



# Update on the study 'Evaluation of the ERA policy framework'

ERAC meeting 30 September 2021 point 3.3

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"ERA Governance and Implementation"*

# Recommendations (I) – Governance

Ensure high-level political buy-in and engagement with ERA process at national Ministerial levels (corresponding seniority from Commission).

- ERA Ministerial Conferences should be organised bi-annually to address strategic issues.
- A Permanent Forum – along the lines of the present ERAC - should be supported by setting up flexible and temporary WGs with a clear mandate and limited duration.
- The Permanent Forum’s technical capacity and ability to deliver operational results in support of ERA implementation should be supported by EU funding, such that its effectiveness could surpass that of the SWGs in 2015-2020.
- Governance arrangements at national level need to be efficient, effective and rigorous. Strong coordination is needed by whichever Ministry (or designated body) is responsible for implementing coordination nationally.
- A multi-level governance approach should be adopted, to ensure consultation with all R&I stakeholders (EU, national) and that regional representation is also included.

# Recommendations (II) – Strategic co-design

## Set up a more systemic and co-designed strategic planning process

1. Put in place an effective strategic planning process to support the ERA to ensure the process is more systemic and co-designed jointly between the Commission and MS (but including other R&I stakeholders in consultation processes).
2. Consider assigning a longer duration to the new ERA, such as a 10-year implementation period.
3. Longer period of implementation would allow for periodic reviews of the extent of progress towards ERA objectives at national and EU levels.

## Involve a wider set of stakeholders to be able to address the new ERA ambitions

1. A wider set of stakeholders should be involved in new ERA governance and in regular stakeholder consultation arrangements to be able to address the ambitions of the ERA.
2. Give a more central role in consultations related to the design of the ERA policy agenda and reviews of its effectiveness
3. Resurrect the ERA Stakeholder Platform and organise it to mirror the flexible WG structure

# Recommendations (III) – National implementation

## Address the limited/unbalanced implementation of ERA measures across EU states

- Establish closer links between the development and implementation of NAPs and other national strategies and priorities, such as the Smart Specialisation strategies.
- Develop more targeted guidance for the development of national ERA Action Plans in the form of improved ERA Roadmap guidance, supported by good practice examples.
- If there is a new generation of NAPs, this should build not only on previous set of NAPs but incorporate good practices and stakeholder engagement techniques used to develop other national strategies and initiatives supported by EU funding.
- Make sure that monitoring leads to lessons learned and reprogramming

# Recommendations (IV) – Monitoring, indicators and ERA Scoreboard

**Set up a new ERA Scoreboard (annual) to assess strategic progress but continue with biennial reporting in e.g. ERA Progress Report.**

1. The indicator system should be streamlined to support different tiers of monitoring:
  - a) ERA Scoreboard – strategic, contextual and politically visible
  - b) Detailed monitoring – combination of strategic / operational based on updating the previous indicator system (EMM) (e.g. Performance Dashboard)
2. Whilst new indicators should be included, most indicators in the previous EMM should be retained (longitudinal continuity).
3. Monitoring data in the ERA Scoreboard and the updated EMM should be used to influence EU and national R&I policy-making and to inform NAP revision.

# Recommendations (V) – ERA Progress Report and country fiches

**Option 1 - The ERA Progress Report and country fiches should continue to be updated once every two years.**

1. If NAPs were continued, a minimum required NAP indicator set should be developed to ensure comparability.
2. Further indicators could be included for EU-level monitoring and reporting on the ERA in the ERA Progress Report (going beyond the indicators in the NAPs).
3. When carrying out the biennial ERA Progress Report and developing country fiches, ensure that national authorities are consulted before fiches are signed off (data and fact-checking exercise to strengthen ownership).

**Option 2 - The biennial ERA Progress Report could be continued on a slimmed down basis with greater scope to focus in on particular thematic areas of progress in particular editions.**

1. NAPs and ERA Progress Report would be replaced by an Online Policy Platform for as centralized ERA related platform

# Recommendations (V) – ERA Progress Report and country fiches

Option 3 – Transition from national Action Planning to a dual process of Joint Action and Country specific Action

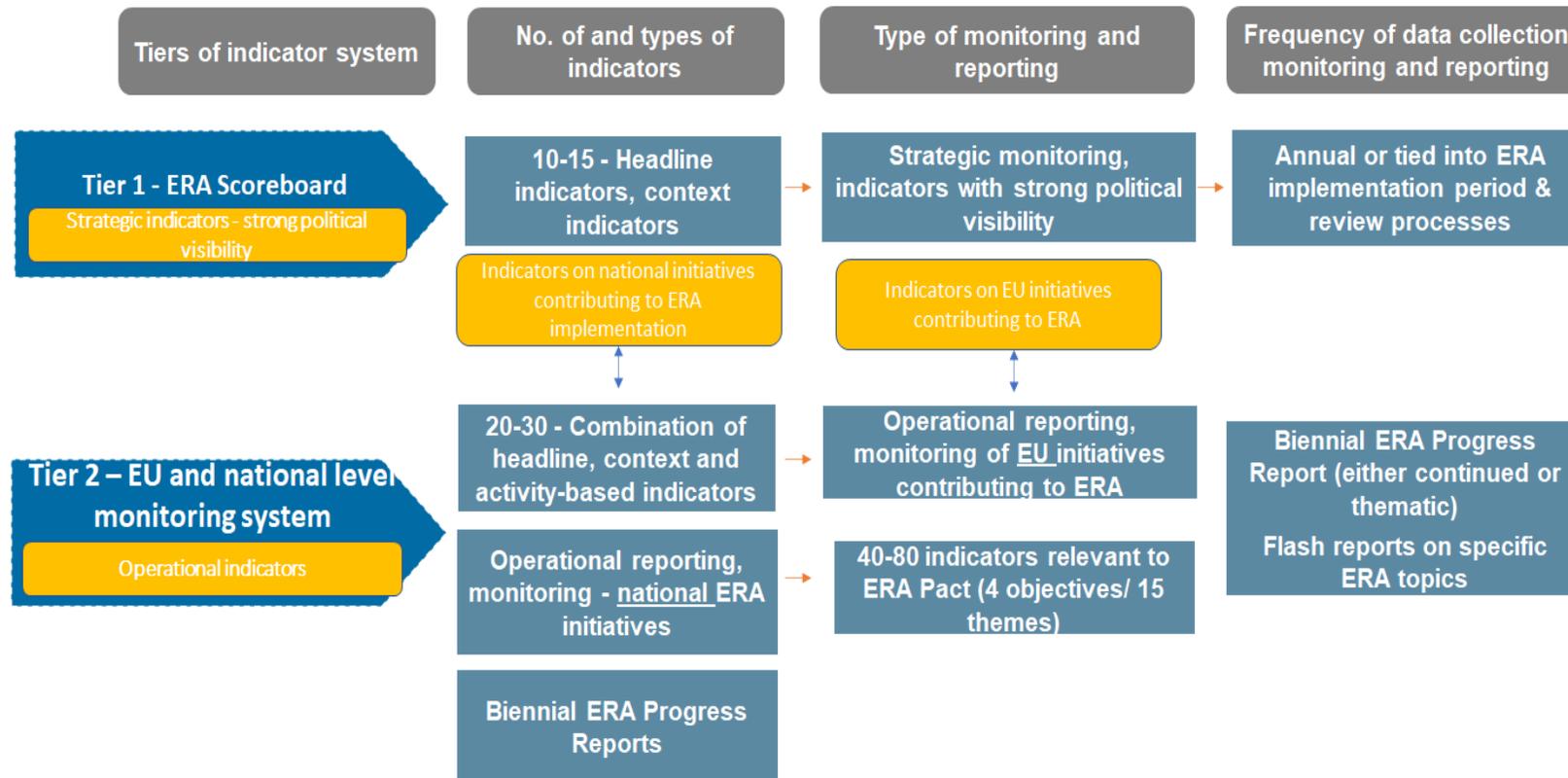
1. ERA Scoreboard would focus on strategic indicators commonly-agreed ERA priorities and objectives.
2. The Performance Dashboard would focus on country specific priorities.

For the ERA Scoreboard - move beyond a static PDF , for data visualisation, data access and user experience (UX) to be enhanced.

1. Good practices in data visualisation, user-friendliness and in maximising the accessibility of ERA monitoring data should be integrated into system design.

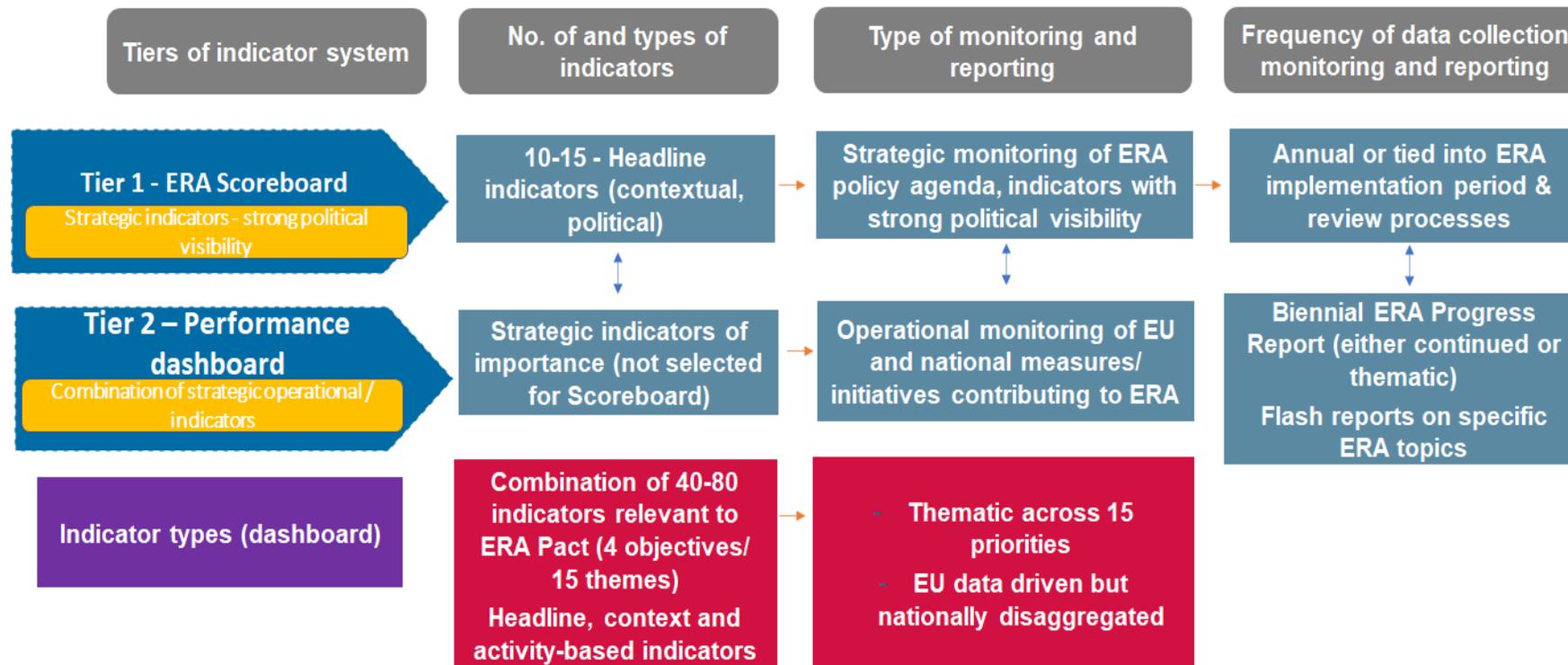
# Option 1 – Continuity with ERA Roadmap

## Option 1 - ERA Scoreboard and wider EU / national performance monitoring



# Option 2 – Transition from National Action Planning to an Online Policy Platform

## Option 2 - ERA Scoreboard and Performance Dashboard



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