



Science & Technology
Facilities Council

ESFRI update

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What is ESFRI?

European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures

- Not a funding agency – a forum of EU member states and associates (Norway, Switzerland etc.)
- Delegates appointed by their governments
- European Commission is in attendance

- Charged to develop and update a strategic roadmap of research infrastructures of European Interest for the next 10-20 years

(Council of Ministers 2004 and 2007)

2006 Roadmap

- Influential
 - More so than expected?
- Used as basis for FP7 preparatory phase funding
- For Astronomy includes:
 - E-ELT, SKA
 - KM3NET
- Space and particle physics projects handled through their own roadmapping processes so not listed



Roadmap Update

- Comprehensive Update in 2008
- Roadmap Working groups in
 - e-infrastructures
 - Social sciences and humanities
 - Biology and medical sciences
 - Environment
 - Physical Sciences, Energy and Engineering
- Roadmap working groups reviewed the infrastructures in the 2006 roadmap and assessed new proposals from the member states

New roadmap projects

Plenary ESFRI forum on 26/9/08 approved content of new roadmap:

- SSH – 1 deletion
- BMS – 4 additions
 - Openscreen, Eurobioimaging, high security laboratory, marine biology
- ENV – 3 additions
 - EISCAT-3D, plate tectonics, Arctic observation
- PSE – 3 additions
 - **CTA**, High magnetic field laboratory, carbon capture, (+ EISCAT-3D)

2008 roadmap

- Roadmap is now in draft
 - 44 projects (6 of which are underway)
 - 20 billion €
- Final glossy version to be released in December
 - ECRI conference, Versailles, December 9-10
- Future updates likely to be incremental
 - one subject area at a time

What is the roadmap for?

Remember, ESFRI is not a funding agency

- Some people believe that the roadmap demonstrates a clear consensus on priorities that will help unlock additional funding from member states
 - Recall, 20 Billion €
- However, my view is that the roadmap is needed precisely because we will not be able to unlock additional funding from member states and must use limited resources wisely

Other news

- After updating the roadmap in 2008, ESFRI will aim to focus more on its other activities in 2009
- European Research Infrastructure legal framework
 - Exemption from VAT
- Move from Commission to ask member states to “commit” to projects at Council of Ministers on December 2
 - Projects without any country committed may face removal from the roadmap?
- European Spallation Source