

MONITORING AND EVALUATION SCHEME
FOR
THE EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP
STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
ON
RAW MATERIALS

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CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	3
1.1	Challenges related to raw materials.....	3
1.2	The European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials.....	3
1.3	The need for monitoring and evaluation	4
2	SETTING UP A MONITORING AND EVALUATION SCHEME	4
2.1	Bottom-up approach	4
2.2	Timeline.....	5
2.3	Links to overarching EU policies	5
3	MONITORING	6
3.1	Annual Monitoring Report	6
3.2	SIP Implementation Document	6
4	EVALUATION	8
4.1	Strategic Evaluation report.....	8
4.2	Raw Materials Scoreboard	10
5	CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY	10

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Challenges related to raw materials

The EU is highly dependent on imports of raw materials that are crucial for a strong European industrial base, an essential building block of the EU's growth and competitiveness. The increasing demand for unprocessed minerals and metals, rubber and wood-based materials and volatility in the prices of certain raw materials, as well as the market distortions imposed by some countries on a number of them, have shed light on the importance of raw materials for our economy and society.

The **main challenges** are to tap the full potential of primary and secondary materials by creating a pan-European raw materials knowledge base, developing innovative sustainable technological solutions to access raw materials and establishing a production-friendly legal framework and economically attractive environment across the EU, which take into account environmental and social aspects.

1.2 The European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials

European Innovation Partnerships (EIP) are a concept that was launched under the European Commission's Innovation Union¹ to accelerate the market take-up of innovations which address key challenges for Europe. The EIPs' purpose is to break down “silos”, bringing together all relevant stakeholders across policies, across sectors and across borders to **speed up innovations** that address a major societal challenge, and gain competitive advantages for growth and job creation in Europe. The EIPs bring no new funding arrangements. Instead, by bringing together different stakeholders they aim to drive the alignment of priorities, the leverage of investments and the formation of new partnerships. Because the EIPs' ultimate objective is bring about **systemic change** they are organised around very specific high-level targets.

The **EIP on Raw Materials**² overall objective is to ensure the sustainable supply of non-energy, non-agricultural raw materials to the European economy whilst increasing benefits for society as a whole. In its **Strategic Implementation Plan** (SIP)³ the EIP set specific objectives and targets and proposed a range of actions necessary to achieve these, including research and innovation along the value chain, raw materials knowledge, best practices, revision of selected legislation, licensing steps, standardisation, and policy dialogues.

Because actions by EU institutions alone will not be sufficient to achieve the objectives set out in the EIP's Strategic Implementation Plan, the European Commission has launched a call for **commitments**⁴ to Member States, industry, academia and other relevant stakeholders in October 2013. A commitment is a joint undertaking by several partners, who commit to carrying out activities that will contribute to achieving the EIP's objectives within the period 2014-2020. Commitments must aim at achieving one or more innovations (either directly or indirectly), such as new products, processes, services,

¹ COM (2010) 546 - http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/pdf/innovation-union-communication_en.pdf

² <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/raw-materials/en>

³ <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/raw-materials/en/content/about-sip>

⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/raw-materials/en/content/call-commitments>

technologies, business models etc that can be brought to the market. New calls will be published in 2015, 2017 and 2019.

1.3 The need for monitoring and evaluation

Now that the EIP on Raw Materials has entered its implementation phase, the EIP governance structure, with the support of the European Commission (EC), will start to **assess the progress made on the implementation of the Strategic Implementation Plan** (i.e. monitoring), as well as its impacts on achieving the objectives and targets of the EIP (i.e. evaluation).

Monitoring and evaluation is an essential tool to assess how well the proposed strategy is working. The monitoring and evaluation of the EIP's Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) will follow the Commission's evaluation rules and standards.

2 SETTING UP A MONITORING AND EVALUATION SCHEME

2.1 Bottom-up approach

Given the EIP's **multi-layered structure** the monitoring and evaluation scheme will take on a bottom-up approach and track progress on four different levels: the EIP's commitments, actions areas, targets and general objectives. **Figure 1** presents the general overview of the monitoring and evaluation scheme.

The challenge of setting up a monitoring and evaluation scheme consists of **finding the right balance** between keeping track of the practical implementation of the concrete actions and initiatives and following up the degree of systemic change that has been achieved. In the proposed scheme the 'monitoring' part will therefore concentrate on gathering data on practical implementation aspects, which will then feed in the more macro-focussed 'evaluation' part.

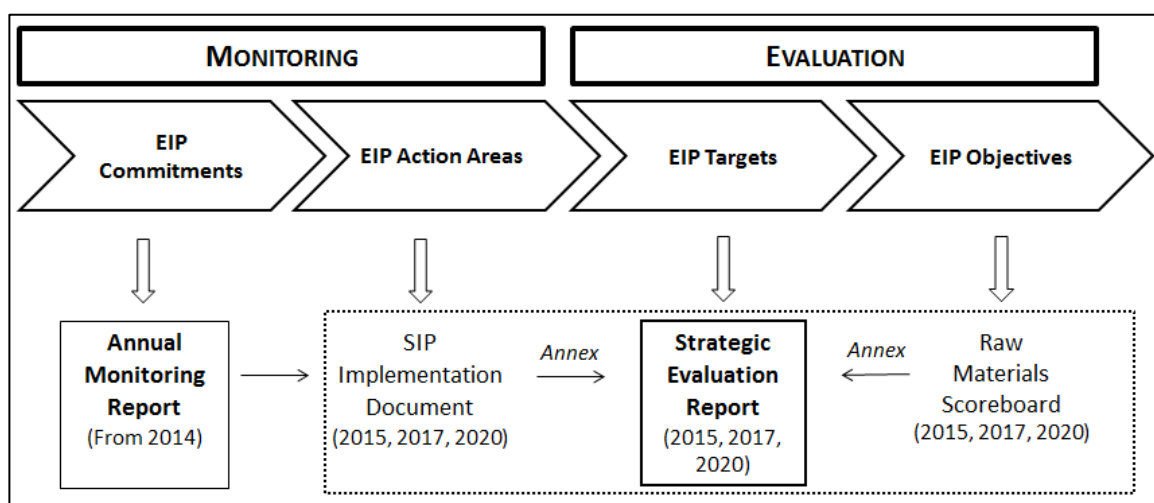


Figure 1: Overview of the monitoring and evaluation scheme of the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials

For the monitoring part the Commission will yearly publish an **Annual Monitoring Report** that will map the state-of-play of the ongoing EIP commitments. For the evaluation part, the Commission will publish a **Strategic Evaluation Report**, which will include an assessment of the impacts of the implementation of the SIP on achieving the EIP's targets and objectives, based on qualitative and quantitative data. The Strategic Evaluation Report will provide the opportunity to EIP Members to consider corrective actions where necessary. In annex it will contain a **SIP Implementation Document**, which will include a synthesis of the Annual Monitoring Reports, as well as an overview of the progress made in the different action areas that were proposed in the EIP's Strategic Implementation Plan.

Finally, as a second annex to the Strategic Evaluation Report the Commission proposes to bring out a **'Raw Materials Scoreboard'**. This Scoreboard will be based on statistical indicators and will cover the EIP's general objectives as well as other aspects related to the EU raw materials sector's competitiveness and any systemic change that could be brought about by the EIP. The Scoreboard will increase the visibility of the challenges related to raw materials and provide relevant and robust information concerning the state of the EU's raw materials sector that can be used in various policy processes.

2.2 Timeline

Every year the Commission will issue the Annual Monitoring Report. Next to that, in 2015, 2017 and 2020, the Commission will publish a Strategic Evaluation Report, with the SIP Implementation Document and the Raw Materials Scoreboard in annex. As explained in Figure 1 above **these reports will be complementary** by each focussing on a different level of impacts. The nature of the Strategic Evaluation Report will however be slightly different in function of the **timing**: in 2015 the intent is to establish a baseline, in 2017 it will be used as a mid-term evaluation and in 2020 it will conclude on the achievements of the EIP.

2.3 Links to overarching EU policies

The EIP's general objectives will contribute to and are embedded in several overarching EU policies, such as the Industrial Policy Flagship Initiative⁵, the Innovation Union Flagship Initiative⁶ and the Resource Efficiency Flagship Initiative⁷, all of which form part of the **Europe 2020 Strategy**⁸. All data collected within the framework of the monitoring and evaluation of the EIP will be used to feed into the mid-term (2015) and final review (2020) of the Europe 2020 Strategy.

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/industrial-competitiveness/industrial-policy/index_en.htm

⁶ http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm

⁷ <http://ec.europa.eu/resource-efficient-europe/>

⁸ http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_en.htm

3 MONITORING

3.1 Annual Monitoring Report

The EIP's **commitments** are essential undertakings to achieve the actions, targets and objectives that are set out in the EIP's Strategic Implementation Plan. Their purpose is to foster partnerships and the sharing of knowledge between actors and to narrow down the gap between public authorities and policy makers on the one hand and end-users and innovators on the other.

The monitoring of commitments will be based on **concrete indicators** that will measure the commitments' **inputs** (human resources, funding etc) and **outputs**. Data collection will be based on a mandatory electronic survey, a process which will be repeated yearly. The results of this exercise will feed into the SIP Implementation Document and in the Strategic Evaluation Report.

3.2 SIP Implementation Document

Box 1 presents an overview of the EIP's Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP). The SIP's structure includes 3 pillars, which consist of 24 action areas and 95 actions. The focus of the SIP Implementation Document will be the state-of-play at **action area level**.

The challenge of this exercise will be to find the right balance between making up the **inventory of efforts made** in the different action areas and concentrating on the initial purpose of the European Innovation Partnerships, i.e. to overcome fragmentation of efforts by **finding ways to streamline different instruments and initiatives**. This is why the SIP Implementation Document will present an **overview** on the following aspects, using quantitative indicators where possible:

- Assessment of the progress made to the **action areas' objectives** as they are stated in the Strategic Implementation Plan part II⁹;
- Use of the different **instruments** (Horizon 2020, Structural Funds etc) plus any evolution that can be observed;
- **Commitments and other initiatives** undertaken by all relevant actors (international organisations, Member States, industry, academia etc);

The results of this factual exercise will then be used in the analysis of the Strategic Evaluation Report.

⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/eip/raw-materials/en/system/files/ged/1027%2020130723_SIP%20Part%20II%20complet.pdf

Box 1: Structure of the EIP's Strategic Implementation Plan

I. TECHNOLOGY PILLAR

Priority area I.A: RM Research and innovation coordination

Action Area I.1: Improving R&D&I coordination in the EU

Priority area I.B: Technologies for primary and secondary RM production

Action Area I.2: Exploration

Action Area I.3: Innovative extraction of RM

Action Area I.4: Processing and refining of RM

Action Area I.5: Recycling of RM from products, buildings and infrastructure

Priority area I.C: Substitution of RM

Action Area I.6: Materials for green energy technologies

Action Area I.7: Materials for electronic devices

Action Area I.8: Materials under extreme conditions

Action Area I.9: Applications using materials in large quantities

II. NON-TECHNOLOGY PILLAR

Priority area II.A: Improving Europe's RM framework conditions

Action Area II.1: Minerals policy framework

Action Area II.2: Access to mineral potential in the EU

Action Area II.3: Public awareness, acceptance and trust

Priority area II.B: Improving Europe's waste management framework conditions and excellence

Action Area II.4: Product design for optimised use of (critical) RM and increased quality of recycling

Action Area II.5: Optimised waste flows for increased recycling

Action Area II.6: Prevention of illegal shipments of waste

Action Area II.7: Optimised material recovery

Priority area II.C: Knowledge, skills and raw materials flows

Action Area II.8: EU RM Knowledge base

Action Area II.9: Possible EIT Knowledge and Innovation Community

Action Area II.10: Optimised RM flows along value chains

III. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PILLAR

Action Area III.1: Technology

Action Area III.2: Global Raw Materials Governance and Dialogues

Action Area III.3: Health, safety and environment

Action Area III.4: Skills, education and knowledge

Action Area III.5: Investment activities

4 EVALUATION

Whilst the EIP monitoring exercise will zoom in in detail on the EIP's progress concerning the specific action areas proposed in the Strategic Implementation Plan, the evaluation part will focus more on the **macro-level** and assess to which extent the EIP's targets and general objectives have been achieved.

4.1 Strategic Evaluation report

The EIP's Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) put forward **seven concrete targets** that should be achieved by 2020:

- Up to ten innovative pilot actions on exploration, mining, processing, and recycling for innovative production of raw materials;
- Substitutes for at least three applications of critical and scarce raw materials;
- Framework conditions for primary raw materials that would provide a stable and competitive supply from EU sources and facilitate its public acceptance;
- Framework conditions for enhanced efficiency in material use and in waste prevention, re-use and recycling, and raw materials efficient product design;
- European raw materials knowledge base with information, flows and dynamic modelling system for primary and secondary raw materials;
- Network of Research, Education and Training Centres on sustainable raw materials management organized as a Knowledge and Innovation Community;
- Pro-active international co-operation strategy of the EU at bilateral and multilateral level, promoting synergies with countries such as the US, Japan, Australia, Canada, Latin America and African Union across the different areas covered by the EIP.

The Strategic Evaluation Report will assess the progress made towards the achievement of these **targets**, based on the information presented in the SIP Implementation Document. The conclusions on the action areas will be grouped by **priority area** so that they can be linked to the different targets (see Figure 2). In addition the Strategic Evaluation Report will also look at the broader picture concerning the challenges related to raw materials. This information will be provided by the **Raw Materials Scoreboard**, which will be based on macro-level statistical indicators. Bringing these sources of information together the Strategic Evaluation Report will allow the EIP's members of the High-Level Steering Group to assess whether there needs to be a change of prioritisation and/or whether corrective action is desirable.

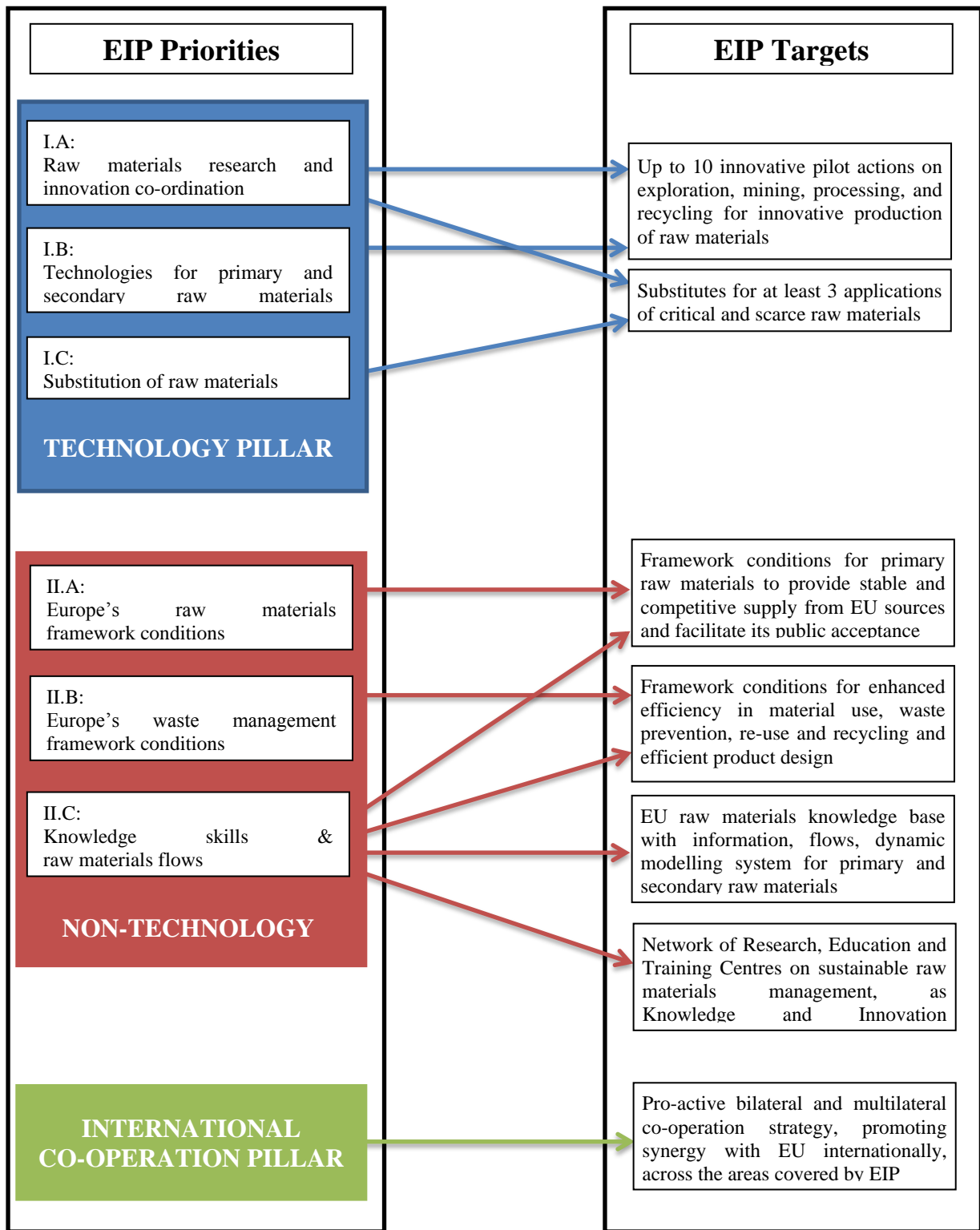


Figure 2: How the EIP's Priority Areas will contribute to the achievement of the EIP's targets

4.2 Raw Materials Scoreboard

The **overall objective** of the EIP on Raw Materials is to contribute to the 2020 objectives of the EU's Industrial Policy¹⁰ - i.e. increasing the share of industry to 20% of GDP - and the objectives of the Flagship Initiatives 'Innovation Union'¹¹ and 'Resource Efficient Europe'¹², by ensuring the sustainable supply of raw materials to the European economy whilst increasing benefits for society as a whole.

Even though it will be technically impossible to establish a causal relationship between the EIP's outputs and achievements and these general objectives, **it is important to follow up the sustainable supply of raw materials to the European economy**. To this end the Commission will prepare a 'Raw Materials Scoreboard', which will be based on generally accepted statistical indicators. It will address all aspects of the general objectives above and other general aspects related to the competitiveness of the EU raw materials sector. This way the Scoreboard will be able to provide relevant and reliable information to various policy processes and increase the visibility of the challenges related to raw materials.

Building on the input received from the Sherpas the Commission will therefore as a first step prepare a document with a list of possible indicators. This document will then be presented to an ad-hoc working group, which will be asked to provide input and expertise to structure and assess the presented indicators according to certain criteria¹³.

The challenge related to this exercise will be to find the right balance between **keeping the overview** on the macro-level and **providing sufficient details** that are important for the different sectors. It is to be anticipated that there may be a **potential trade-off** between using only official statistics and using statistics that are necessary to cover all relevant aspects. EIP Sherpas will be invited to contribute their comments to the conclusions of the ad-hoc working group and to the draft structure of the Scoreboard.

5 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY

Given its multi-layered structure, setting up a monitoring and evaluation scheme for the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials is a challenging task. By taking a **bottom-up approach** the proposed monitoring and evaluation scheme aims to **find a balance** between being a factual stock-taking exercise and keeping an overview on whether the EIP is bringing about the desired systemic change.

As a starting point the Commission will yearly publish an **Annual Monitoring Report**, which will follow up the evolution of the EIP commitments' inputs and outputs. Next to

¹⁰ http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/industrial-competitiveness/industrial-policy/index_en.htm

¹¹ http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm

¹² <http://ec.europa.eu/resource-efficient-europe/>

¹³ These will include the RACER-criteria used in EU Impact Assessments (i.e. whether indicators are Relevant (i.e. closely linked to the objectives to be reached), Accepted (e.g. by staff and stakeholders), Credible (for non-experts, unambiguous and easy to interpret), Easy to monitor (e.g. data collection should be possible at low cost) and Robust (e.g. against manipulation)) as well as the indicators' periodicity and timeliness, coverage and data source.

that the Commission will also prepare a **SIP Implementation Document**, which will aim to provide an overview on the progress made concerning the action areas' objectives, the use of the different instruments (Horizon 2020, Structural Funds etc) and the commitments and other initiatives undertaken by all relevant actors (international organisations, Member States, industry, academia etc). It will keep the right middle between making up an inventory of the efforts made and providing useful analysis that could be used to find synergies between different initiatives.

Building on the information and analysis presented in the SIP Implementation Document the Commission will publish a **Strategic Evaluation Report**, which will focus more on the EIP's targets and general objectives. In view of following up the macro-conditions related to raw material challenges the Strategic Evaluation Report will include a **Raw Materials Scoreboard**. The ensemble of these pieces of information will allow the EIP's members of the High-Level Steering Group to assess whether corrective action is required to achieve the EIP's general objectives.

The Strategic Evaluation Report (and its annexes the SIP Implementation Document and the Raw Materials Scoreboard) will be prepared in 2015, 2017 and 2020. In **2015** it will be used to establish a baseline, in **2017** it will facilitate the EIP's mid-term evaluation and in **2020** it will be used to draw final conclusions on the EIP's success.