



GSO Work Plan - October 2017 through Spring 2019

GSO Past, Present & Future Chairs: Russia, United States, United Kingdom

Rev: October 22, 2018 (United States)

Introduction

As an outcome from the 10th Group of Senior Officials (GSO) meeting in Russia in October 2017, the GSO members decided that a written Work Plan should be developed to serve as an internal guide for future GSO activities. The Work Plan is intended to be a living document that provides a roadmap of planned activities for a period of one-and-a-half years and span the terms of the current and two future GSO chairs. The Work Plan will be reviewed and up-dated at each GSO meeting to reflect the accomplished activities and a continuous look-ahead at the evolving new areas of GSO focus. In addition to serving as an internal guide, the Work Plan will also serve as a descriptive document that explains GSO's mandate, activities, and role to external parties. The Work Plan will primarily revolve around the two primary tools of the GSO in relation to Global Research Infrastructure (GRI): (1) the GSO Framework; and (2) the use of case studies to illustrate good practices and identify potential collaboration opportunities between GRI's.

GSO Mission (“Terms of Reference”)

The Group of Senior Officials (GSO) was established in 2008 by G8 Science Ministries in recognition of the potential for increased international cooperation on Global Research Infrastructures (GRIs). In 2015, the G7 Science Ministers reinforced the GSO mandate to include:

1. testing the GSO Framework and identifying good practices for the establishment and development of future GRIs;
2. exploring the potential for existing research infrastructures to be opened up to international partners on the basis of existing legal structures;
3. guaranteeing that the access to GRIs would be established on the basis of a peer review process with a focus on scientific excellence;
4. achieving progress on sharing and managing scientific data and information, especially by continuing engagement with community-based activities such as the Research Data Alliance (RDA)

In their September 2017 communique, the G7 Science Ministers welcomed GSO's 2017 report and the overall progress of the GSO and acknowledged the work done since 2008 in developing analysis and methodology to facilitate international cooperation on the planning and development of Global Research Infrastructures. In particular, the Ministers recognized the continuous refinement of the Framework in addition to identifying relevant opportunities for its application as it represents a broader and deeper consensus on global access criteria and the developments on open innovation and open data policies.

In addition, the GSO is considering exploring:

- Potential practices for sharing plans for up-grading and/or new construction of RI of potential global relevance
- Continued coordination with other international organizations such as GSF and OECD to develop synergies and avoid duplication of effort
- Continued “Soft Monitoring” of GRI progress from previous case studies

Activities following 10th GSO meeting (Russia) - October 2017 through May 2018

1) Develop policies for Global Excellence based Access (gAE) to Research Infrastructures:

- *Proposed action:* A foreword to the Declaration of Intent will be drafted and circulated. Each GSO member will have one month to comment on the text of the foreword. Then, the Declaration of Intent (DoI) and its foreword will be sent by each Senior Official to the Research Infrastructures of Global Interest in his/her country for feedback. The answers will be collected by each Senior Official prior to the 11th GSO meeting (May 2018), for discussion in the meeting.
- *Lead:* GSO Executive Secretariat
- *Targeted milestone dates:* May 22, 2018: 11th GSO meeting in the U.S.
- **COMPLETE – See 11th GSO meeting Minutes**

2) Finalize the Framework criteria related to “Open Research Data – Management and Sharing”

- *Proposed Action:* Use Australia proposed language to refine GSO Framework criteria (9) – *E-infrastructure*, and (10) – *Data exchange*.
- *Lead:* Italy and UK
- *Targeted milestone dates:*
 - March 30, 2018: U.S. to circulate revised draft between current and future Chairs (Russia, US and UK) and then send the new criteria to full GSO membership for review and comment.
 - May 2018 meeting: Finalize and approve revised Framework criteria language.
- **COMPLETE – September 2018**

3) Finalize Framework paragraph on Open Innovation:

- *Proposed Action:*
 - a) Adopt the new wording of Framework criteria (13) into the GRI Framework
 - b) Propose ways of making good innovation practices more visible
- *Lead:* UK and EC
- *Targeted milestone dates:*
 - March 30, 2018: Circulate revised draft between current and future chairs (Russia, US and UK) and then send the new paragraphs to full GSO membership for review and comment.
 - May 2018 GSO meeting: Finalize and approve revised Framework paragraph language
- **COMPLETE – September 2018**

4) Establish and “update” process for the advanced GRI projects: At the 9th GSO meeting in May 2017 (Naples), 2 case studies, the UG GRI and the IMPC, were identified as advanced GRI projects. Proposal was made to the advanced GRI projects to periodically report on their progress to the GSO. The interest for the GSO is based on these case studies being a test of the Framework.

It is also a way to continue to share good practices. Instead of calling this process "monitoring", the GSO considered calling it an "update", since the reporting is relatively light ("soft"), the methodology is coming from the projects themselves, and the GSO doesn't have any operational mandate or capacity for regular monitoring.

- *Proposed Action:* The UG GRI and the IMPC develop their own roadmap for implementation, submit it to the GSO for consideration, and then report according to the milestones they have identified themselves. UG and IMPC should determine their own milestones and indicators.
- *Lead:* GSO Executive Secretariat
- *Targeted milestone dates:* The 11th GSO meeting in May 2018
- **UNDER DISCUSSION – See 11th GSO meeting minutes and 12th GSO meeting agenda**

5) **Develop a standard set of Case Study Questions around Framework Criteria:** During the 10th meeting, the GSO members recommended that Framework criteria (4) – *Project Management*, (6) – *Periodic Reviews*, and (12) – *International Mobility* should be considered for the next round of refinement.

- *Proposed Action:* Develop an initial set of Framework Criteria questions around these items to inform the case studies to be presented in May 2018
- *Lead:* US
- *Targeted milestone dates:*
 - February 28, 2018: US propose an initial set of draft questions (3-4 each) to circulate among current and future Chairs.
 - March 15, 2018: Questions sent to full GSO membership for review/comment, and GSO Chairs select (in consultation with the GRI presenting) 1-2 sets of Framework questions to focus the case studies.
 - March 30, 2018: Provide guidance to the GRI for May 2018 meeting case study presentations around the Framework questions. US to lead the dialog with the GRI's.
- **COMPLETE – See minutes from 11th GSO meeting.**

6) **Prepare Case Studies in the context of the GSO Framework:** 10th GSO meeting had presentations of two potential new GRIs from the Russian Federation: XCELS and Super Charm-Tau Factory. Russian Federation will prepare the case studies and have flexibility in which framework questions to address. U.S. to present NEON, MagLab and DOE facility (LBNF/DUNE).

- **COMPLETE – See 11th GSO meeting minutes**

7) **Matchmaking exercise and visibility of the GSO:** It was determined that the GSO matchmaking exercise should be discontinued due to the high level of administrative burden and the appearance of the GSO becoming too operational.

- *Proposed Action:*
 - a) Report cases of successful GRI connections to-date and continue collaboration through better utilization of case studies and promoting alignment with the Framework;
 - b) To increase visibility of the GSO, investigate possibility to organize a “GSO Session” at ICRI (Sept 2018, Vienna). Focus of session to be discussed by the GSO membership but should include successes stories related to enhancing GRI coordination and collaboration.
- *Lead: GSO Executive Secretariat*

8) Planning of the 11th GSO meeting: The US will prepare for the 11th GSO meeting (May 21-25, 2018). Proposed topics and action items include:

- Development and review of the GSO Work Plan
- US case study presentation on distributed Global Research Infrastructure: NEON
- US DOE case study presentation (LBNF/DUNE)
- Finalize Framework paragraphs on “Open Data Management” based on previous work done by Australia:
 - a) Framework Paragraph (9) – *Digital Infrastructure*
 - b) Framework Paragraph (10) – *Data Exchange*
- Finalize Framework paragraph on Innovation
 - a) Framework Paragraph (13) – *Innovation, Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property*
- Identify potential case studies and develop standard questions around the Framework criteria being addressed including obstacles to further global coordination/collaboration and identification of good practices for:
 - Paragraph (4) – *Project Management*
 - Paragraph (12) – *International Mobility*
 - Paragraph (6) – *Periodic Review (Peer Review and “Broader Impacts”)*
- GSO session at ICRI 2018
- Linking with OECD and GSF
- Proposals to host the 13th GSO meeting in spring 2019

Activities following 11th GSO meeting (US) – May 2018 through November 2018

1) GSO Presentation at ICRI:

- **COMPLETE – September 2018:** See 2018 ICRI presentation by US and UK on international collaboration & coordination good practices. Presentation also included examples of successful collaboration using the GSO meetings and Framework as the forum.

2) Update the GSO Work Plan: The US will summarize work accomplished and add milestone dates to the new planned activities:

- **COMPLETE – October 23, 2018**

3) Refine Framework criteria Items (4) – *Project Management*, (6) – *Periodic Reviews*, and (12) – *International Mobility*: Based on the feedback and input from the case studies presented in May, develop revised draft Framework criteria (4), (6), (12) for GSO Review

- **COMPLETE – October 22, 2018**

4) GSO Website: GSO Executive Secretariat to update GSO Website to include:

- Revised GSO Framework
- Public list of current Senior Officials and technical experts
- gAE Declaration of Intent (DOI) and GRI guidelines for voluntary implementation
- **COMPLETE – October 2018**

5) Framework Criteria: Identify next set of Framework criteria for refinement. Possibilities include:

- (5) – *Funding management*
- (2) – *Defining project partnerships for effective management*

6) Plan for 12th GSO meeting (U.K.): Preparatory actions and agenda items include:

- Dates: November 5-7, 2018 (Oxford)
- Framework criteria (14) - *Monitoring of Socio-economic Impact*
- Discussion/decision on next criteria for refinement
- Refinement of case study questions
- Development strategies for the GSO Communications Plan
- Implementation of “Soft Monitoring”
- Proposals for Spring 2019 GSO Meeting (France)

Activities beyond the 12th GSO meeting (UK) – November 2018 through Spring 2019

- 1)** Update the GSO Work Plan based on the work progress following 12th GSO Meeting
- 2)** Revised Framework paragraph (14) – “Monitoring Socio-economic Impact”
- 3)** Identify next Framework criteria to address and supporting case studies & questions
- 4)** GSO Communication Plan
- 5)** Soft monitoring
- 6)** Plan for 13th GSO meeting (France)