



Developing Intelligence for Research Policy making

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Structure



- **Introduction**
- **The European Research Area and the rationale for the “ERAWATCH” service**
- **Developing ERAWATCH:**
 - Identifying and meeting a range of user needs
 - Positioning ERAWATCH
 - Translating needs into design and implementation
- **The current status and structure of ERAWATCH**
- **The Evolution of ERAWATCH – long term flexibility and extending coverage**



Introduction

- **The formulation and implementation of research policy at both national and European levels benefit from:**
 - relevant, accurate and timely information
 - on research policy systems and their constituent policies, actors, instruments, structures and procedures, in different national contexts.
 - A basis for comparative analysis and for learning in research policy
- **This presentation considers:**
 - The identification of the perceived needs of policymakers and other stakeholders in the policy process and
 - their translation into the design and implementation of an information and intelligence service (ERAWATCH)



Background and Rationale

- **Weaknesses of research in Europe**
 - The fragmentation of research activities across the European Union, together with insufficient and diffuse resources, seen as not conducive to successfully stimulating and exploiting research
- **The European Research Area (ERA)**
 - creation of an "internal market" in research;
 - restructuring the European research fabric - improved coordination of national research activities and policies;
 - European research policy which addresses research funding, AND takes account of all relevant aspects of other EU and national policies
- **Development of ERAWATCH**
 - driven by the need for information by policymakers, particularly improved knowledge and understanding of both national and regional research systems



Developing ERAWATCH

- **Identifying and meeting a range of user needs**
 - Who wants to know what?
 - Why they want to know it?
 - At what stages in the policy process this information is most useful?
 - What are their role and location within the policy-making process at national, regional and European levels?
 - Are there other services that already meet their needs?
 - Will the number and type of users change over time?
- **Responses to these questions determine**
 - what information the service should and can provide
 - how the information is most effectively collected and presented to users
 - flexibility and evolution of the service



Identifying ERAWATCH Users

- “**Convergent**” vs. “**Divergent**” users
 - **Convergent** users require synthetic, summary information, brought together and accessible via through a single point of entry
 - **Divergent** users require access to or “signposting” of wider and/or more detailed information
- **Categories of users**
 - **Policy Makers**: national decision-makers, EU policy makers, members of parliament, national representatives in international activities, and their advisers;
 - **Policy Support, Advice & Analysis**: Researchers and analysts (academics and consultants):
 - **Implementing Research & Policy**: Participants in programme planning and funding, R&D managers and other stakeholders;
 - at different geographical levels (national, regional, etc.)



Identifying ERAWATCH Users (2)

- **Types of Information vs. Format and Frequency**
 - Readily accessible summary information vs. detailed information
 - Purely factual vs. more synthetic or analytical in character
 - Latest, most up to date information vs. historical perspective
- **Key concern:**
 - all users should be able to quickly and easily access information appropriate to their needs



Surveying potential Users

- **Combination of methods**
 - expert workshops, user survey and desk based research, establishment of advisory group
 - User questionnaire:
 - *type of information required in policy-making activities?*
 - *specific purposes for which information required?*
 - *existing sources of information are currently used?*
 - *Any specific requirements for reporting and analysis?*
 - *technical requirements for such information?*
 - User feedback on prototype reports



User Survey: key findings

- **Overall - significant level of interest in the service**
- **Types of information use:**
 - Broad positioning and analysis work; - to keep up to date and to enhance competences in policy development;
 - Cross-national policy-learning and intelligence;
 - Comparison and benchmarking;
 - Practical policy development and implementation activities.
- **Range of data requirements:**
 - overview of programmes and agencies -objectives, rationales, budgets;
 - concise qualitative information on research programmes;
 - overviews on organisation and responsibilities at national/regional levels;
 - structural data on the research system and performance;
- **Geographical and thematic coverage:**
 - EU Member States
 - (Own) national data only
 - Associated states and FP participant states
 - International data for comparison (such as the USA and Japan)
 - Regional level
 - Public, private and not-for-profit sectors
 - Combinations of different levels



Positioning ERAWATCH

- **To ensure that ERAWATCH is appropriately positioned with regard to other services**
 - whether, how and the extent to which they meet the needs of “ERAWATCH users”
 - services examined already provide related information and analysis at *national* level, but without same breadth of coverage
 - at *supranational* level, there are sources of information (e.g. OECD) but without appropriate depth
 - *within the EU* there are related services (e.g. Trend Chart on innovation), but with different focus and scope
- **Position of ERAWATCH**
 - Unique in terms of breadth, depth and focus of coverage
 - To complement rather than duplicate information provided elsewhere



Implementing ERAWATCH

- **Overview of the current status and structure of ERAWATCH**
 - <http://erawatch.jrc.es/public/welcome.htm>
- **Base-load inventory**
 - Country Profiles
 - Policy Documents
 - Research Programmes
 - Actors
 - Information sources
 - Key Indicators
- **Website**
 - Demo version
- **Intelligence service**

This is a demo website and its contents are provisional



ERAWATCH is jointly carried out by the EC's Directorates-General for Research and Joint Research Centre/IPTS in collaboration with CORDIS

My ERAWATCH

Username:

Search

Password:

Select Subsection

[Registration](#)

[Advanced Search](#)

Research Inventory

about ERAWATCH

Why ERAWATCH, who participates, how it operates, TrendChart and other related services, how to search the service and how to receive e-mail alerts.

- ▶ [What is ERAWATCH](#)
- ▶ [Related initiatives \(TrendChart\)](#)

highlights

Introductory text to Research Highlights section

- ▶ [News Item 2](#)
- ▶ [ERAWATCH Demo launched](#)
- ▶ [News Item 1](#)

research inventory

Country-based and aggregate information on national and regional research structures and policies, key actors, research programmes and policy initiatives.

- ▶ [Country Inventories](#)
- ▶ [Aggregated EU 25 Inventory](#)

intelligence service

Analysis of the structure, content and evolution of research systems and policies in Europe.

The main elements of this section are the Annual report and a series of policy briefs.

Welcome to ERAWATCH

ERAWATCH is a service providing information on national research policies, structures, programmes and organisations.

The objective of this service is to support policy making in the field of research in Europe, by facilitating a better knowledge and understanding of national research systems, policies and the environments in which they operate.

Currently 37 countries are covered. With the service's evolution regional and other coverage is expected to increase over time.

ERAWATCH is a joint initiative of the European Commission's Directorates General for Research and Joint Research Centre- Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS).

ERAWATCH is target at all those interested in policy making in Europe.

[Read more about ERAWATCH.](#)





The Evolution of ERAWATCH

- **Long term flexibility**
 - ERAWATCH is intended as a long term activity. In looking towards the future operation and refinement of the service, it is essential to retain flexibility. Clearly neither users nor their needs remain static, and there is a strong need to ensure the continued evolution of ERAWATCH in line with the changing policy context and to maintain its continued relevance to user needs.
- **Extending coverage**
 - Extended regional and thematic coverage of the research landscape are currently being explored
- **User feedback**
 - the strong user orientation



The End
Thank you

