

Academy of Finland – FIRI 2016 review report

Date

Review panel

Experts

Application number

Call

Applicant

Project title

Reminder to reviewer

Definition: *Research infrastructures constitute a reserve of research facilities, equipment, materials and services facilitating research and development at different stages of innovation, supporting organised research, researcher training and teaching at universities, and maintaining and developing research and innovation capacity.*

Research infrastructures must:

- provide potential for world-class research and scientific breakthroughs
- be of broad national interest and enhance international impact
- have a long-term plan for scientific goals, maintenance, financing and utilisation
- be used by several research groups/users for high-quality research
- be open and easily accessible to researchers, industry and other actors
- have a plan for access to and preservation of collected data and/or materials
- be extensive enough so that individual groups cannot manage them on their own
- introduce new cutting-edge technology (if relevant).

Please rate the applications using the scale below. We encourage using the entire scale.

- 6 Outstanding: stands for exceptional novelty, innovativeness and enabling of renewal of science at a global level
- 5 Excellent: extremely good in international comparison – no significant elements to be improved
- 4 Very good: contains some elements that could be improved
- 3 Good: contains elements that could be improved
- 2 Unsatisfactory: in need of substantial modification or improvement
- 1 Weak: severe flaws intrinsic to the proposed infrastructure project or the plan

In addition to a numerical rating, please give a written assessment under each of the questions below.

1. Relevance of research infrastructure **Rating (1–6)**

1.1 How does the research infrastructure facilitate scientific excellence in terms of scientific results, breakthroughs and scientific progress and renewal?

ONLY ASSESS THIS IN CALL 3 APPLICATIONS (New research infrastructure initiatives and/or non-roadmap infrastructures)

1.2 How is the research infrastructure positioned in the national and/or international research environment? What is the added value for science at a national and/or international level?

1.3 How do host organisations support the research infrastructure? How well is the project aligned with the research strategy and / or profiling actions of the organisations?

1.4 How is the research infrastructure engaged in national or international collaborations that can significantly contribute to the success of the project?

2. Feasibility of research infrastructure **Rating (1–6)**

2.1 Is the project plan clearly presented and realistic? Are the overall expenses appropriate and well-planned? Are the potential risks and problem areas acknowledged, and how are alternative approaches being considered? How will the research infrastructure be sustained after the project period?

2.2 What is the user profile? Is the research infrastructure continuously used by excellent researchers and research groups?

2.3 How does the research infrastructure provide open access to users (access may require approval of a research plan and reasonable user fees)? How are the management, storage, use and rights of ownership of the research data planned?

2.4 Ethical issues (if relevant)

3. Management and competence of personnel **Rating (1–6)**

3.1 Are the project management, resources and division of labour for maintenance, services and user support appropriate and well-planned? Are the merits and scientific expertise of the principal investigator (coordinator) and other key persons appropriate and sufficient for the proposed project? What are the merits of the PI and other key persons in terms of managing the research infrastructure? Do the personnel have adequate expertise for maintenance, service provision and user support?

4. Significance to education, researcher training and mobility **Rating (1–6)**

4.1 How does the research infrastructure support education and researcher training? Does the research infrastructure enhance mobility?

5. Impact of research infrastructure **Rating (1–6)**

5.1 What kind of added value does the research infrastructure generate for society at large or for innovation activities, business and the economy? Can the project produce new innovations, business activities or other societal benefits?

6. Overall assessment **Final rating (1–6)**

6.1 *Assess the main strengths and weaknesses of the research infrastructure project. You can also provide additional comments and suggestions.*