



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

**Brussels, 18 December 2019**

**WK 14392/2019 INIT**

**LIMITE**

**RECH**

**WORKING PAPER**

*This is a paper intended for a specific community of recipients. Handling and further distribution are under the sole responsibility of community members.*

**WORKING DOCUMENT**

---

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| From:    | ERAC Secretariat  |
| To:      | ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)  |
| Subject: | Policy conclusions of the ERAC workshop on R&I investments for sustainability and competitiveness |

---

Delegations will find attached the PowerPoint presentation concerning the item 4.2 of the ERAC plenary agenda of 17 December 2019.



## **Policy conclusions of the ERAC workshop on R&I investments for sustainability and competitiveness**

1. New policy cycles open opportunities to re-align/ re-direct national R&I Strategies with SDGs in support of the sustainability transitions.
2. “Whole of government” approach is required to maximize directionality across all policies (systemic approach of R&I policy).
3. Use the right policy mix, including different types of both financial and non-financial support (i.e. tax incentives, competitive funding, institutional funding).
4. Achieve directionality through the combination of regulations, investments (Horizon Europe-Missions) and reforms (smart specializations strategies, ERA, European Semester).
5. Leverage private sector investment: for example, use public funding smartly to leverage business investment; increase SMEs engagement.
6. Foster learning and policy experimentation to close knowledge gaps.
7. New indicators and monitoring are needed for enriching the intelligence and evidence on the role of R&I for achieving the transitions and addressing the trade-offs.
8. Higher education institutions and citizens can be better mobilized to engage in addressing the sustainability challenges.