EPOS Timeline

EPOS has evolved from a simple concept to integrate and distribute digital data into a distributed research infrastructure for European solid Earth science, integrating existing research infrastructures to enable innovative multidisciplinary and cross-disciplinary research. The timeline charts the main milestones in this time.

Conception Phase (2002 - 2008)

The conception phase evolved thanks to a number of European and national-funded projects and initiatives which focused on integrating and distributing digital data.

- December 2008: EPOS approved by ESFRI and included in the European roadmap for research infrastructures.

Preparatory Phase (2010 - 2014)

- November 2010: EPOS Preparatory Phase (PP) project commences. EPOS PP is funded under the European Commission’s Seventh Framework Programme.
- May 2014: ESFRI proposes EPOS (along with two other projects) as priority project, based on the criteria that it pushes the boundaries of scientific excellence in the solid Earth area, is strategically relevant for Europe; is ready for immediate action towards implementation.
- October 2014: EPOS PP project finishes.

Implementation Phase (2014 - 2019)

For EPOS to become an operational pan-European research infrastructure for solid Earth science, key structural pillars are required. The Implementation Phase (IP) will do just this with the establishment of the EPOS-ERIC agreed by the EPOS Governmental Representatives and the implementation of a technical, legal and governance, and financial framework for all its components. IT architecture and interoperable services will also be created.

- October 2015: The EPOS IP project starts with 46 partners from 23 countries across Europe. The project is
Pilot Operational Phase (2020-2022)

This peculiar stage of the lifecycle of the EPOS RI currently facing the transition from the Implementation to the Operational Phase has been named “EPOS Pilot Operational Phase” (EPOS POP). It will last three years (2020-2022) and it will be coordinated by the EPOS ERIC.

POP phase has two overarching goals: the building of the EPOS Delivery Framework and the strengthening of its sustainability

- 1st February 2020: The EPOS SP project starts with twenty-four beneficiaries from seventeen European countries across Europe. The project is funded under the European Union’s Horizon 2020, INFRADEV-3 call, under Grant Agreement No. 871121.

Operational Phase (2023+)

The service to the user community will start in the Operational Phase.