon and evening	16.00 – 16.30 Feedback from group work, presentation of findings and core questions, and wrap-up	
16.30 – 17.30 Tour de table			
18.00 – 19.00 Ice-breaking and get-to-know event			
19.00 Welcome cocktail		19.00 Dinner	

Annex – Application form

Please complete this form in full and return it by email to resinfra@online.bg no later than **Friday, 5 January 2018, 17:00 CET**, together with your up-to-date CV (Europass format).

1. Applicant's data

Family name		Nationality	
First name(s)		Gender (F / M)	
Date of birth: day.month.year		Country and place of birth	
Place of work (name of organisation)		Your professional position	
City of residence		Country of residence	
Office telephone		Mobile phone	
e-mail			

2. Training selection

Indicate which workshop you are applying for (tick the check-box). Note that another venue might be offered to you if travel to that venue can be more economical or if the selected event is already overbooked.

Sofia, Bulgaria: 13-16 February 2018

Banja Luka, Bosnia-Herzegovina: 24-27 April 2018 (*preliminary dates – to be confirmed*)

Bucharest, Romania: 22-25 May 2018 (*preliminary dates – to be confirmed*)

3. Motivation statement

Please explain why you are applying for this training workshop, what you hope to learn from it, and how it will benefit your professional development and your organisation (100-200 words).

4. Online survey

Please complete the [online survey](#). The survey is an obligatory part of the application process and must be completed before **Friday, 5 January 2018** in order for your application to be eligible.