

IS-ENES3 Milestone M2.1

New Advice Structures Active

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ABSTRACT

The New Advice Structures Active milestone is a short report describing the Terms of Reference of the IS-ENES Stakeholder Board and explaining the steps towards its establishment.



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1. Background and objective

The governance of the IS-ENES project aims to set-up the IS-ENES Stakeholder Board to foster communications with both stakeholders and other major projects and infrastructure. The Stakeholder Board will be focused on providing advice to the project on the expected difficult issues of prioritization around funding expectation, and opportunities in the light of all the inputs received by the project.

2. Methodology: steps towards the establishment of the Board

A. Context

The Sustainability task addresses how the community can establish and maintain an infrastructure which can evolve in response to requirements without ad-hoc project funding such as delivered via I3 investments from the EU. The current scoping phase aims to formulate a common vision towards the sustainability of the infrastructure, and we expect to have tangible proposals by the end of 2020 for (i) the shape of the infrastructure, (ii) the governance structure and (iii) the type of agreement.

B. Steps towards the establishment of the Stakeholder Board

To achieve the scoping phase objectives, a large Stakeholder Assembly is being set-up to brainstorm on the sustainability of the ENES Research Infrastructure (ENES-RI). To facilitate this task, the Assembly will be divided into 5 “breakout groups”, each group being dedicated to a specific aspect of the infrastructure, namely: Data, Models and Tools, HPC services, Downstream data services and Evaluation. Each group will interact through webinars to brainstorm on the sustainability of these specific domains of the infrastructure (Fig. 1).

At the end of the “webinar phase”, we expect to have a common vision of sustainability for each aspect of the infrastructure. A scoping workshop will follow to put all the pieces together and come up with two or three tangible proposals on the infrastructure to be sustained.

During this long process, we expect some members of the Stakeholder Assembly to take a particular role in the sustainability process through their large dedication to the task. This smaller core group might turn into the Stakeholder Board of IS-ENES by the end of the year.

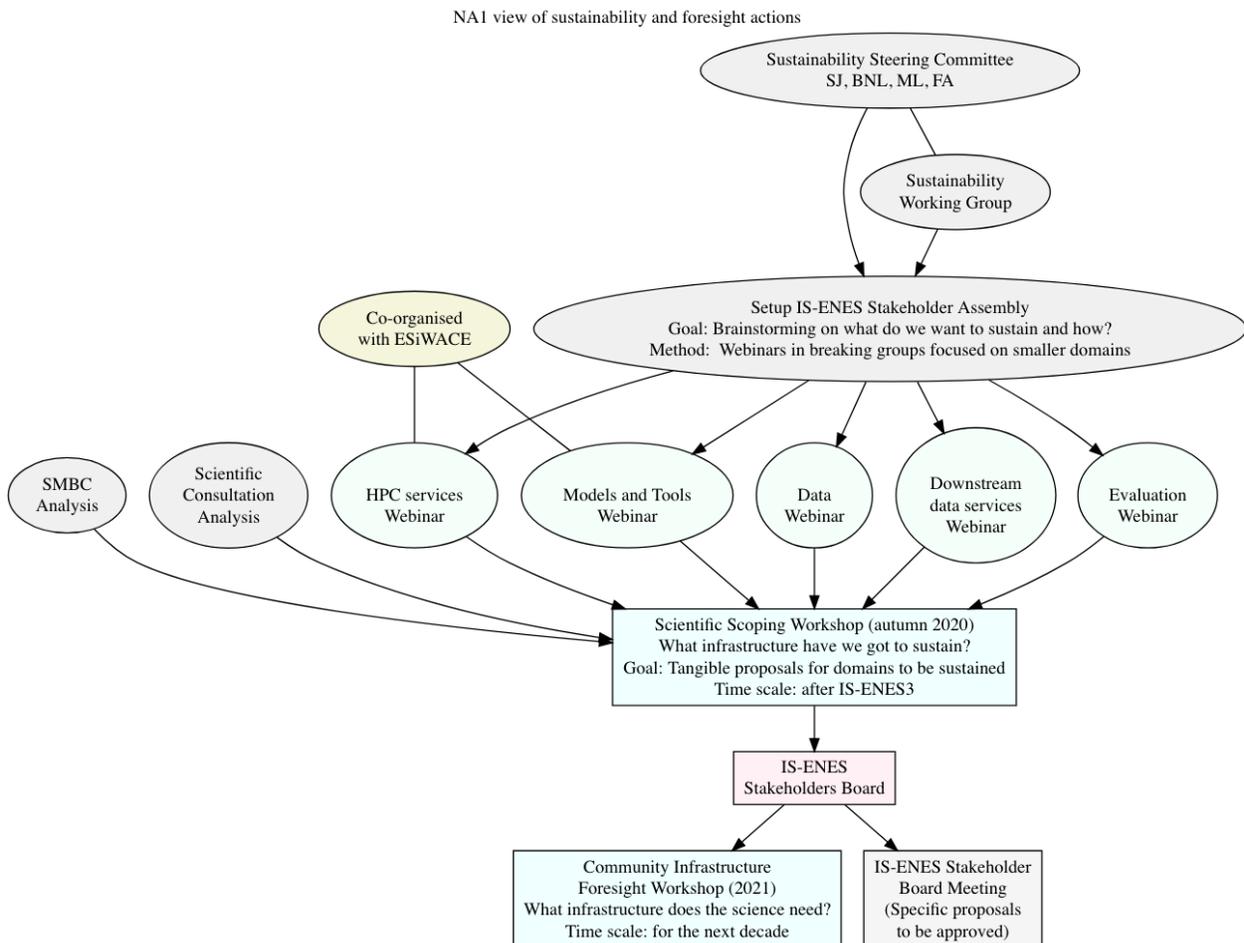


Fig. 1: Diagram representing the chronological steps towards the establishment of the IS-ENES Stakeholders Board and the scientific scoping phase of Sustainability.

3. Terms of Reference

A. Responsibility of the IS-ENES Stakeholders Board

The Stakeholder Board consists of representatives of the key users and providers of the IS-ENES3 infrastructure, including, major and smaller modelling groups and representatives of large funded science projects.

The Stakeholders Board exists to:

1. Provide a forum for engagement around strategic scientific objectives, their infrastructural consequences, and the long-term sustainability of the infrastructure.
2. Provide advice on prioritization around funding, expectations, and opportunities given available information.

B. Method of working

1. The board should meet annually.
2. The first meeting should be held around month 24 of IS-ENES3.
3. The board shall elect a chair from the board membership.
4. The board should provide annual input into the project leadership (the input expected should be detailed here).

C. Membership

1. The membership shall include individuals from partner institutions and users who hold the following roles (one individual may hold more than one role as appropriate):
 1. Representing an institutional provider of the infrastructure.
 2. Representing a modelling group developing their own model dynamical core (weakly dependent on software from other modelling groups).
 3. Representing a modelling group making smaller developments (with larger dependencies on the IS).
 4. Representing emerging institutions.
 5. Representing key funded science projects.
 6. Representing the users' community.
 7. Chair of the HPC Task Force.
 8. Chair of the Data Task Force.

3. Other individuals may be in attendance as required, including the Scientific Officer who should provide the Board Secretariat.
4. Delegates are allowed if a member is unable to attend.

D. Appointment of members

1. The ENES Board and the Governance of IS-ENES shall propose initial candidates for the IS-ENES Stakeholder Board.
2. Members are normally appointed for an indefinite period unless stated otherwise.
3. In the event of a member resignation, the Board itself shall propose a new member upon acceptance by the ENES Board.

4. Difficulties overcome

The establishment of the Stakeholder Board will be delayed by a year. During the process of establishing the Terms of Reference for the Stakeholders Board, we realized that this specific governance task is strongly linked to the sustainability task. We want indeed to set up a Stakeholders Board which is adapted to the infrastructure we will choose to sustain. It thus seems natural to associate these tasks and makes the Board emerge from the Stakeholder Assembly involved in the scientific scoping phase of the sustainability task.