

RIFI project and the RIAM methodology

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MEYS

What is the RIFI?

- EU-funded project on developing methodology for assessment of research infrastructure construction;
- Few partners – Bulgaria; Romania; Italy and Spain;
- Ambitious aim: to develop and test a methodology for assessment of RI
 - Socio-economics
 - Foresight
- 3 cases on national and 2 on pan-European RI

Why RIFI?

- Concept of a “Partner Facility” of a Pan-EU Research Infrastructure (RI) :

Partner Facilities must fulfill the same criteria of Pan-EU RIs to ensure, also at Regional level, the Socioeconomic returns due international quality in Education, Technology, attraction of other investments...

- Need to provide solid evidence for the policy-makers;
- Need to “show-case” the benefits to the public, economy

What is the RIAM

- Multi-module analytical tool providing the general context on socio-economic impact assessment;
- Five major parts as an instrument to:
 - Create a profile for the RI (A)
 - Create a profile of the host region (B)
 - Business model analyses (C)
 - Risk analyses (D)
 - SWOT (E)
 - Economy and Innovation system (F)
 - Population and Labour Market (G)
 - Infrastructure and services (H)
 - Environment, culture and quality of life (I)
 - Network and cohesion (J)

Collection of data

- Various methods will be applied in order to deliver both qualitative and quantitative data;
 - Data collection and document analyses;
 - Expert interviews;
 - Gap analyses;
 - Site visits;
 - Economic methods: input-output tables; multipliers;
- General study and verification

Module A

- Whether the candidate site meet the general pre-requisites set by the RI itself;
- Concerns external support:
 - political support;
 - land;
 - supply with services and supporting infrastructure;
 - regulatory framework and licensing
- Result: what is the RI about and analyses of the site requirements

Module B

- Support elaboration of the regional profile;
 - Environment: ecological; geography;
 - Local/regional political milieu;
 - Legal framework conditions;
 - General infrastructure;
 - Education and culture facilities
 - Statistics about labour market; industry profile at regional level; instruments (EU and national as well)
 - Research environment
 - Regional networking
- Interviews about perceptions with different regional stakeholders;

Module C

- Assess the construction and operational issues; management strategy, etc;
 - Financial aspects including potential investors;
 - Technical and operational management;
 - Procurement and supply management;
 - External relations;
 - HR management

Module D

- Each project should have contingency plans
 - Site specific risks (meteorological or lack of political acceptance);
 - Security;
 - Insufficient supply with expertise;
 - Financial risk

SWOT analyses

- Data from the above 4 modules;
- Foresight:
 - Expert panels/workshops;
 - PEST analyses;
 - Brainstorming;
- Followed by Action plan?

Positive factors

- Comprehensive framework;
- Can work on “pick-up” principle;
- Applicable to various types of infrastructures;
- Sound background and rationale for decision-making;
- Participatory approach

Challenges:

- Implementation;
- Affirm the RIAM at EU level and possible at national;
- Application;
- Follow-up actions?
- Costs
- Commissioner

Where we are now?

- National group formation:
 - MEYS;
 - UNWE (Economist);
 - SU/IO
 - Sociology agencies (IME)
 - ARC – foresight
- Regional actors
- Data collection



Thank you for the attention

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