

## EU-LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN WORKING GROUP ON RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES (WG RI)

### 1st Policy workshop

*“Research infrastructures strategic roadmapping practices”*

Vienna, 12th September 2018

#### Summary

- The workshop counted with the participation of 12 EU countries and 15 LAC countries (refer to participants list).
- The country representatives reiterated the need for closer collaboration between EU and LAC, partly reflecting on European (ESFRI) and LAC (LATTES platform) experiences.
- The evolution of RIs in EU took over 60 years. Evidence shows that there remains a big variety of national approaches to roadmapping in the EU. For LAC, parallel processes of RI development are recommended on national and regional level, using country/context specific methods (strategy – incubation – implementation – operation); countries should strive for regional reciprocal methodological frameworks.
- EU member states and institutions are invited to share experiences gained in the interaction between national and regional (EU) roadmapping of RIs with the LAC countries, which should apply the lessons learned within their local and regional context.
- Participants agreed on the fact that ethical dimensions of RIs outcomes (contributing to better societies) are as important as contributions to competitiveness and job creation within the context of LAC.
- With regard to the organisation of RIs it was emphasized to avoid geographical and institutional concentration as well as fragmentation by striving for a well-balanced mix of RIs on national (and regional) level, ranging in size, location, composition and focus. This requires reflection and negotiation on system and political level, especially within the context of LAC countries.
- The Brazilian LATES platform serves as an example of the importance of a well-thought and structured RI mapping exercise.
- Data sharing through open source and data science platforms and initiatives is gaining momentum in Europe. A challenge is how to achieve a balance between data sharing for societal benefit and the right of an individual to own their data.
- Participants stressed the importance of strong regional research networks around prioritised RIs.

#### Next steps

- Participants agreed on the necessity of the formation of a LAC permanent working group before the end of September 2018 that, amongst other tasks, will take the process of RI roadmapping further on national and regional level, in close collaboration with the EC WG on research infrastructures. This LAC-PWG should be assigned with specific defined objectives and a coordination structure to be determined during a virtual follow-up meeting amongst LAC participants.

- Further foster synergies between EU and LAC in terms of RI roadmapping through increased exchange of national and regional experiences and methodologies, that could serve as best practices/challenges, and data sharing.
- Identify available financing instruments on regional and international cooperation, and further coordinate and focus these (financing) instruments, through closer coordination between national research and innovation agencies. This could be an identified topic for future policy workshops and/or intra-LAC (training) sessions.
- Coordinate the presentation of collaborative LAC proposals with European partners for the upcoming H2020 calls for RI proposals.
- The ISF will focus the first interactive Intra-LAC activity, scheduled for the first quarter of 2019, on further developing the topic of RI roadmapping in LAC . A draft agenda will be developed with the co-chairs, in order to have an interactive session to discuss methodologies and instruments used (a hands-on approach).