



European Association
of Research and Technology Organisations



2014
**The year
of change**

www.earto.eu

Annual report 2014





Dear Friends and Colleagues,

First, EARTO environment faced key changes with the European Union's political scene transformed by the European elections in May: new Presidents for the European Commission, European Parliament and European Council were elected. **We also welcomed new Members of the European Parliament and new Commissioners, including Carlos Félix Moedas, new Commissioner for Research, Science & Innovation.** In parallel, EARTO top management changed with my arrival in May as EARTO new President joined by Frank Treppe (Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft) as new EARTO Vice-President in September. Accordingly, EARTO communication efforts increased largely last autumn in order to present the Association and its members to the new officials at the EU Institutions.

In the meantime, the EARTO Work Plan 2014 was successfully implemented by our Secretariat after key priorities and objectives were set up by the Board end 2013: our Working Groups were launched with success and have produced good contents this year. **Many thanks to all our Working Groups' experts and our active Steering Committee for their commitment this year!**

By promoting the 8 position papers delivered by our Working Groups, we worked hard all along the year reaffirming the strategic positioning of RTOs in working with an array of stakeholders in bridging the gap between basic research and market application.

In addition to organising a successful Annual Conference in Vienna with the great support of our Austrian members in May, we launched our new policy event in Brussels in October which presented our Recommendations for Future EU Innovation Policy to some 200 high-level representatives from EU Institutions and key organisations.

2014 was also the first year of Horizon2020 implementation. Strongly supporting the Programme, EARTO members have been committed to delivering impactful projects working hand in hand with their partners and the European Commission. Thanks to our Working Group Horizon2020, we published our first feedback on the Programme's first calls in September. Our Working Group Financial Experts is also working towards the right implementation of Horizon2020, focusing on the Large Research Infrastructures (LRI) Scheme specially designed for RTOs.

In 2014 we started to follow closely the discussions on the EU 2015 Budget and President Juncker's €315 billion Investment Plan which are today threatening Horizon2020. Surely, we will continue to follow these dossiers throughout 2015.

To conclude, EARTO as the network where RTOs come together, exchange views and best practices, agree to convey common positions defending their interests and raising their visibility, has been very successful in 2014. We have closed an excellent 2014 and are now looking forward to 2015!

Kind regards,

Maria Khorsand

President of EARTO
CEO, SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden

EARTO

Timeline →

2000
Creation

2001

2001
Association is recognised
by EU Commissioner
Busquin.

2004

2004
4 EARTO members in EURAB,
implementation of new EU
measures supporting SMEs
R&I activities.

2005

2005
EURAB's report on RTOs and ERA.
EARTO joins EU Commissioner
Potočník's Sounding Board.

2006

2006
Launch of Responsible Partnering
guidelines with EIRMA, EUA, and
Proton Europe.

2007

2007
EARTO chairs EC's
SME Advisory Group for FP7.
The DESCAs Group, supported
by EARTO, publishes FP7 model
consortium agreement.
EARTO in ERAB.

2008

2008
EARTO AERTOs ERA-NET aiming
to exploring LT cooperation
between RTOs.

2009

2009
1st EARTO Innovation Prize delivered
by EIT Chairman. Prize delivered
over the years by EU Commissioner
in 2010, and EC President's chief
Scientific Adviser in 2013.

2010

EARTO in EC 1st High-Level Group on KETs.

EARTO launches yearly brochure "Impact Delivered: Technology for a Better World" highlighting key contribution of RTOs to innovation.

EARTO in EC's Expert Panel for FP7's Midterm Review: adoption of FP7 simplification measures defended by EARTO.

EARTO's 3 years campaign for an adequate Horizon 2020 & EU Financial Regulation implementation: 15 position papers, over 30 meetings with the EC, 5 speeches at European Parliament hearings and 2 commissioned studies on the impact of RTOs and the importance of applied research.

2013

Creation of the Large Research Infrastructure Scheme (LRI) in H2020, especially designed for RTOs.

EARTO members in 2nd EC High-Level Expert Group on KETs.

Creation of new working groups.
InfoDay on H2020 with EIRMA.

2010
2013

2010

2013

2012

2014

2009
2011

2012

Member of ERA SHO Platform.

EARTO in ERIAB.

Launch of LinkedIn group on H2020 – now over 9,300 members – and Twitter account – now over 3,250 followers.

EARTO addresses European Parliament 5 times on the simplification of FP7, FP6 ex-post audits and EU's Financial Regulation.

Whole year

8 position papers

7 press releases published in 2014

By month

February-March: EARTO active on State Aid Rules Revision (WG Legal Experts).

May: EU Commissioner Hahn at EARTO Annual Conference 2014.

July: EARTO ERRIN paper on Synergies ESIF/Horizon2020.

September: 1st feedback paper on H2020 1st calls with IGLO.

October: EU Commissioner Almunia at EARTO Innovation Prize EARTO Recommendations for Future EU Innovation Policy presented to 200 EU policy makers & key stakeholders.

November: EARTO debate with 25 MEPs on EU Innovation Policy.

December: 1st Letter to EC President Juncker against cuts to H2020 in EFSI.

RTOs Positioning in Relevant

EARTO RAISING RTOS' PROFILE IN BRUSSELS:

- Published 2 key documents in 2014: EARTO Recommendations on Future EU Innovation Policy (accompanied by a specific Policy Event to discuss the paper) and EARTO Recommendations on the TRL Scale as a R&I Policy Tool.
- Continued communication campaign towards new officials from EC & EP to present EARTO following May elections.
- Raised the profile of RTOs and highlighted RTOs success stories: Impact Delivered showcasing high impact innovations, press release on Catapult Centres success in the UK (Hauser report), press release on high RTO participation in new EIT KICs Health and Raw Materials.
- Contributed to the on-going debate on R&I framework conditions in Europe linked with the publication of the EC Communication on R&I as Sources of Growth.
- Continued its collaboration with EC JRC and CEN-CENELEC on the topic of standardisation & innovation with the organisation of a joint event on Hydrogen and Natural Gas in October.
- Continued partnership with European Commission on the European Research Area (ERA): EARTO is member of the ERA Stakeholder Platform set up in 2012 and its working groups together with CESAER, EUA, LERU, Nordforsk and Science Europe. EARTO co-organised two sessions on ERA at the Innovation Convention 2014.
- Established new dialogue or strengthened existing partnerships with key stakeholders associations: EIRMA and EUA (Responsible Partnering Initiative event in December), Business Europe and ERRIN (on synergies European Structural & Investment Funds (ESIF)/H2020 and RIS3 dossiers, joint paper EARTO-ERRIN) and IGLO (joint paper on 1st Feedback H2020 Calls).

EARTO DEFENDING RTOS INTERESTS IN EU POLICIES:

- Followed the revision of the European new state-aid rules with 3 responses to EC consultations (RD&I framework, GBER, IPCEI) thanks to our WG Legal Experts.
- EARTO Board engaged in dialogue with ERAC on ERA Roadmap 2015, which outlines new Members States activities on R&I related topics.
- Positioned RTOs on synergies ESIF/H2020 and RIS3 dossiers: EARTO-ERRIN paper, strengthened collaboration with EC & JRC, EARTO invited to become member of EC Expert Group on Structured Dialogue on ESIF.
- Followed carefully the discussions around the EU budget 2015 and the cash flow problems of the EC: press release protesting against budget cuts published in October.
- Looked at minimising the impact of the new "Juncker Plan" on Horizon2020: Open Letter to Mr Juncker sent in December.



EARTO Vision

A European research and innovation system without borders in which RTOs occupy nodal positions and possess the necessary resources and independence to make a major contribution to a competitive European economy and high quality of life through beneficial cooperation with all stakeholders.

EU Policies



To promote and defend the interests of RTOs in Europe by reinforcing their profile and position as key players in the minds of EU decision-makers and by seeking to ensure that European RD&I programmes are best attuned to their interests; to provide added-value services to members to help them to improve their operational practices and business performance; to provide members with information and advice to help them make the best use of European RD&I programmes funding opportunities.

EARTO SHAPING EU R&I PROGRAMMES:

- Commented Horizon2020's implementation by publishing a feedback paper on the first calls of the programme in partnership with IGLO (network of Brussels-based non-profit R&D Liaison Offices).
- Kept regular dialogue with Horizon2020's implementing bodies (EC & agencies), supported by the EARTO WG Horizon2020.
- Closely followed Horizon2020's financial & legal frameworks: participation in the elaboration of the updated DESCA Model Consortium Agreement for Horizon2020, publication of EARTO guidelines on LRI scheme.
- Engaged in active collaboration with the relevant EC services for the implementation of the Large Research Infrastructures (LRI) scheme under Horizon2020, specifically designed for RTOs.
- Developed a new dialogue with the European Courts of Auditors: input on review of the EIT KICs and discussion around principles of good audits.
- Provided various specific inputs to the EC on Horizon2020 Instruments:
 - Eligibility criteria for the new Fast Track to Innovation instrument.
 - EC Synchronised Calls Initiative, FETs and the new SME Instrument.
 - Inputs provided to EUREKA: e.g. on EUREKA New Strategic Roadmap.
 - Responded to EC Consultation on Science 2.0 and Europe 2020.

RTOS POSITIONING BY EARTO IN FIGURES

8 position papers published in 2014

7 press releases published in 2014

EARTO Members in all

18 Horizon 2020 Advisory Committees

EARTO Members in RISE Committee advising DG R&I on Future EU R&I Policy

EARTO Members in FP7
(data Oct 2013)

EARTO members participated in 6500 FP7 projects with EC contribution of

€2,6bn

Out of €43bn funding under FP7: EARTO members received

€15bn

On FP7 Cooperation projects (€28bn): EARTO members received

€13,5bn

Our Working Groups

To organise internal discussions aiming to define common positions and exchange best practices, EARTO has now 7 permanent working groups launched in the 2nd semester of 2013 or in 2014. In 2014, 2 temporary WGs were created in order to prepare EARTO Recommendations on the use of the TRL Scale and on Future EU innovation Policy.

H2020

45 active experts
3 meetings in 2014



Position Papers Produced in 2014

1. EARTO & IGLO Feedback on 1st H2020 Calls
2. EARTO Feedback on EUREKA Strategic Roadmap
3. EARTO Press Release on EU Budget for 2015



Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

DG R&I | DG CONNECT | EASME | INEA
REA | IPR Helpdesk | IGLO | ERAC



Key Issues to be Treated in 2015

- H2020 Implementation
- Preparation for H2020 midterm review

Working with SMEs

35 active experts
3 meetings in 2014



Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

DG R&I | EASME | EUREKA
Enterprise Europe Network



Key Issues to be Treated in 2015

- EU funding instruments and schemes for SMEs (H2020 SME Instrument, Eurostars, COSME)
- RTOs-SME strategic cooperation

Structural Funds

20 active experts
4 meetings in 2014



Position Papers Produced in 2014

4. ERRIN EARTO Paper on EC Guide on Synergies ESIF-H2020



Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

DG R&I | DG REGIO | DG JRC | ERRIN
BusinessEurope



Key Issues to be Treated in 2015

- Smart Specialization Strategies
- Synergies ESIF-H2020
- H2020
- Widening Participation
- Teaming & Twinning

Legal Experts

10 active experts
2 meetings in 2014



Position Papers Produced in 2014

5. EARTO Answer to EC Consultation on RDI Framework
6. EARTO Answer to EC Consultation on GBER
7. EARTO Response to the European Commission Public Consultation on State Aid for IPCEI



Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

DG R&I



Key Issues to be Treated in 2015

- EU State-aid rules (RDI Framework, GBER)
- IPR & Patents
- Open Access
- Supporting DESCA Consortium Agreement

Financial Experts

30 active experts
4 meetings in 2014



Position Papers Produced in 2014

8. EARTO Guidelines on LRI Scheme in Horizon 2020



Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

DG R&I | ECA



Key Issues to be Treated in 2015

- Financial rules of Horizon 2020 (LRI scheme, costs calculation)
- Model Grant Agreement: new clauses

Communication

17 active experts
2 meetings in 2014



Position Papers Produced in 2014

9. EARTO Brochure: Impact Delivered Technology for a Better World



Key Issues to be Treated in 2015

- Communication Strategies & Tools

Human Resources

23 active experts
1 meeting in 2014



Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

DG R&I



Key Issues to be Treated in 2015

- Mobility of Researchers
- RTOs HR Strategies

Network Key Activities

OUR YEARLY EVENTS

To foster networking between members and exchanges with external partners, EARTO organises a number of internal management meetings (Board, Steering Committee, Working Groups) and public events. Yearly public events, with some 200 participants on every occasion, include:

- One Annual Conference co-hosted by one of our members in its own country, rotating every year.
- One Policy Event in Brussels discussing EU R&I Policy in the afternoon, followed by the Innovation Prize Ceremony in the evening, where one EARTO member is awarded a prize for the best innovation of the year.

OUR POLICY MONITORING

- EARTO Newsletter.
- EARTO website's news section updated daily with information from the monitoring of over 50 websites of EU Institutions and key press.
- Twitter with over 3200 followers and LinkedIn Group on H2020 with over 9300 stakeholders & policy makers.
- EARTO Members' Area contains internal documents and latest EU policy documents gathered as a result of networking efforts.
- EARTO attends over 60 events per year in order to be kept informed and increase its network. Reports of events are available in the newsletter and via social media. EARTO also encourages members' participation in key EU events on behalf of the Association to increase its reach.

EARTO EXTRA SERVICES FOR ITS MEMBERS

- Meeting room: available to members for meetings of up to 12 participants for €250/day including projector, flipchart, wifi network and light refreshments (water, coffee and tea). Lunch arrangements are extra. Members needing a larger meeting room in Brussels are welcome to contact the EARTO Secretariat for assistance.
- New flexible working space: EARTO has recently reorganised its offices to accommodate an additional, one-person working space for its members to use whenever in Brussels. We warmly invite all our members to use this space any time during our offices opening hours.

Our Network in Figures

WGs experts

60% of members involved
22 EU countries represented

Board & Steering Committee combined have met

8 times (2 Board + 6 STCO)

News Section counted 153 articles

in 2014, result of monitoring of over **50** websites and some **20** external newsletters

6 EARTO Newsletters with total with total of **87** articles

Twitter & LinkedIn won more than

900 followers and **1,900** members respectively in 2014

EARTO attended

66 events in 2014, spoke at **14**

EARTO was mentioned in over

30 key EU press articles

EARTO hosted

19 WG meetings

13% more people attended the EARTO Annual Conference in 2014

20% more people attended the

Innovation Prize in 2014 when compared to 2013 (166 in 2013, 204 in 2014)

Corporate Video

launched in January 2014

3 videos

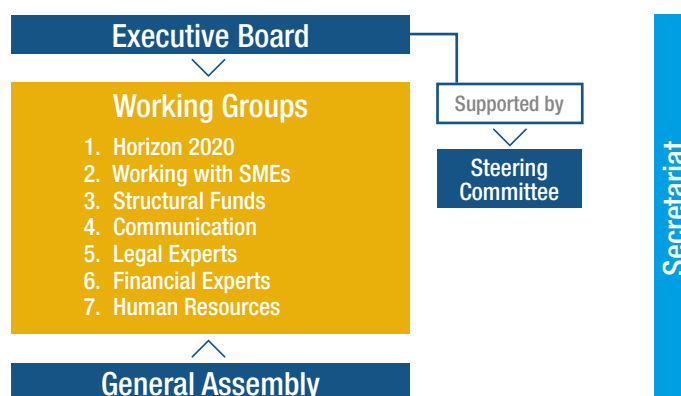
on Innovation Prize Finalists

Members & Management Structure

EARTO counts 72 members, including 56 Individual members, 9 Association members, 3 Corresponding members and 4 Honorary members. In total, EARTO is the network of 350 Research and Technology Organisations. In 2014 EARTO welcomed 3 new members: Armines (FR), HVM Catapult (UK) and iMinds (BE).

EARTO functions thanks to its members' annual membership contributions. In 2014, total income was of €708,000 and expenditure reached €703,000. EARTO's structure is composed of five main bodies as showed below.

EARTO organisation



EARTO Board & Steering Committee Members in 2014 are:

President: **Maria Khorsand***, *Chief Executive Officer, SP, SE*

Vice-President: **Frank Treppe***, *Director Corporate Strategy and International Affairs, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, DE*

Treasurer: **Ernst Kristiansen***, *Vice-President, SINTEF, NO*

Executive Board (including the above)

Tome Antičić, *Director, Rudjer Boskovic Institute, CR*

José Coutinho Sampaio, *Deputy Director for R&D, Innovation & Technology Transfer, INEGI, PL*

Roger Dijkmans, *Director, VITO, BE*

Marco Falzetti, *Responsible EU Research Affairs, CSM, IT*

John Hill, *Managing Director, PERA, UK*

Johann Jäger, *Secretary General, ACR, AT*

Janko Jamnik, *Director, National Institute of Chemistry, SL*

Jan Willem Kelder, *CEO, TNO, NL*

Tomasz Kosmider, *Director, Technology Partners Consortium, PL*

Georges Kotrotsios, *Vice-President, CSEM, CH*

Tasos Kounoudes, *Chief Executive Officer, SignalGeneriX, CY*

Marc Lemmer, *Director General, Centre de Recherche Public Henri Tudor, LU*

Ginés Martínez, *Secretary General, Réseau CTI, FR*

Dominique Mazière*, *Deputy Director for European Affairs, CEA, FR*

Sean McCarthy, *Managing Director, HYPERION, IR*

Anne-Christine Ritschkoff*, *Executive Vice-President Strategic Research, VTT, FI*

Iñaki San Sebastian*, *Deputy Managing Director, TECNALIA, ES*

Iñigo Segura, *Director General, FEDIT, ES*

Søren Stjernqvist, *President, Danish Technological Institute, DK*

* Members of EARTO Steering Committee

EU Institutions

European Commission
European Parliament
Council of Ministers

National Governments

Permanent Representations
National R&D Liaison Offices

EU Associations

Industry
Universities
Technology Oriented Assoc.

EARTO Members

RTOs Headquarters
WGs Experts
RTOs Brussels Offices



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