

Widening of Research Infrastructures networks

Horizon 2020 supports Research Infrastructures in providing world-class services to researchers and innovators. Integrating national facilities into European networks optimises their usage and opening them to European researchers strengthens the innovation potential and human capital. When setting up European Research Infrastructures it is important to balance two factors:

- **Accessibility for the research community.** Location matters in cases where physical access is required or if massive amounts of data have to be transferred.
- Involvement of **key-installations as service providers.** The European Research Infrastructures are expected to provide access to the best installations in their field

In the context of European Research Infrastructures, therefore the perception of the “Widening participation¹” terminology differs.

Especially the involvement of organisations from **countries performing below their potential in a given field** can have a great impact on increasing awareness on Research Infrastructures’ opportunities and subsequently on boosting the use of services offered.

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/spreading-excellence-and-widening-participation>

Widening the Research Infrastructures user base

Research Infrastructures are set up to deliver world-class services to European researchers and to the Industry, if relevant for the scientific field. Most Research Infrastructures cluster their services into calls for applications. Information on these calls and the attached services are compiled, easily accessible and searchable on the RICH web page:

http://www.rich2020.eu/tas_calls

As access to these services – may it be physical or virtual – is **free of charge** and merit based, especially researchers that have no access to support within their host organisation for research visits can (e.g. internal grants) greatly benefit from those.

To get more information from your Horizon 2020 National Contact Point for Research Infrastructures, visit <http://www.rich2020.eu/contact>



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