Charter of the EOSC Task Force
on
Defining Funding Models for EOSC
part of the
EOSC Advisory Group "Sustaining EOSC"

This Task Force (TF) is established under the auspices of the EOSC-Association and acts as a strategic community advisory body for its Board of Directors and the wider EOSC member community. The TF purpose, scope and intended outputs are described below.

Main aims

The objective of this Task Force is to produce by 2023 a proposal for long term financial sustainability of the main building blocks of EOSC: EOSC-Core, EOSC-Exchange and the Federation of Data & Data Services as defined in the FAIR Lady report "Solutions for a Sustainable EOSC"

Core activities

The Task Force will develop scenarios for financial sustainability for the period of Horizon Europe and beyond:

1. Develop scenarios for financial sustainability of EOSC-Core

2. Develop scenarios for financial sustainability of EOSC-Exchange

3. Develop scenarios for financial sustainability of the federation of data and data services

4. Validate the feasibility of the scenarios with relevant stakeholders

5. Validate scenarios' compatibility with national and European policies and legislation

6. Assess scenarios' impact on the value proposition of EOSC

Planned duration

The Task Force will run for 24 months starting 1st September 2021.

Key outputs and timeline

The Task Force will ensure it takes into consideration the expected timing requirements of key decision points, in particular the update of the SRIA and the upcoming Horizon Europe work programmes.

Key outputs:
- Q3 2022: first set of models, discussed and evaluated with relevant stakeholders.
- Q2 2023: validated scenarios and recommendation

Working methodology

The Task Force will build on the FAIR Lady report "Solutions for a Sustainable EOSC".

The Task Force aims to base decision-making on consensus ensuring all TF members take responsibility to actively listen, engage and contribute.

The following tasks will be undertaken:
- Review of the relevant documentation, interaction with stakeholders (e.g. other EU R&I partnerships, alliances, initiatives and EU projects),
- Build a sufficient understanding of the evolution of the main EOSC building blocks; in particular EOSC Exchange and federated Data, to calibrate financial requirements and support development of scenarios,
- Explore different financial scenarios for each building block and identify advantages/disadvantages, taking relevant experiences from other national, European and international initiatives into account,
- Collect feedback from relevant stakeholders, e.g. community, policy makers and funding agencies on the applicability of these models,
- Consolidate work to define a proposal for long term financial sustainability of main building blocks of EOSC,
- The Task Force may invite additional expertise as required to provide specific advice
- The TF will regularly update the wider EOSC community on its progress.

Dependencies

The Task Force will liaise with the following other EOSC Task Forces and Advisory Groups:
- **TF for Rules of Participation** to better understand who will be part of the EOSC ecosystem and on what grounds.
- **AG Technical challenges on EOSC** to gain a better understanding of architectural aspects of EOSC main building blocks, including a deeper insight into EOSC Exchange and how it is intended to work.
- **TF Researcher engagement and adoption** to ensure the results of this TF match the expectations, requirements and needs of the researchers.
- **TF Long-term data preservation** to ensure both task forces are aligned.

The Task Force will liaise closely with the EOSC Association Board of Directors and the EOSC Steering Board.

Membership

Membership criteria:

- Requirement (exclusive): Ability to commit on average at least 4 hours per week, ideally 8 hours per week.

- Relevant expertise for delivering on Task Force remit. Desired pool of expertise the TF should cover the following aspects:
  - Legal and financial engineering: Experience in governance models and legal instruments for EU/international partnerships, associations and other relevant collaborations. Experience in EU and national funding,
  - Pan-European or international Research Infrastructures management, with experience in one or more of the following: management of in-kind contributions and/or business planning and sustainability of RIs, including cross border service delivery,
  - Experience with the business processes of providing subscription based services to research organisations,
  - Data management: Good knowledge of the EOSC-related initiatives from the point of view of the data and service providers, their capabilities and current issues,
  - Data practitioner: Good knowledge of the EOSC-related initiatives from the point of view of the user,
  - Legal/economics/Administration: Experience in national, European and international procurement, intra-community VAT, application of tax exemptions, accounting of in-kind contributions, distribution of funding for service consumption,
  - Good knowledge of the EOSC-related national and European policies and infrastructure landscape.

Selection criteria:
- Ability to commit the required effort (exclusive)
- Proven experience participating in, organising and/or managing international working groups
- Complying with one or more of the requirements in relevant expertise for delivering on Task Force remit
- Strive for diversity and balance in terms of:
  - Gender
  - Geography
  - Career stage
  - Stakeholder category:
    - research community
    - service providers such as e-Infrastructures and NRENs
    - data and service providers such as ESFRI/national/international RIs
    - Funders
    - Policy makers
  - Organisation / member
- Association Members & Observers will have priority, in case of equal competence and stakeholder category
- Ideally up to 30 members

Chairing the Task Force:

- The Task Force will have two chairs, one male and one female, appointed by the EOSC Association Board of Directors.