



# CESSDA Funders' Meeting

British Academy, London  
27<sup>th</sup> October, 2008





# Why social science?

- Social science addresses the REALLY BIG political, policy and research question
- Just pick up any newspaper



# CESSDA mission

- Provide better, enhanced knowledge of and access to wider range of social science data
  - Improve researcher/learner experience
  - Enable quality research / training
- Maximise stakeholder investment
- Enhance transfer of skills, knowledge





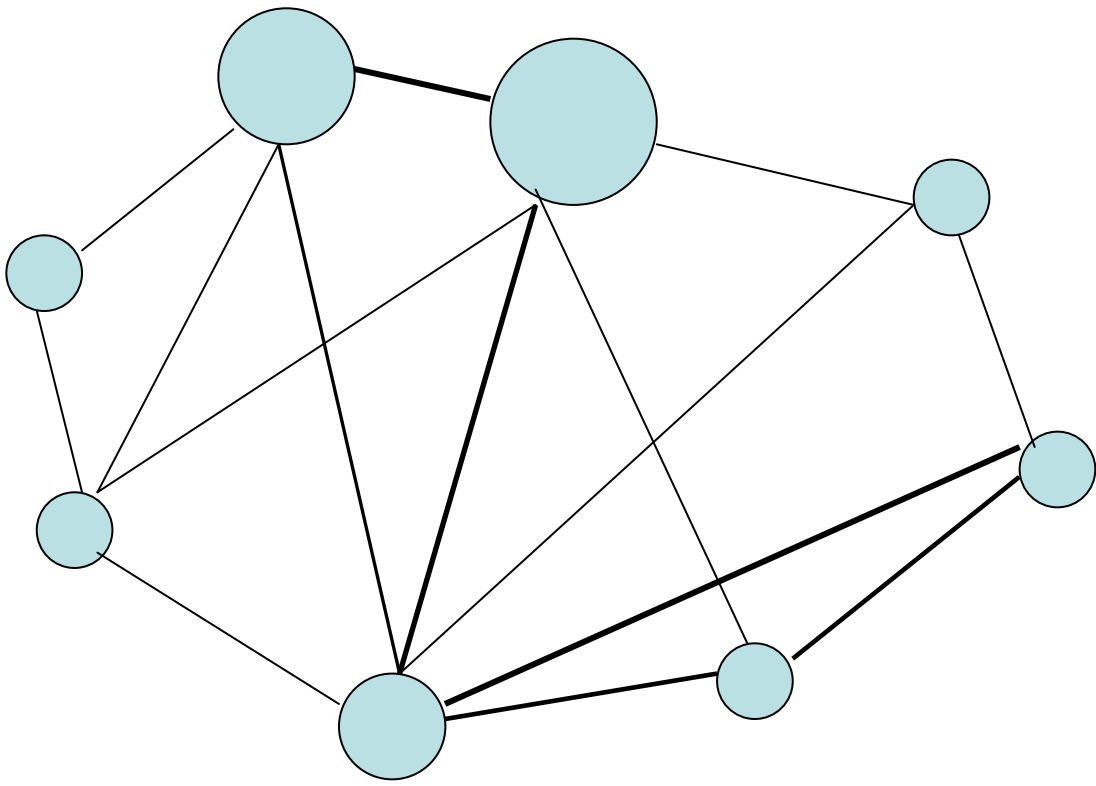
## CESSDA coverage - current

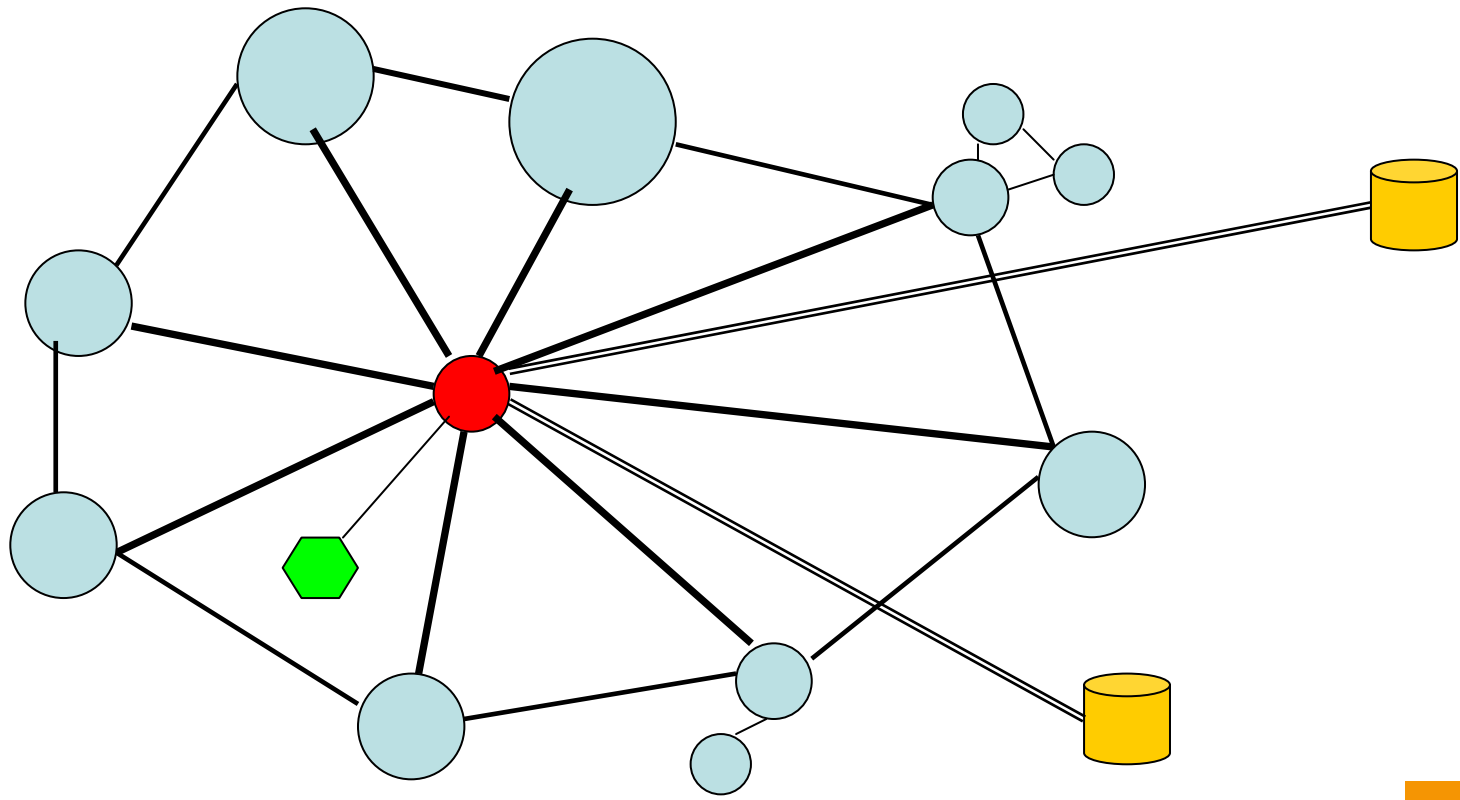
- Austria
- Denmark
- Czech Republic
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Romania
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- UK



## CESSDA coverage – potential growth

- Belarus
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Portugal
- Russia
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Ukraine
- Israel
- Canada
- USA
- Australia
- South Africa







# From CESSDA to ERI

- Legal entity
- Central co-ordinating body
- Contractual SLAs
- Governance Structure
- Sustainable funding



# Fully integrated data infrastructure

- Integrated resource discovery tools
  - Multilingual searching
- Integrated common Authentication & Access
  - Single sign-on
  - Single access protocols
- Extensible system
  - nationally & internationally



# ERI – centre of excellence

- Certification/auditing
- Professionalisation
  - Training
  - Knowledge Transfer
  - Mobility
- Standards development
- Middleware tools



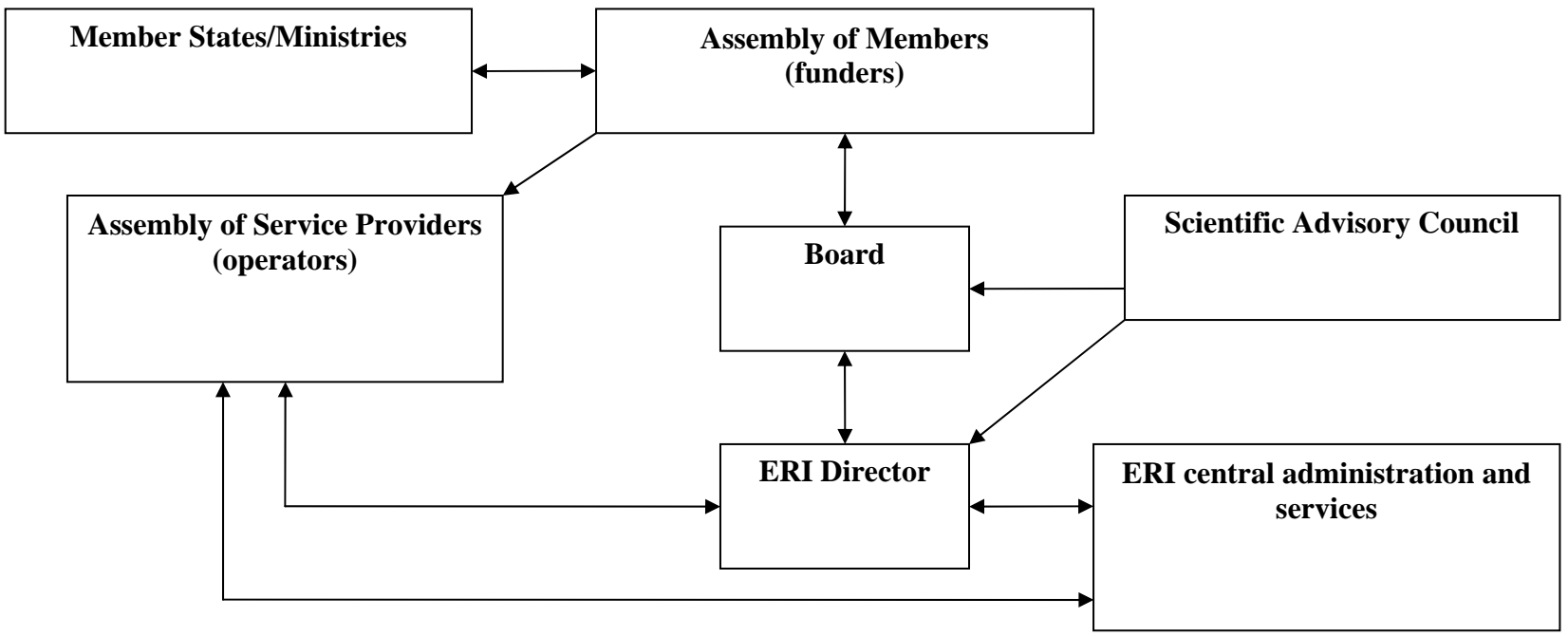


# Functions of the centre

- Providing a unified portal/gateway to resource discovery;
- Providing common access/authentication protocols;
- Providing a common portal/gateways to data access and delivery;
- Development and maintenance of persistent identifiers;
- Training/Professionalisation;
- Production of guides to 'Good Practise';
- Standards development (both procedural and data management);
- Approval and certification of membership organisations;
- Development and maintenance of quality data collections (central and virtual) through the identification of gaps/needs and brokering data access agreements;
- Development and maintenance of data harmonisation tools;
- Development and maintenance of discovery and delivery tools;
- Development and maintenance of operational/ingest tools;
- Promotion of data sharing/outreach;
- Widening/expansion of the data infrastructure;
- Providing a lobbying and representative role, with central funders and other key stakeholders.



# Possible ERI organisational/governance structure





# Potential types of membership

- **Full members** (European, making full financial commitment and fulfilling membership obligations/duties);
- **Designate members** (European, making only partial financial commitment or fulfilling partial membership obligations/duties);
- **Aligned members** (non-European, making financial commitment and fulfilling membership obligations/duties);
- **Associate members** (European or non-European, fulfilling partial membership obligations/duties – for example, important data producers such as Eurostat making data and metadata available for distribution and support via the ERI but with limited responsibility).



# Potential obligations of membership

- compliance with agreed interoperable metadata standards;
- adoption and application of a common single sign-on user authentication system;
- harvesting of all catalogue records by the data portal;
- downloadable data through common data gateways;
- maintenance of the 'local' language within the multi-lingual thesaurus;
- sharing of data archiving/preservation tools;
- adherence to OAIS reference model and approved certification of operational procedures and processes;
- contribution to cross-national data harmonisation;
- contribution to cross-national 'question bank';
- national agreement and adherence to 'open' access to publically-funded research data, including where possible access to national government microdata.



# Funding models

- Funding required at two levels
  - International (centre)
    - (relatively) fixed
  - National/local
    - Variable but must be enough to sustain and fulfil obligations
- Some national funding currently inadequate



# Funding models for centre

- **Even split**
- **Pro rata according to GDP/PPS**
- **One country contributes 50% of central costs, rest split pro rata**
- **Two countries contribute 60% of central costs, rest split pro rata**

# Funding models

