



Title	<i>Funders meeting report</i>
Work Package	<i>WP3</i>
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Summary/abstract

This report provides a summary of a meeting for representatives of the CESSDA member funding agencies at the British Academy in London on October 27th 2008.

Background.

In early December 2008 a meeting of the Competitive Council of Ministers will be asked to indicate which of the RIs on the ESFRI Roadmap they might be prepared to support in the longer term. In preparation for this meeting, the WP3 team prepared a proposal for the funding bodies and organised a meeting aimed at providing them with details on which to inform their decisions.

Preparation.

On October 10th, the WP3 team held a meeting of the CESSDA PPP management board at the UKDA, Essex. This was a key meeting as its goal was to reach agreement on the following:

- a proposal to re-establish CESSDA as a European Research Infrastructure (ERI)¹;
- conditions of membership for the new organisation.

Broad agreement was reached in all the key areas discussed and recorded in a proposal for presentation to funders.

Funders' Meeting.

The meeting on October 10th at Essex was followed by a meeting at the British Academy in London for the funders of all the CESSDA project partners.

The meeting was attended by representatives of all but three of the partners' funding organisations. The programme and attendee list are available as separate documents.

The meeting was actively supported by the ESRC. The welcome was followed by a presentation by Bjorn Henrichsen on the ESFRI process. Jacques Thomassen, University of Twente, the Netherlands, then talked about the benefits of data archives for the European research community. This was followed by a presentation by Ian Perry of DG Research - Unit L2. Unit L2 has responsibility for research in economics, social sciences and humanities and is interested in methods of improving access to EU-funded research outputs.

Copies of the presentations are also available as separate documents.

The PPP co-ordinator, Professor Kevin Schürer presented the proposal and discussion took place on the following:

- Legal status
- Organisation and governance
- Membership
- Funding
- Timescale for set up of the new organisation.

Circulation of the proposal is currently restricted.

¹ ERI's are the proposed new form of legal entity that has been specifically designed to accommodate the needs of distributed organisations such as CESSDA.