Purpose of the Plan (Implementation project Instruct-ULTRA)

To ensure Instruct-ERIC is a priority for support from its members and other stakeholders by delivering value to all communities it serves.

To achieve ERIC status, already judged to:

- Add value to strengthen the ERA
- Provide access to excellent infrastructure in Europe
- Contribute to mobility and training for new researchers in the field of structural biology
- Add to scientific data in public repositories and increase public knowledge
Purpose of the Plan

Key priorities to address for sustainability

Establish value of the RI in the following dimensions:

1. Scientific excellence
2. Ability to attract skilled staff
3. Innovation potential (new technologies, new applications/scientific approaches)
4. Socio-economic impact
5. Exploiting data generated using open and FAIR principles
6. Robust governance framework
7. Clear internationalisation policies
Established some target recommendations in each area:

**Excellent science**

**Recommendations:**
Anticipate and promote new developments in technology
Provide expert support to member countries to improve infrastructure or address gaps in technologies that need investment

**People**

**Recommendations:**
Identify and plan for key roles within Instruct that need core support
Expand and target training for users and providers of Instruct services

**Innovation**

**Recommendations:**
Position Instruct as an early adopter of new technology/instrumentation to be an attractive partner for industry and academics
Support innovative solutions for the delivery of Instruct services

**Socio-economic impact**

**Recommendations:**
Identify and demonstrate impact on public health and wellbeing, economic indicators
Data

**Recommendations:**
Operationally apply FAIR principles to the management of data
Engage with EOSC stakeholders to shape the future implementation of EOSC

Outreach

**Recommendations:**
Prepare a plan for maintaining and expanding European membership of Instruct
Establish policies for membership of countries from outside of Europe and international organisations

Communication

**Recommendations:**
Implement the communications strategy
Develop new ways of interacting with all stakeholders

Finance

**Recommendations:**
Review funding model and membership for next financial cycle 2022-2027
Identify funding opportunities through HE and other global funding initiatives
Are we making progress (2020)?

Excellent science: 226 publications/114 journals
People: 13 staff in Hub; 4.7FTE doing Instruct-ERIC core work
Innovation: launched X-ray fragment screening platform, megabody production, several cryo-EM facilities and upgrades
Socio-economic factors: SB input to COVID-19 research → vaccine design, diagnostic testing (KPI working group)
Data: EOSC-Life on FAIRification, workflows for open access and public data deposition (DMCC)
Outreach: 15 members, 1 observer; MOUs with 3 countries in Latin America, South Africa. Communications: new Communications officer appointed, comms toolkit (RI-VIS), well attended webinar series.
Finance: new funding cycle from 2022
Is the sustainability plan fit for purpose?

First iteration has been useful to identify targets

Needs annual review
- New circumstances
- New funding streams
- New scientific challenges

Key challenges:
- Staff issues: retention, distributed staff, core staff
- Data management (data sovereignty, cloud services)
- Achieving a balance between funding for infrastructure services and core management of Instruct-ERIC research infrastructure as a whole
Thank you for listening

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