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MAXIMISING THE IMPACT OF CONTRIBUTIONS INTO EOSC AND THE EOSC FEDERATION: PERSPECTIVES FROM THE COUNTRIES

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EOSC Steering Board: Who we are and what we do

The [EOSC Steering Board](#) (since 03/2021):

- Commission Expert Group
- Representatives of 27 Member States and 15 Associated Countries of Horizon Europe
- You can find your country's EOSC-SB member(s) here: <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/expert-groups-register/screen/expert-groups/consult?lang=en&groupID=3756>
- co-chaired between EC and countries' representatives since 02/2022
- Represent the interests of the MS/AC in the EOSC governance
- Address policy issues relevant for the development of EOSC
- Ensure information flow between EOSC governance and ministries
- Interconnect with other relevant initiatives/programmes on EU level
- Meet ~6 times per year
- Advance work in subgroups (Monitoring, Policies, ...)



EOSC SB meeting in Kraków, March 2025

Where does funding come from?

- The largest part of investment into EOSC (and into research in general) is at the national and institutional level.
- Of that, the largest part is invested inside the countries
- The largest part of countries' investment into international public research is through the participation in Horizon Europe (~11 B€/year¹) and through direct support of European and international research infrastructures²
- National investments into EOSC and Open Science in 2022: 479 M€³
- Research ministries aim at: research that is in line with their **policies**, maximise **impact**, maximise **return on investment**

1 : EU's annual budget for the financial year 2025 : <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/budget/2025/31/oj/eng>

2 : see for example Hoffert (2024), [ESFRI Report: Funding of Research Infrastructures](#)

3 : [EOSC Observatory](#)

Alignment of projects with policies

EOSC projects' meeting 2024 : sustainability of results is key

- Projects create solutions (data, software, services, documentation, ...)
- Interest to make useful products sustainable
- Meets interest of countries: maximise **impact**, maximise **return on investment** — if in line with policies and priorities
- One very visible option is to make products available through the EOSC Federation (enrol nodes, onboard services)
- EOSC Federation is a part of the countries' EOSC strategy¹
- But this might not be the only policy / strategy relevant for you if you want to maximise your project's impact

1 : Position paper by the EOSC Steering Board (2025), [“The EOSC as a cornerstone of a ‘Fifth Freedom’ in Research and Innovation”](#)

Relevant policies and strategies

Other policies & strategies you might consider when looking for impact

Is your project's outcome relevant for ...

- [ESFRI Roadmap](#)
- [National research infrastructure roadmaps](#)
- [National EOSC & Open Science policies](#) (also at institutional level)
- Thematic roadmaps at EU (e.g. [APPEC](#)), national or institutional level

Higher level visions and strategies

- EU level : [Draghi report on Competitiveness](#), [Letta report](#), Heitor report [“Align, act, accelerate”](#), [Competitiveness Compass](#),
- National level : follow what's on the agenda of the government (e.g. AI, sovereignty, ...)

Prepare for the post-project phase

Being aligned with policies and roadmaps is necessary but not sufficient

What are funding opportunities to make your projects' outcomes sustainable at institutional, national, and EU level?

Horizon Europe actions are usually for development, not for continuous support

Focus on national, institutional, or research infrastructures' opportunities

Best approach: discuss options for post-project support with your stakeholders during the project planning and proposal phase. If this hasn't been done, think of doing this as soon as possible — not after the project ended.

The real potential and added value of EOSC will become apparent once data and services from different **projects, domains and countries are included in the EOSC Federation**

Support for providing services in the EOSC Federation

- HORIZON-INFRA-EOSC 2025-2027 has a strong focus on the EOSC Federation
- For example : HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-EOSC-01 “EOSC Nodes with federating capabilities for the **EOSC Federation**”

Horizon Europe INFRA-EOSC 2025

Topic HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-...	Non-exhaustive description — for information only
EOSC-01 RIA 30 M€ 4 projects foreseen Direct link to the call in the EU Funding portal	EOSC Nodes with federating capabilities for the EOSC Federation • The call aims to further develop the cross-domain EOSC system of systems, building upon the results of the previous INFRAEOSC calls. • Focus is on developing and expanding the EOSC federation through a network of nodes as baseline elements of the EOSC federation model. • These EOSC nodes will establish a set of essential federating capabilities, compatible with the EOSC EU Node reference architecture, following the EOSC Federation Handbook and EOSC interoperability framework. • They need to have a clearly described identity and offer unique value to EOSC users, for example representing a specific thematic domain (e.g. data or computing) or geographical area amongst the Horizon Europe participating and associated countries • Beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties (FSTP). The support to third parties can only be provided in the form of grants (with up to 60 k€ per each third party) See which types of nodes are in the process of being integrated in the Federation: https://eosc.eu/news/2025/04/the-eosc-federations-build-up-phase-is-underway/

Horizon Europe INFRA-EOSC 2025

Topic HORIZON-INFRA-2025-01-...	EOSC Nodes with federating capabilities for the EOSC Federation Non-exhaustive description — for information only (2)
EOSC-01 RIA 30 M€ 4 projects foreseen	The proposals shall focus on all following aspects : • Satisfy the minimal node requirements as defined by the EOSC tripartite governance: • Compliance with the requirements on the legal status of the organisation • Compliance with the requirements aiming at large-scale, quality service provisioning • Capacity to onboard third-party services • Capacity to contribute to and/or take-over the EOSC federating capabilities • Adoption and integration of the EOSC federation rules and policies [...] * • Support to effectively monitor and report the activities of the services provided • Integrate and offer EOSC core federating capabilities pioneered by the EOSC EU Node • Contribute to a robust and coordinated strategy for evolving and sustaining the federated governance model for EOSC by fostering effective collaboration and coordination among the other node operators offering federating capabilities. • Enrich the existing guidelines and best practices for the onboarding and enrolment processes. • Designate and train the EOSC node operators for high level of responsibilities within the EOSC Federation • Develop and run community engagement and support programmes around the EOSC node and the surrounding ecosystem.

* see the *EOSC Federation handbook*: <https://eosc.eu/eosc-federation-handbook/>

Support for providing services in the EOSC Federation : the future

- HORIZON-INFRA-EOSC 2026-2027 under discussion
- First discussion of the first draft on June 20, next meeting of the Programme Committee on September 17
- Strong support for the EOSC Federation
- Under discussion: CoFund action in 2027 to expand and deepen the EOSC Federation
- If this is approved, this will rely on **national** (not institutional) co-funding
- This *might* be a model for supporting the EOSC Federation under the next European framework programme ([FP10](#))

Maximise impact

Web of FAIR research data and services

- Impact of your projects' results through integration in the EOSC Federation
- To seek support: align with policies and strategies
- Use various channels to stay in touch with deciders at different levels (institutional, national, European)
- Make your voice heard — and your project results count!



Panel discussion at the EOSC Symposium 2024: Michael Arentoft (DG-RTD), V. Beckmann (EOSC Steering Board co-chair), Karel Luyben (president of the EOSC Association)

Discussion

Maximising the impact of contributions into EOSC and the EOSC Federation



Discussion:

- What are the most important obstacles for you as project leads to make outcomes sustainable?

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Discussion:

- What are the most important obstacles for you as project leads to make outcomes sustainable?
- Do you have difficulty to get in contact with the relevant deciders on institutional, national, EU level to express your needs and to voice your advice?

Maximising the impact of contributions into EOSC and the EOSC Federation



Discussion:

- What are the most important obstacles for you as project leads to make outcomes sustainable?
- Do you have difficulty to get in contact with the relevant deciders on institutional, national, EU level to express your needs and to voice your advice?
- What additional actions should be taken to increase the impact of EOSC related projects?