

13 Recommendations for R&I Internationalisation



Recommendation 1: Apply a clear intervention logic to substantiate international R&I cooperation strategies

Explore the use of a broad understanding of innovation, and operationalise it for the purpose of an inclusive and effective international R&I cooperation.



National R&I policy-making level



Recommendation 2: Reinforce strategic alignment of domestic policies to meet R&I internationalisation rationales

Ensure the strategic alignment of domestic instruments, programmes & regulations to meet the R&I internationalisation rationales stipulated in an R&I internationalisation strategy or roadmap.



National R&I policy-making level & designers of specific policies in ministries/agencies



Recommendation 3: Co-develop strategies

Co-develop a strategic R&I internationalisation concept, based on a clear intervention logic, together with the overall national R&I strategy, and integrate it there. Follow up with a dedicated R&I internationalisation roadmap, building on the strategy and further refining it. Include relevant stakeholders in these processes.



National R&I policy-making level



Recommendation 4: Implement effective cross-governmental coordination and multi-level participation processes

Organise inclusive multi-level participation processes to capture specific knowledge & interests of various stakeholders, identify opportunities for joint approaches & create synergies during the development & implementation phases of an R&I internationalisation strategy.



R&I policy-making and delivery level



Recommendation 5: Secure sufficient resources for multilateral R&I coordination and internationalisation activities

Coordination between European countries is of utmost importance for a coordinated appearance at the global level. This should be strongly aligned with the European Commission and adequately supported by EU policies.



R&I policy-making and delivery level



Recommendation 6: Monitor and evaluate international R&I cooperation policies

Jointly develop monitoring and evaluation standards in order to facilitate the assessment and comparability of international R&I cooperation activities, focusing on guidelines, surveys, etc.



SFIC or a group of European countries on the basis of variable geometry



Recommendation 7: Promote SDGs and challenge-driven R&I in international R&I cooperation

SDGs should be the starting point for joint agenda setting in challenge-driven international R&I cooperation. Joint approaches should be co-designed by EU Member States and countries associated to Framework Programmes.



National R&I policy-making level & designers of policies in ministries/agencies



Recommendation 8: Explore multi-stakeholder funding with private and third sector entities

International mapping and further networking among initiatives and learning platforms is needed to enhance practices of multi-stakeholder funding. Set up a dedicated Task Force.



SFIC or a group of European countries on the basis of variable geometry



Recommendation 9: Valorise and operationalise science diplomacy for enhanced effectiveness

Cross-ministerial coordination should be strengthened to enhance the valorisation and operationalisation of science diplomacy. Offer training for prospective diplomats to better understand intersections of science, R&I and foreign affairs.



Member States, especially ministries for foreign affairs and R&I



Recommendation 10: Invest in relationship management & stakeholder engagement

Develop systematic processes to engage with different R&I communities with an interest in STI agreements with specific partner countries. Invest in the relationship with STI agreement counterparts in the international partner country.



Agencies, national ministries or regional entities responsible for intergovernmental STI agreements or MoUs



Recommendation 11: Establish joint action on 'good principles' in international R&I cooperation

Operationalise 'good principles' for ministerial or intergovernmental STI agreements and MoUs through a European consortium, involving experts, agencies and ministries responsible for international R&I cooperation.



National ministries responsible for signing intergovernmental STI agreements or MoUs



Recommendation 12: Integrate foresight in national funding practices & develop international joint foresight activities for R&I cooperation

Conduct, at the international level, a study to learn from experiences of the use of foresight for international R&I programming. Different combinations of Member States and Associated Countries could start joint foresight initiatives.



Member States & associated countries, funding agencies or R&I councils



Recommendation 13: Empower SFIC to play a more active role in coordinating joint R&I internationalisation activities

Increase the operational capability of SFIC (or any succeeding body) to perform its coordinating role in joint multilateral R&I cooperation activities between EU Member States/Associated Countries & selected international partner countries or regions.



Council of the European Union, SFIC & national ministries for international R&I cooperation

