euroCRIS Strategy 2019 - 2022

euroCRIS Mission : To promote collaboration within the research information community and advance interoperability through CERIF

The euroCRIS Strategy 2019-2022 builds on and consolidates the successes of recent years where we have seen a global increase in the use of Current Research Information Systems (CRIS) or Research Information Management Systems (RIMS). This happens as:

- researchers continue to expect and demand efficient systems, procedures and infrastructure to reduce administrative burden;
- research-performing organisations increasingly recognise the need for high quality information to inform their strategic decision-making and promote their research outputs and research impact;
- research funders continue to operate in an environment where value for money is critical and high quality metadata on expertise, outputs and impacts underpins programme development and grant funding allocation;
- all stakeholders accelerate the move towards open science and therefore the need for high quality, comprehensive metadata required to realise its benefits.

For all these stakeholders, CRISs offer value and this is reflected in the first theme of our strategy; to **promote the value and the use of research information and CRISs to all players in the research lifecycle** through case studies, targeted engagement with relevant stakeholders and a programme of education and training.

Through our second theme, **building and extending our external relationships,** we will work with existing and new partners who share our vision of reducing the burden of capturing and reusing information at all stages of the research lifecycle, on longer-term strategic ambitions and short-term realistic deliverables. We will engage actively with initiatives and projects where we believe CRISs and CERIF are key to facilitating optimal benefits, such as the European Open Science Cloud.

Using and developing CERIF, our third theme, crystallises CERIF as central to our mission and we will continue to develop this open standard on behalf of the community, working with others to extend and embed its usage. A particular priority will be to facilitate the wide implementation of the CERIF-XML Guidelines for OpenAIRE.

Alongside the CERIF standard we recognise the need to work with others to further develop and harmonise the definitions and vocabularies that underpin the interoperability of research information between systems and stakeholders. This is taken forward in our fourth theme, **Promoting standardisation in semantics and data quality.**

Underpinning our strategy, we recognise the need to continue improving our efficiency as an organisation and to work effectively as a Board and wider membership organisation to use the expertise and enthusiasm of the whole community to further our mission.

Theme 1. Promote the value and use of research information and CRISs

Vision: We have a wide set of sufficiently detailed case studies for the value of CRIS systems to strengthen existing and highlight <u>emerging areas</u> in the application of research information such as research evaluation, research profiling, measuring research impact, Open Science and the FAIR-ness of research information and data and linking academic outputs to economic return on investment.

Goal 1: We understand and communicate the state-of-the-art research information management (RIM) landscape raising the profile of euroCRIS in the process
Goal 2: Identify these emerging areas where research information can add value and how to lead a discussion on them
Goal 3: Turn euroCRIS meetings and conferences into an opportunity to specifically address these emerging areas by carefully targeting relevant stakeholders in the calls for contributions
Goal 4: Educate and train the different user and stakeholders groups in the value of research information, and all the surrounding issues of RIM, from a broad perspective.

Theme 2. Building and extending our external relationships

Vision: We are recognised as the international experts on research information management, and are able to team up and build partnerships with relevant external initiatives and stakeholders to realise the value of CRIS systems and CERIF

Goal 1: Existing strategic partnerships clearly deliver against euroCRIS's mission and strategic aims
Goal 2: New partners, initiatives and stakeholders are identified and the value of euroCRIS's involvement is clearly articulated, with steps taken to realise it e.g. European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) and Research Data Alliance (RDA)
Goal 3: Initiatives are confident to approach euroCRIS for collaboration
Goal 4: We are able to clearly communicate the achievements of partnerships as case studies that can be replicated in other geographies beyond Europe.

Theme 3. Using and developing CERIF

Vision: CERIF is an effective model widely used internationally in the exchange of research information

Goal 1: CERIF-XML OpenAIRE Guidelines is widely implemented, including vendors, and regularly harvested by OpenAIRE
Goal 2: Document technical discussions around CERIF with Strategic Partners, Organisations and other stakeholders to accommodate for their re-use
Goal 3: Build capacity to deliver CERIF-XML, CERIF RDF and mappings between CERIF and other formats
Goal 4: Refactoring CERIF to unify the model, and to incorporate ways of extension outside of the core.

Theme 4. Promoting standardisation in semantics and data quality

Vision: We are recognised as a key partner in promoting the development of standard semantics and guidance on improving data quality relating to research information in general and CRISs in particular.

Goal 1: Alignment of semantic descriptions for new and existing research information concepts used in CERIF with other existing vocabularies in order to create a global vocabulary for research information

Goal 2: Development and dissemination of guidelines on implementing CERIF as an information exchange standard, together with specific best practice implementation use cases.

Goal 3: Creation, dissemination and ongoing maintenance of an inventory of current research classification standards and related concordance schemes

Goal 4: Interaction with key stakeholder groups in Europe and beyond in order to contribute to the development of a global standard classification scheme for research

Goal 5: Development and dissemination of guidelines for measuring and improving data quality of CRIS systems.