



GSO Work Plan – May 2018 through November 2019

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

Revised: 4th April 2019 (United Kingdom)

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 is 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 also serves as a descriptive document that explains GSO's mandate, activities, and role to external parties. The Work Plan primarily revolves 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:

- 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 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.

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 following 12th GSO meeting (UK) – November 2018 through to June 2019

- 1) **Update the GSO Work Plan:** The UK will summarize work accomplished, add milestone dates to the new planned activities. GSO Executive Secretariat will then publish on the GSO web site.
- 2) **Promoting the GSO:** The UK will explore possible engagement opportunities for the GSO and report at the 13th GSO meeting.
- 3) **Communication and Engagement plan:** The UK to write a Communications and engagement plan based on discussions at the 12th Meeting and to be circulated in advance of the 13th meeting for comment.
- 4) **Framework Criteria:** Update Framework criteria Items (4) – *Project Management*, (6) – *Periodic Reviews*, and (12) – *International Mobility*. Based on the feedback and input from the discussions in May, the UK to provide an updated version of the framework containing the agreed revised wording of the criteria including consistent use of the term GRI.

UK to provide examples from the 11th and 12th meetings of how the RIs featured in the case studies align to help facilitate discussions at the 13th Meeting on (5) – *Funding management* and (2) – *Defining project partnerships for effective management*.

UK to provide a summary of the discussion at GSO12 on (14) – *Monitoring socio-economic impact* to include a proposal for revised wording for agreement at GSO13.

- 5) **GSO web site** - GSO Executive Secretariat to update the new GSO Website to include:
 - i. Revised GSO Framework
 - ii. Past and current work plans
 - iii. An agreed list of current Senior Officials and technical experts
 - iv. The gAE Declaration of Intent (DOI) and GRI guidelines for voluntary implementation
 - v. Publish the agreed US and UK case studies
- 6) **Soft Monitoring:** All Senior officials to follow up with the GRI case studies on which they lead to discuss the time lines and decide whether they wish to provide an update to the GSO.
- 7) **Plan for 13th GSO meeting (France):** Preparatory actions and agenda items include:
 - i. Dates: 3-5 June 2019 (Roscoff)
 - ii. Discuss ongoing Work Plan
 - iii. Update on Framework criterion (14) - *Monitoring of Socio-economic Impact*
 - iv. Discussion on criteria (2) *Defining project partnerships for effective management* and (5) *Financial Management*
 - v. Discussion/decision on next criteria for refinement
 - vi. Refinement of case study questions
 - vii. Implementation of “Soft Monitoring”
 - viii. Proposals for December 2019 GSO Meeting (China)



ix. Report from the OECD Global Science Forum

Activities beyond the 13th GSO meeting (France) – June 2019 - through November 2019

- 1) Update the GSO Work Plan based on the work progress following 13th GSO Meeting.
- 2) Revised Framework criteria (5) *Financial Management* and (2) *Defining project partnerships for effective management*.
- 3) Identify next Framework criteria to address and supporting case studies and questions (the four remaining criteria will be (1) *Core purpose of Global Research Infrastructures*, (3) *Defining scope, schedule and cost*, (7) *Termination or decommissioning*, and (11) *Clustering of Research Infrastructures*).
- 4) Plan for 14th GSO meeting in China (week beginning 2nd December).

Suggested activities from GSO14 (China) through GSO15

- 1) Update the GSO Work Plan based on the work progress following 14th GSO Meeting.
- 2) Revised Framework criteria, for example (3) *Defining scope, schedule and cost* and (11) *Clustering of Research Infrastructures* (TBA).
- 3) Identify next Framework criteria to address and supporting case studies and questions.
- 4) Plan for 15th GSO meeting (TBA).

Suggested activities from GSO15 (TBA) through GSO16

- 1) Update the GSO Work Plan based on the work progress following 15th GSO Meeting.
- 2) Revised Framework criteria, for example (1) *Core purpose of Global Research Infrastructures* and (7) *Termination or decommissioning* (TBA), bringing the revision of the Framework criteria to a close.
- 3) Plan for 16th GSO meeting (TBA).