



PLATFORM

Platform of bioeconomy ERA-NET Actions

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REPORT

PLATFORM Annual Event:

“ERA-NETs for Impact and Global Cooperation”

September 10th-11th, 2015, Berlin



Organised by WP4 – Annual Events: Meetings for networking, sharing information and experience, and enhancing coordination and collaboration

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Introduction to the 2015 platform annual event

PLATFORM annual events are a series of meetings bringing together the bioeconomy coordination network family. The series started in Copenhagen in 2012, and continued with the 2013 event in Paris and the 2014 event in Leiden. Coming to Berlin in 2015, the programme of the event (Annex 1) was designed to serve a variety of interests, with the focus theme being ERA-NETs for Impact and Global Cooperation. Over the course of 2 days more than 45 participants representing bioeconomy relevant ERA-NETs, JPIs, CSAs and other public-public networks, PLATFORM project consortium members and representatives of the PLATFORM Expert Advisory group discussed topics of alignment and impact, collaboration needs and interactions, including those on a more global scale, and received a crash course on communication.

Welcome and introductions session

Opening

The event opened with a warm welcome to all of the participants by Birger Kerckow (FNR, DE) and Ino Ostendorf (Ministry of Economic Affairs, NL) as the chairs of the Annual Event.

The H2020 PLATFORM project Christine BUNTHOF (WUR, NL)

Christine Bunthof, the project coordinator, briefly introduced the H2020 PLATFORM project and the annual events as a core activity since the very beginning of PLATFORM.

Highlights:

- PLATFORM is not only its core project team, which organises PLATFORM activities and is advised and guided by the Expert Advisory Group. It is a community of funders and program managers from more than 30 public-public networks, for which PLATFORM presents a forum for mutual learning, joint dissemination of information and insight for policy decisions and strategy formation. With its members often wearing »multiple hats« the forum provides opportunities for facing the ever present challenge of prioritisation based on different trade-offs (e.g. European vs. national, effort vs. benefit, urgency vs. importance).
- H2020 PLATFORM is a continuation of the FP7 PLATFORM project, which has a strong legacy including the “Bioeconomy ERA-NET Actions” book, a set of recommendations from various analyses, dedicated workshops and informed discussions at the annual events, and an established community. The good practices of the FP7 PLATFORM continue with an increased number of dedicated events (i.e. Masters Classes and Workshops for invited participants), surveys, analyses and policy brief publications.

Tour de Table

A tour de table was made in which the participants said their name and which network they primarily represented. The list of participants is included as Annex 2.

The programme of the Annual Event

Philipp VON BOTHMER (FNR, DE)

Philipp von Bothmer introduced the structure of the event and the aims of the three sessions.

Current developments regarding Bioeconomy ERA-NET actions in Horizon 2020

Doru-Leonard IRIMIE (EC, DG Research & Innovation, F3)

Doru-Leonard Irimie presented an overview of the Bioeconomy ERA-NET Actions from FP6 to Horizon 2020, highlighting the outcomes of the EC 2014 report “The ERA-NET Scheme from FP6 to Horizon 2020”, the legal basis and the development of the ERA-NET instrument in H2020, including the novelties in the 2016/2017 work program with a focus on the Societal Challenge 2 2016-17 calls.

Highlights:

- KBBE ERA-NETs are ranked third in the number of actions and total call budget after those in Industrial Technologies/SMEs and Health, and fourth in terms of their leverage effect.
- In the 2016-17 Work Programme for Societal Challenge 2, calls will be published in 4 areas: sustainable food security, blue growth, rural renaissance and bio-based innovation for sustainable goods and services (complementing JTI BBI).
- There are many novelties in the 2016-17 Work Programme, including increased availability of funds, with a 100 million investment in the Cofund instrument, a focus on ERA and alignment, international cooperation with certain global partners and social sciences integration.
 - In the debate the limited focus of international cooperation was highlighted, with the EC assuring specific project proposals need not focus on the identified countries.
- The Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) is a new challenge for ERA-NETs, but it also addresses their shortcomings (e.g. long timeline from idea to implementation; large number of ERA-NETs with small call budgets) through an administrative procedure that brings on board all stakeholders, i.e. all relevant ministries/agencies and is expected to simplify the procedures
 - In the debate, the question of the FPA size was put forward, with the answer from the EC being the content of the Societal Challenge 2 FPA in the 2016-17 Work Programme is a reasonable compromise resulted from discussions with the PC.
 - Another question was raised on the participation of science councils and science associations to the instrument and their potential conflict of interest. Their

participation with “in kind” resources being foreseen in projects resulted from joint calls, any potential conflict of interest must be managed case by case.

- Additionally, the issue of certain ERA-NET topics being a cross-over between SC2 and other Work Programmes was highlighted. Having one FPA per Work Programme does not allow for additional resources from other Work Programmes to be allocated to the topic. Currently no change is foreseen with regard to SC2 part, in which FPA/SGA topics' selection relies on a thorough consultation within SCAR and PC.
- Criteria for the prioritisation of future Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 2 ERA-NETs was a topic of discussion at the first PC-SCAR Workshop to which PLATFORM was invited with two delegates (Brussels, April 27, 2015). Identified criteria include: policy relevance to as many member states as possible; financial resources, coherence with other SRIAs (e.g. JPIs), focus on gaps and knowledge; and demonstrated added value to the ERA among the top 5 criteria. A second PC-SCAR workshop on the topic will take place on September 23 in Brussels and a third on the state of play of the bioeconomy in Europe on December 10.
- Open issues to be discussed between the EC and Member States include coordination and governance of the FPA and the Cofund actions under the FPA, the process of ERA-NET proposal and theme prioritisation in light of rationalisation and coherence, with the possibility of using the identified prioritization and selection criteria.

Block 1 – Impact and alignment

PLATFORM aims for increased coordination in bioeconomy research and innovation. For that coordination needs and opportunities need to be identified, including those regarding interdisciplinary collaboration, opportunities for collaboration between initiatives that address subsequent steps of the same value-chain and coordination among initiatives addressing a common societal challenge. In the session participants looked into the role of PLATFORM in achieving more successful collaboration, acquainted themselves with a case study of an ERA-NET actively searching for collaborations and based on a guided brainstorm of scenario building provided recommendations for PLATFORM's future activities.

PLATFORM Project Task Results: Collaboration between Member States: 'Think Back, Act Forward' Workshop

Annette KREMSER (JUELICH, DE)

Annette Kremser presented the results of the PLATFORM World Café Workshop held on March 27 2015 in Schiphol, the Netherlands.

Highlights:

- Profoundly changed conditions and settings for the Members States in H2020 with new instruments such as Cofunds, FPAs being swiftly introduced, allowing little time for Member States to adapt to new rules, set the scene for the workshop which aimed to identify current instruments and look into the future to identify those instruments of collaboration that could work best. Using the "Lego serious play" method, participants used their expertise in a creative way, designing models to solve the three main challenges they identified, namely coordination, methods and cooperation in reaching common goals.
- The outcome of the workshop was a set of questions regarding the current and future collaboration instruments sent to the EC raising issues of key importance in a letter and raised in the Workshop for Cofund actions for H2020 Societal Challenge 2 (Brussels, April 27 2015).
- Issues of key importance include scattered resources of funders due to a big number of different initiatives, the lengthy preparation and decision process (why are ERA-NETs treated like research projects), lack of funding for the implementation of calls, less focus on networking and additional activities, which play an important role in building the ERA, the issue of complexity and administrative burden in managing ERA-NETs and possibly FPAs, the importance of funding calls across societal challenges and allowing for more international collaboration, as research in the bioeconomy is not limited to a single societal challenge nor geographic area.

Objectives of PLATFORM concerning cooperation among networks along the value chain

Kees KWANT (EZ, NL)

The presentation built on work performed by the FP7 PLATFORM summarised in the report: “Collaboration among public-public research coordination networks in the bioeconomy”.

Highlights:

- A vision for sustainable biobased solutions that acknowledges bioeconomy as a very wide area that offers a lot of opportunities, which are not necessarily easily pursued in a sustainable way, is needed.
- Research in bioeconomy is driven by societal challenges and research themes are often connected to different ERA-NETs. Alignment and cooperation is very much needed in order to create synergies among different fields, resulting in the creation of new opportunities.
- There exists a wide variety of bioeconomy networks, which differ according to the level of technological readiness level (TRL), position in the value chain and covered topic.
- Collaboration opportunities among different ERA-NETs and possible activities ERA-NETs would be willing to do together (i.e. workshops and joint calls) need to take into account similarities of certain ERA-NETs.
- Concrete cooperation, based on type of research (e.g. fundamental research), topic (e.g. bioenergy), focus (e.g. sustainability) or technology (e.g. biotechnology) is possible, as has been the case with the new Cofund on biotechnologies.
 - The debate resulted in other possibilities of cooperation, such as that of research projects funded through different ERA-NET calls working together, this providing a bigger picture of how results of different projects jointly contribute to solving the grand challenges and thus increasing the projects’ impact. Aligning procedures among ERA-NETs was also underlined as important.

Case study MBT ERA-NET: Future collaboration opportunities with Marine Biotech ERA-NET

Inge ARENTS (IWT, BE)

ERA-MBT took the outcomes of the FP7 PLATFORM, presented by Kees Kwans, as the basis for their work in the area of identifying collaboration opportunities.

Highlights:

- All Societal Challenge 2 projects have common goals which include building a scientific community, increasing RRI levels in enterprises, enabling and enhancing academia-industry collaboration, technology and knowledge transfer, tackling societal challenges, avoiding fragmentation and looking for synergies.

- The new landscape with ERA-NET Cofunds demands even more collaboration and alignment, taking into account also the importance of the increasingly promoted internationalisation.
- In order to identify concrete actions of collaboration ERA-MBT organized a workshop with related initiatives back to back to the 2015 PLATFORM Annual Event. The workshop being very concrete and not too complex, resulted in 4 selected themes with identified common activities in the short and mid-term:
 1. Capacity building, technology and knowledge transfer with the main objective of bringing academics and industry together (actions: setting up a task force in cooperation with the Biotechnology Cofund currently in preparation; identifying gaps in training).
 2. Consultation of stakeholders: listening to the market – how? (actions: organizing a common stakeholder event in April 2016; checking individual roadmaps with critical stakeholder overview)
 3. Scientific conferences and showcases (actions: final conference of ERA-MBT funded projects, projects in other ERA-NETs and national funded projects with a relevant topic by end of 2017 in collaboration with the Biotechnology Cofund in preparation)
 4. Harmonization: joint timelines of calls and events (actions: creating a tool bringing together all relevant information in the preparation phase of actions with the involvement of all relevant ERA-NET persons; a session on harmonization at next PLATFORM event).

Interactive session on alignment, cooperation and interaction among networks: Building Scenarios How to Develop New Cofunds

Casper Zulim de Swarte, the moderator of the interactive session, set the scene for the session, in which 3 different scenarios for developing new Cofunds, were build. In the next 2 years 12-18 ERA-NET opportunities (including Cofunds, JPIs and FPAs) in Societal Challenge 2, Societal Challenge 5 and in the Key emerging technologies pillar will exist. Coming from an FP7 mind-set, major differences between the old and the new instruments exist: the projects are better streamlined, there is less overlap, they are better regulated and bigger. When it comes to collaborations three options of network creation exist - either an entirely new network develops, it evolves from an old ERA-NET into a Cofund, with the need to be broader in scope and bigger in size, or a small group of interested partners connects to other already existing opportunities.

Through the interactive session the main questions regarding the development of ERA-NET Cofunds were identified and were tackled through an optimistic, pessimistic and out of the box viewpoint in order to come up with a list of actions to reach suitable solutions. The actions include:

- funding coordination (of the FPA, single ERA-NET and the call office) through the Cofund black box money, possibly merging funds and sharing common infrastructures with other initiatives;

- harmonization allowing for the same system for each FPA/Cofund and availability of common information among different Program Committees;
- defining topics through the definition of common goals in three steps: a maximum list of topics defined based on stakeholder consultations, first shortlisted by national funding priorities and secondly by the EC, which proposes the final list;
- mobilization of partners better equipped to perform certain tasks;
- combined WP on communication for all ERA-NETs under the FPA to increase impact;
- opening the FPAs to other funders such as foundations, NGOs and business angels and allowing industry participation through in-kind contributions;
- ultimately making the FPA not only a contract but rather a leverage for implementation

Block 2 – Outreach to other geographical regions

In FP7 PLATFORM prepared a document, which examined global partnerships in ERA-NETs and presented its findings on international cooperation of bioeconomy ERANETs and JPIs in its deliverable “Recommendations on interactions and cooperation between ERA-NETs and institutionally driven (global) research alliances”.

International cooperation in ERA-NET joint calls: Introduction/Overview

Philipp VON BOTHMER (FNR, Germany)

Philipp Von Bothmer introduced the work of PLATFORM in the field, identifying the drivers and barriers of cooperation with non-EU countries and presenting the recommendations to achieve more cooperation.

Highlights:

- There are ERA-NETs whose main focus is on international cooperation (e.g. ERAfrica, ERANet-LAC, INNO INDIGO), ERA-NETs with a focus on a specific topic that are motivated to search for partners outside Europe (e.g. ERASynBio, ERA-CAPS, ERA-ARD) and ERA-NETs with a specific focus in a specific geographical area (e.g. ARIMNet, FORESTERRA).
- The Netwatch Impact Assessment 2014 includes global cooperation of research, with 52% of participants claiming such cooperation is a high priority and 28% claiming it is of medium priority of the ERA-NET they participate in.
- The question of how active the cooperation of third countries is (when it is achieved) remains open.
- An EU-India cooperation project, i.e. Sahyog published a strategic research agenda with a clear recommendation that global cooperation is crucial to joint efforts and achieve global impact. There are many examples of ERA-NETs that cooperate with third countries demonstrating success in joint transnational call participation and beyond, some of which the participants of the Annual event learned got acquainted with.

ERAfrica: Success – Experiences – Lessons Learned

Jean ALBERGEL (IRD, FR)

The first phase of ERAfrica, whose main aim was to consolidate EU’s collaboration in RDI with Africa and to further develop African RDI capacity and potential, lasted from December 2010 to November 2014. In this time a joint EU-Africa RDI funding scheme was created with a call for proposals resulting in joint funding of research projects.

Highlights:

- ERAfrica's activities were guided by the principle of equal rights and equal responsibilities of all partners, allowing for joint creation, management, funding and ownership of results. The equality of partners was of extreme importance and set the program apart from other projects designated to "help" Africa.
- The preparation of the call was a lengthy process of 2 years, but it ensured the interest of all partners was taken into account. The collaborative approach was successful, pooling more than 10 million EUR for 3 funding themes (renewable energy, interfacing challenges and new ideas), ultimately funding 17 projects out of 124 proposals received in the total amount of over 8 million EUR with funds for institutional capacity building and bringing research to market also available.
- An example of a successful project in the resource efficiency theme was presented. ConneSSA is coordinated by Kenya with partners from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Burkina Faso and Cote d'Ivoire, with a total value of 1 million EUR.
- Project participants come together in status seminars, which also present a good networking opportunity. Other such opportunities exist, such as an organised workshop for coordinators of the funded projects on creating networking opportunities and providing for the participation of 5-7 principle investigators in the UNESCO international scientific conference "our Common Future Under Climate Change", taking place in July 2015 in Paris.
- Lessons learned and insight gained by ERAfrica include importance of different points of view being considered, equality of partnership, importance of following timeframes, securing institutional funding commitments, keeping funding mechanisms simple to allow maximum flexibility, harmonising deadlines for funding.

ARD and ARCH - Success – Experiences – Lessons Learned

Patricia WAGENMAKERS (EZ, NL)

In the presentation *Building linkages between Agricultural research and Agricultural Research for Development (ARD) for great impact on global challenges* the work, results and outputs of ARCH - the joint EIARD - SCAR strategic Working group exploring synergies between agricultural research and research for development, were presented.

Highlights:

- This timely debate includes many stakeholders (different DGs, SCAR, Members States, the UN and several initiatives). There is good cooperation among DGs with increasing alignment of policies evident and an increasing focus on international cooperation in solving societal challenges, while in Member States, coordination mechanisms continue to be very diverse. With a large number of different global and regional initiatives in existence, there are many opportunities not only for collaboration but also in avoiding duplication.

- Innovation flourishes when you combine different worlds, providing for mutual learning opportunities to widen the scope of solutions for similar problems relevant to both European and African farmers (maybe just on different scale) as well as for problems, which might not yet be obvious for Europe, but with climate change are knocking on our doors. An inspiring example of common work is the global yield gap analysis using a protocol developed for Africa and Asia, which can be used in temperate regions as well.
- Scientific diplomacy is a way to solving many pressing issues and many challenges that need global action. Research has a special and important role in this process, with researchers being “game changers” and science an important driver of growth, also through capacity building and other activities essential to make use of the results research produces.
- Many opportunities for linking EU research with ARD exist. Aligning research programs starting at national level (leading to common policies), working in open ways sharing experience, standardising references and methodologies, acknowledging the importance of learning and innovation hubs, improving opportunities for the inclusion of the private sector (including farmers) along the value chain and assuring the integration of European and global programs follows the motto “*If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far go together.*”

IntenseAfrica – aim and plans of the initiative

Huub LÖFFLER (WUR, NL)

IntenseAfrica has the mandate to explore possibilities to develop large-scale scientific collaboration between EU and Africa in the field of Sustainable Intensification of Food Systems (*more yield, more income, more nutrition*). The idea proposed by the EC and inspired by the EU-SSA cooperation on infectious diseases, has the objective to align on-going research, increase synergies among current projects and to stimulate new research by filling the gaps, thus increasing the total volume of research performed.

Highlights:

- IntenseAfrica started in 2013 with an **exploratory phase** without funding to find out if enough commitment in time, effort and money exists.
- Proving interest, momentum and commitment to improve food security through sustainable intensification of agri-food systems does exist, IntenseAfrica entered into the **development phase** in 2015 and is funded until 2017 through H2020 as PROIntenseAfrica, with the objective to develop a vision and action plan for long term research and innovation partnership between Africa and Europe. PROIntenseAfrica is not a program for Africa but with Africa based on real collaboration. Not functioning as a development program, identifying value for both continents is thus crucial.
- IntenseAfrica will enter **the implementation phase** with a H2020 ERA-NET Cofund action under the topic *SFS 41 2016 EU-Africa Research and Innovation partnership on food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture*.

- By acknowledging the importance to learn from what has already been done, the Cofund will also be a possible follow-up for ERAfrica, capitalizing on the results of ERA-ARD, pursuing ARCH objectives and supporting the High Level Policy Dialogue on Food Security.
- In the spirit of collaboration financial commitment is needed by countries from both continents. Having the topic already in the H2020 2016/17 Work Programme for 2016 presents a special challenge in motivating ministries and research councils, especially those from Africa, to join on rather short notice. ARCH is providing support to address the challenge by offering its services to help form the consortium and organize an inception workshop. The possibility to participate in ERAfrica's second call in order to help build and develop the network is also being explored, as is the possibility to allocate most of the top up to the African countries to motivate them to join.
- The Cofund will be a good indicator of the possibility to mobilise a critical mass, serving as an instrument to create trust and confidence among all participants and to explore opportunities for further collaboration.

ARIMNet - Success – Experiences – Lessons Learned

Marie OLLAGNON (INRA, FR)

There are both ERA-NETs and JPIs focussing on agriculture and an ERA-NET focusing on the Mediterranean. ARIMNet is unique as it has both a thematic and geographic scope. It provides the Mediterranean view on agriculture, with food and agriculture being major stakes for the economies of the Mediterranean specifically impacted by global change. With the prospective of an Article 185 initiative (i.e. PRIMA), ARIMNet will bring not only its vision on agriculture but also experience of cooperation among the Mediterranean partners.

Highlights:

- ARIMNet's roots reach to the EC and CIHEAM conference "Towards a Euro-Mediterranean Agriculture Research Area taking place in Rabat, Morocco in 2006, at which the countries requested to be more involved in the design of topics for Mediterranean research. The EC launched the call on Coordination of Agricultural Research in the Mediterranean in 2007, with the first phase of ARIMNet lasting from 2008-2013, with a second phase starting in 2014 until the end of 2017.
- If the problems are global, agricultural research systems to address the problems are local, thus ARIMNet's main objective is to coordinate national research systems and develop synergies among them.
- With a focus on innovation and socio-economic impact, ARIMNet's activities aim to address 3 main beneficiaries: consortium members, the research community and final beneficiaries (farmers, consumers, ...). Impact on the third group is yet to be achieved.

- Experience from the first call:
 - ability of the diverse consortium to gather funds and implement common procedures was a great achievement;
 - Italian/ French researchers were in the majority of projects but all participating countries were represented;
 - There was unequal distribution of submitted proposals among 3 defined topics;
 - In-kind participation was introduced in the second call to facilitate participation of some partners that encountered certain problems with funding in the first call.

- Successes and lessons learned:
 - Participation in ARIMNet was a first experience of cofounding transnational projects and of EU project management for some partners, providing opportunities for increasing competences of managerial staff through sharing good practices;
 - Possibility of impacting national programs through the development of common approaches and standards is quite substantial;
 - Insight into the difficulties of national regulations alignment in common ERA-NET procedures (e.g. lengthy national procedures, delays in the transfer of funds between funding agencies and researchers), other constraints to cooperation (e.g. visa requirements) was gained;
 - Mutual knowledge and trust among partners is crucial;
 - New collaborations are being developed not only on the North-South axis but also on the South-South axis and among national institutions that before did not collaborate.
 - That political uncertainties have not influenced the operation of the consortium and that there are no challenges would be overoptimistic, however they mostly relate to issues like changes of contact persons, budgeting and not so much political unrest. There is a way to overcome political issues (even those between Israel and the Arab countries, with researchers collaborating), but only if you work on a personal level.

INNO INDIGO - Success – Experiences – Lessons Learned

Hans WESTPHAL (DLR, DE)

INNO INDIGO is an INCO ERA-NET, which is horizontal with a geographic scope and a focus on innovation, coordinated by DLR-PT from Germany and co-coordinated by CSIR from India.

Highlights:

- INNO INDIGO is an important initiative, as there continues to be a lack of instruments to implement Indo-European cooperation, with further difficulties to include India in existing possibilities of funding in H2020 (in contrast to FP7 with India ranking fourth among emerging countries).
- INNO INDIGO with a strong focus on the innovation dimension aims at the involvement of SMEs, industries and clusters, and inclusion of social inclusive and frugal innovation. This provides

possibilities to actually learn from India on topics very relevant to them but becoming increasingly important to us as well (e.g. frugal innovation).

- INNO INDIGO's Platform for funders (PFF) discusses the wider context of cooperation, enhancing relevance and visibility of opportunities for Indo-European scientific collaboration.
- INNOINDIGO launches calls annually, this ensuring long-term sustainability of cooperation in transnational funding programs without EC funding.
- The INDIGO Partnership Program started with small funding in its pilot phase funding mobility and networking possibilities through two calls (Biotechnology and health in 2010 and Water related research in 2011). Its second phase, upgraded in terms of funds and focus of funding on research and innovation, was launched in 2012 and included 2 calls (Biotechnology applied to human health in 2012 and Energy research in 2013). The next call will focus on bioeconomy (biobased energy, waste management, reducing the burden of manmade environmental pollution, post-harvest management, storage of food).
- A continuation of the INCONET as a sustainable program without the EC contribution is envisioned as a European Interest Group on India.
- Lessons learned:
 - Relationship between money spent and output is good as are the monitoring practices.
 - INNO INDIGO adds value to bilateral programs, offering researchers a wider pool of expertise to form stronger consortiums, successfully integrating also those countries that before did not have bilateral programs with India.
 - The instrument is reliable, flexible and jointly owned, with the Platform for funders an important element
 - Joint ownership is important; potential partners should be contacted as soon as possible. Indian partners are reliable, committed and have available funds.
 - The scientific community is very big but there is a differentiation between "premium and non-premium institutions".
 - When searching for partners in international cooperation INCO projects have great networks and know potential partners, thus are a good source of information.

ERASynBio - Success – Experiences – Lessons Learned

Annette KREMSEK (Juelich, DE)

Annette Kremser presented the success story of involving USA in ERASynBio.

Highlights:

- The US, being the primary funder of synthetic biology (with a double amount of all EU countries budget in synthetic biology) and the country of origin of synthetic biology, was the logical target of ERASynBio when looking for opportunities in international collaboration.
- Even if the US continues to be at the frontline of synthetic biology research, complementarities in expertise are evident, with an engineer focus in the US and a chemistry/biology focus in the EU.

- The US became an active partner in two calls, with nearly all projects funded having a US partner.
- Based on call participation, a trustful, reliable and lasting partnership with the US was build, the US understanding their role as an equal partner taking over many tasks in the ERA-NET and expressing interest in participating in the new Biotechnology Cofund.
- Lessons learned:
 - Establishing contact: the first direct contact was not successful, thus an intermediary (Amanda Collins at UK embassy) was used, resulting in a US mission of 10 days with NSF colleagues visiting the most important labs and finishing with a Workshop involving all US funding organizations to compare their funding mechanisms.
 - Maintaining contact is crucial for mutual understanding of issues, including procedures, agendas, constraints, for the identification of common interests and for a transparent and intensive information flow. Only with communication can trust be built.
 - It is better to establish a network with many countries at once rather than on a bilateral basis, with the possibility of keeping national rules a must.

ERANet-LAC - Success – Experiences – Lessons Learned

Marianne VASKE (DLR, DE)

The general objective of ERANet-LAC is strengthening the bi-regional partnership in science research and innovation by supporting the implementation of the Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation –JIRI.

Highlights:

- ERANet-LAC launched two joint calls, pooling the topics from the EU-CELAC Seniors Official Meeting's (SOM) endorsed list of 50 topics in the areas of energy, bioeconomy, biodiversity/change, health and ICT. In the first call focusing on six of the EU-CELAC SOM endorsed topics, 20 partners from 17 EU-CELAC countries participated. The second call to be launched in December 2015, will bring on board most of the funding organizations from the first call and new ones as well, again pooling topics from the endorsed EU-CELAC list.
- The innovation factor is gaining importance with an innovation line introduced in the second call, and an Innovation forum planned for 2016.
- In addition to joint calls, ERANet-LAC also performs joint activities, such as Pilot Coordination Actions, with a call for expression of interest launched in 2014. The objective of such actions is to prepare ground for further transnational research and innovation programs also through support of defining common objectives to coordinate strategic research and innovation agendas. Funds were provided for working meetings of existing programs/infrastructures with the expected result of signing cooperation agreements among the participants. Six projects were funded through the pilot actions: 2 in capacity building, 2 in infrastructures and 2 in innovation, with the minimum eligibility criteria being 2 CELAC and 2 EU partners from 4 different countries.

- Experiences:
 - Alignment was achieved already in the stating phase of the project through addressing issues raised in an analysis of expectations / experiences of partners.
 - In integrating new funding organizations with less international experience, personal meetings were important.
 - Providing consultations for funding organisations allowed for the incorporation of additional partners into the second call and enhanced the involvement of partners in joint activities of the project.

- Lessons learned and suggestions:
 - Lack of dissemination of the call announcement on national level in smaller countries with less international experience, hampered reaching all relevant national stakeholders. It is thus of extreme importance that partners are made attentive to the importance of wide dissemination in their country.
 - Lack of awareness of national regulations, resulted in many not-eligible proposals. National regulations should thus be clear and precise. In order to avoid an excessive number of formally incorrect proposals, a correction phase should allow researchers to address formal failures.
 - Budget commitments were many times disproportionate to the number of proposals. Imbalanced budgets could be addressed by fixing a minimum funding amount per proposal in the national annexes, fixing a minimum number of proposals that must be funded in the call, setting up a common fund to fill the funding gaps.
 - When it comes to the relationship between bilateral and European cooperation in terms of setting priorities and allocating budget, transnational and bilateral cooperation are very distinct. However, possibilities of transnational cooperation supporting bilateral cooperation exist, providing opportunities for further opening of structures on bilateral level.

ERA-CAPS - Success – Experiences – Lessons Learned

Paul WILEY (BBSRC, UK)

The ERA-NET for Coordinating Action in Plant Sciences included 19 partners and 7 observers, 5 of which were international. The international partners included Canada and New Zealand as full partners with a small budget for traveling and India, Japan and the US as observers. New Zealand and the US actively participated in all aspects of the program including joint calls, while India and Japan were passive, as was Canada, even though it was a full ERA-CAPS partner.

Highlights:

- Why the US joined: they were interested in coordinating research funding for large projects based on a single common review process and low bureaucracy call management, regardless of location, only based on best expertise. Additional activities of ERA-CAPS, e.g. data sharing, and

strengthening international connections as a much easier way of forming connections than bilateral cooperation were an additional motivation.

- Why New Zealand joined: they were interested in setting common goals for international collaboration and developing strategic relations, reducing duplication and leveraging funding and increasing the accessibility of a rather small research community to a big network, thus providing access to capability. Furthermore, they viewed a single review process more efficient than aligning processes and used the ERA-CAPS as a point of reference for national funding.
- In terms of call management New Zealand like the EU partners, allocated its budget to the virtual common pot and followed the set review process. The US having to deal with a lengthy bureaucratic process (including a parallel national call with a separate review process) in the first call, managed an integrated process in the second call. The process was made possible through the signing of an MoU between NSF and BBSRC with a duration of 5 years allowing further calls.
- The US was successful in both calls, with NSF funding US researchers in two projects in the first and six in the second call, continuing as a full and highly enthusiastic partner in the ERA-CAPS self-sustained phase. New Zealand did not fund any projects and thus continues in the self-sustained phase as an observer, working on strengthening the national community before joining another joint call.
 - The discussion touched the problem inherent to multilateral calls, in particular regarding many countries and scarce funds. There is a high risk of a situation in which some countries participating in a call cannot spend their allocated funds due to the final ranking of their projects. If participation in further calls is not secured as a result, the national community loses interest and does not develop further. A conclusion was that there is a need for patience as with the amount of calls the success rates increase.
- Lessons learned:
 - Working with international partners can be, but is not always, straightforward, however it always brings a global perspective and facilitates best science.
 - Communication / building personal relationships and flexibility are key to success
 - Signing the MoU between BBSRC and NSF was a pilot action in a specific topic, which successfully simplified procedures.

Group work on outreach to other geographical regions

The participants formed three groups, one on Africa, one on Asia and one on global (New Zealand, the US, etc.) tackling two sets of questions, one relating to general issues regarding global cooperation and suggestions for enabling such cooperation and the other relating to good practices and possible challenges in achieving successful global cooperation.

Conclusions of the group work

1. Africa

General suggestions:

- *Should there be more global cooperation?* Generally speaking, the answer is yes, but more coordination is usually needed. Furthermore cooperation depends on the topic, regional geography, and present level of alignment. There should be a balance between science, innovation and capacity development, with collaboration being multi-faceted and should have mutual benefits.
- *What is a good balance between EU and non-EU ERA-NET partners?* The balance should derive from a balanced commitment, which is content and not economic specific, and should be based on enthusiasm. There are differences between emerging and industrial countries, but these can be overcome by ensuring passion and flexibility in the approaches.
- *Suggestions:*
 - to ERA-NETs: opening ERA-NETs for alternative funding, learning from experienced globally active ERA-NETs and understanding the difference between global and regional initiatives, importance of assessing the potential for sustainability and reserving funds for investigating the potential of going outside Europe based on a global mapping of activities (but not before “European” activities inside the network are in order).
 - to third countries: need for capacity development to understand EU and its mechanisms.
 - to the EU: need of investment in coordination, as ERA-NETs are increasing in size, becoming more and more costly.

Good practices and challenges:

- *Benefits of cooperation include* enhancing economic cooperation, mutual contribution to food security, possibility of combining EU expertise, opening new markets, capacity building, enhancing mobility opportunities, improving diplomacy between African and European countries, mutual learning about research management, anticipating climate change effects in Europe when it faces similar problems, combining needs with expertise, mobilising southern resources, unlocking Africa’s potential.
- *Good practices and success stories include* understanding the previously underestimated potential, with a high level of students and researchers, wealth of indigenous knowledge and creativity (with limited existing means), creating a strong link between research and development, using science as a vehicle for dialogue with African countries, even when political stability is questioned.
- *Hurdles include* language issues, difficulties in finding partners (key persons to guide the process need to be identified and good knowledge of networks and governance bodies is needed, with a different approach for each sub region), poorly defined priorities, huge lack of data and hindered access to scientific information.

2. Asia

General suggestions:

- *Should there be more global cooperation?* Definitely yes, due to a specific climate, emerging markets, high quality research, collaborations in basic science, the fact that Asia represents half of the world population. However, risks relating to IPR issues and associated issues of investing into others research are high and much work is needed in the area. Additionally, it is very important to foster science diplomacy.
- *What is a good balance between EU and non-EU ERA-NET partners?* Based on the experience around the table two thirds of partners should come from the EU, others from non-EU countries, as the approach should be EU driven. However, there might be differences when it comes to specific countries, e.g. China and India. When it comes to differences between emerging and industrial countries there is a lot of diversity in the region itself (with Japan, Korea on the industrial side, China and India having both extremes), thus a case by case methodology should be used.
- *Suggestions:*
 - to ERA-NETs: build on existent relations and contacts, make use of contacts available in Brussels (e.g. at DG RTD), at universities which normally have strong international cooperation links and in INCONETs, raise awareness and increase knowledge on ERA-NETs (it is questionable whether the countries we target know what ERA-NETs do), have a good website,
 - to third countries: make use of ERA-LEARN and examine ERA-NET webpages, to receive information on the ERA-NETs and contacts,
 - to the EU: funding has to be available (different options: EC, Members States or the idea of “Equal partnerships”).

Good practices and challenges:

- *Benefits of cooperation include* learning from Asian countries about how to respond to challenges, organize research and do frugal innovation, becoming involved with powerful players of the future, building good relationships and collaboration for common future activities, having access to excellent research institutions, markets and resources, commonly addressing global challenges to provide more and better solutions.
- *Good practices and success stories include* capacity building as part of the program with possible use of development funds and common use of facilities.
- *Hurdles include* language issues and cultural differences, lack of knowledge of administrative procedures and a mismatch between funds allocated and quality of results achieved. There is a need for coaching and training activities, such as small/low risk pilot initiatives to teach people how the system works, increases confidence and build a network (it is important that people know each other), keeping in mind that patience, open mindedness and flexibility are key to success.

3. Global

General suggestions:

- *Should there be more global cooperation?* It depends on a number of factors which include effort needed and readiness of partners involved, a clear added value of cooperation, mutual interest in the topics addressed and other identified common benefits.
- *What is a good balance between EU and non-EU ERA-NET partners?* When it comes to balance there is a need to distinguish between INCONETs, in which international cooperation is the aim of the action *per se*, and thematic ERA-NETs. In INCONETs the number should thus be more balanced, while in thematic ERA-NETs there should normally be fewer international partners, with their selection opportunity driven (based on contacts, good experience, etc.). Exceptions are ERA-NETs, which have both a geographical and thematic scope, such as ARIMNet and FORESTERRA.
- *Suggestions:*
 - to ERA-NETs: in order to build much needed trust share experience, be patient, flexible, clear and transparent and involve international partners from as early in the process as possible, adapting your approach to each specific country.
 - to third countries: get in touch with relevant initiatives and make yourself known
 - to the EU: use the existing instruments and continue to support them (e.g. INCONETs, JPIs as those addressing global issues), provide opportunities for sharing capacities (in terms of human resources and infrastructure)

Good practices and challenges:

- *Benefits of cooperation include* pulling expertise to which access is limited otherwise, getting the best experts on board to address global challenges on a global level, increasing visibility of EU funding programs, accessing additional funds (e.g. structural funds) and additional resources (biodiversity, soils).
- *Good practices and success stories includes* strong willingness for cooperation with successful examples in JPI HDHL and ARIMNet.
- *Hurdles include* mutual understanding of rules (setting clear and strong rules is crucial); not having the right people behind the table, i.e. too high or too low in terms of position; potential blocking of the ranking list as third countries are not entitled to the EC contribution (encouraging observer status for countries with limited funds as a solution); administrative delays in funding commitment and funding due to specific national conditions, e.g. budgetary years, national holidays, time differences; lack of political will in participation and commitment, competition between bilateral and transnational projects (mutual benefit and added value need to be clear); aligning project starting dates; cultural differences in understanding, communication (use of intermediaries should be encouraged, need of improving communication also internally and nationally); partner identification (creating networking platforms, involving EU research officers and national partner searches).

Block 3 – Communication and dissemination

PLATFORM Project Task Results: Cofund planning and management - presentation of results of Master Class

Ulla Sonne BERTELSEN (AU-ICROFS, DK)

PLATFORM Master Classes bring together hands on people to discuss practical results. The objective of the Master Class taking place in Brussels on June 25 and 26 was to share and gain knowledge on planning and managing ERA-NET Cofund actions and evaluate the use of the Cofund instrument in the bioeconomy area by sharing first experiences with implementation. The participants, chosen based on a survey on experience and procedures, included all ERA-NET Plus and Cofund managers in the bioeconomy area as well as some managers from Cofunds in related areas.

Highlights:

- Issues tackled included optimal use of funds, expert evaluation, additional activities, fund management, increasing innovation and SME involvement, multi-network calls and institutional funds in calls, with a look into public-public partnerships in the future.
- Recommendations were difficult to come up with, as limited practical experience in Cofunds exists, due to their short existence. However certain lessons learned can be summed up:
 - *Optimal use of funds:* keeping all partners on board is important, thus there needs to be a method to do that, e.g. by inviting undersubscribed countries into full proposals, addressing oversubscription by making cut-off rules, e.g. 3-x oversubscription as a cut-off point. Finding a way for all partners to get a share of the EC contribution is important, the barrel system when ranking proposals and encouraging funding bodies to be flexible at selection meetings, can help.
 - *Expert evaluation:* there should be high flexibility in forming and weighting the evaluation criteria, feedback after stage 1 and a rebuttal procedure ensuring a fairer process should be provided to applicants, experts should be trained to have a common starting point for evaluation.
 - *Additional activities:* Additional activities are an additional burden for the managers, but provide exciting opportunities for the ERA-NET. There is still a lack of experience as most activities have only been planned but have not yet been implemented. It is important that these activities are not related to the call (e.g. status seminars). Unit costs, representing 20% of the EU contribution, represent substantial funding and an agreement on their redistribution should be made, e.g. unit costs only as reimbursement of actual costs. Practices regarding additional activities in Cofunds collected by PLATFORM and described in the report of the Master Class on ERA-NET (Cofund) planning and management (25-26 June 2015) can be complemented by ERA-LEARN.
 - *Fund management:* It is up to each ERA-NET to find a working method for fund management. There are many different options, e.g. covering person months, travel

reimbursements as lump sums. The main issue remains whether to cover evaluation costs and the issue of some partners not being able to pre-finance EU funds for researchers.

- *How to increase innovation/SME involvement?* A lot can be done, e.g. giving equal weight to economic/social and scientific excellence, having experts from industry evaluating proposals, joining forces with SMEs directed networks.
- *Multi-network calls* can be implemented when common/overlapping research themes exist, but procedures have to be agreed upon in advance. Implementing multi-network calls provides for new networks and new knowledge, thus providing additional rewards to funding more themes in one call.
- *Institutional funds in calls.* A very inspirational case providing a very good learning experience is the JPI Climate ERA4CS but in Cofunds this is still only in the planning phase. In principle one call could fund two topics, one with cash and the other in-kind, with a firewall among the two.

Practical experience lacks most when it comes to additional activities and institutional calls. A second master class of PLATFORM on ERA-NET (Cofund), this time for call managers, is planned in 2017 and one of the objectives is to share information on this subject. The agenda, presentation, background documents and report of the June 2015 Master Class is available on the PLATFORM website. Furthermore, there is an intranet for all the Master Class participants to share guidance documents, consortium agreements and other information that can serve as example to others. New managers can contact PLATFORM for additional information.

Crash Course on Communication for Impact

Rhonda SMITH (CommBeBiz, Minerva Communications UK)

What is impact, how does the EC define and measure it when it comes to their own activities and what is expected of research projects and ERA-NETs in terms of impact in H2020? These questions were addressed by Rhonda Smith of Minerva Communications UK, which coordinates the H2020 project CommBeBiz whose aim is to provide a bridge from bioeconomy research to business, covering social innovation, policy and commercial ideas and focusing on people in terms of support and sharing information.

Highlights:

- Everybody can have an impact; if you think you are too small to have it try going to bed with a mosquito. However, communicating for impact is not an individual job. It is a common endeavour requiring inspiration, commitment and funds (it is however not as expensive as is believed, if you plan well in advance and stick to the plan).
- The focus in communicating for impact is on external communication, meaning we have to step out of the comfort zone of quite successful internal communication, and make hard choices, i.e. prioritise based on strategic thinking, plan and integrate communications from the start.
- What is impact? How do we define it in the context of research? “You know it when you see it”, with the time frame as follows: *immediate impacts* within the timeframe of the project;

- enabling impacts* through building blocks towards measurable impact (end of project + three years); *societal impacts*, when impact reaches the tipping point (end of project + ten years).
- Considering both actual and potential impacts is important as are the categories of impact, i.e. policy, scientific, technological, societal, economic and impact on the quality of life.
 - Common characteristics for successful delivery of impact, i.e. the 3Ps – *planning* (awareness of impact from the beginning as a prerequisite for its delivery), *people* (as the key foundation to the delivery of impacts), *partnerships* (effective co-working of multi-actors across multiple functions) are a focus of all ERA-NETs. However, when looking at communications and dissemination from FP7 to Horizon2020 a lack of understanding of the importance of communication, of knowledge and funds for effective communication is evident. Communication is a legal requirement in H2020 agreements (“a stick, rather than a carrot”) targeting the promotion of the action by providing targeted information to multiple audiences in a strategic and effective manner.
 - With 58% EU citizens not feeling well informed about the developments in science and technology, telling them how research is beneficial to everyone’s life is of extreme importance. The best way to do so is by “telling a story”, which should include characters, a setting and stage (who, why and how), the drama (how the work is carried out), a happy ending (what has you been achieved) and a potential sequel (what are the next steps). Stories for impact can be promoted via VIP methods: *visual* (images leave a lasting impact), *interactive* (when involved in a physical action, people remember things better) and *personal* (listeners relate to personal experience).
 - If scientists are good at dissemination (producing papers) they are not always the best communicators, among other reasons because communicating for impact is not embedded in the science curricula. Dissemination is only result focused, mainly at the end of the project with the main objective to raise the profile of the scientists and their institutions and gain more funding. As such, papers are mostly viewed as an ‘endpoint’ of communication activity for scientists, when their publication should in fact be used as a starting point for wider communication, providing opportunities to not only share ‘numbers’ (quantitative results) the outputs of the project, but also qualitative outcomes of the research (such as relevance). In order to achieve that, communication needs to happen from the very beginning of a project, with a focus not only on the research question but also by demonstrating how it may impact on wider society and its citizens. After all, communication is not project promotion but rather citizen engagement.
 - Often being afraid about talking to the media, scientists do not want to communicate. The ones who do wish to are often early stage researchers, but they may encounter the problem of resistance from their ‘hierarchy’.
 - Both early stage and senior scientists should plan communication, get the right support and practice communicating, keeping in mind all the requirements of communication for impact, i.e. choices, priority settings, clarity, creativity, measurement, reflection, on-going monitoring.

Group exercise on creation and utilisation of impact

Following a guided discussion, three groups presented their strategy to communicate for impact as designed in specific case studies by identifying the message, stakeholders, mediators and tools to transfer information and build a basic story. The groups received Rhonda's feedback, based on which conclusions were made. They include:

- Cascading is important – even if a limited number of people is targeted with communication, they will have been chosen to continue to spread the message, thus creating more impact, as does repeating the same message over and over again (using different methods).
- When a communication strategy is developed, a 360degree view is needed also in terms of different perceptions and views.
- In addition to the three Ps (planning, people, partnership), the fourth P, i.e. practice, is also important.
- Linguistic aspects should be taken into account in all communication (technical language issues, presentation, own interpersonal language, issue of misinterpretation).
- Communication via the media is risky (it includes e.g. scientific, reputational risk), thus researchers need training to understand the media, improve presentation techniques, know their audience. The same holds for policy officers doing programme management including those in ERA-NETs and JPIs.
- Resources are crucial, not only in the strictly financial sense, but also in terms of institutional mind-set, time allocated to communication, with the provision of appropriate help and support.

Outlook to next events and related ongoing work: looking forward

Spotlights on ERA-NETs – collection and assessments of networks, calls, and research projects information for the big picture of results and impact

Christine BUNTHOF (WUR, NL)

PLATFORM looks at ERA-NETs with a specific focus on the networks, the calls, the projects, but what does it look at and what does it communicate? What are our stories?

Highlights:

- Communication activities are challenging and diverse, and the question of project impact remains. How do the projects contribute to the bioeconomy? How do we communicate that collaboration between countries makes research go further? One way is to show quantitative analyses in terms of e.g. number of funded projects, or we can tell a story about the results and thus communicate for impact. A good example following the communication guidance of the previous session to make stories visual, interactive and personal, is a story about an unexpected encounter with the designer of BB-Bricks told with the help of photos as visual prompts. BB Bricks are building blocks similar to Lego but bigger and made from recycled or renewable material used for do-it-yourself home- and office furniture building. The story told had multiple layers ranging from bioeconomy, entrepreneurship, technical, industrial and social dimensions, communication, looks into a future society and has an impact on daily life.
- PLATFORM already provides integrated information resources for further (sector, country involvement) analysis and shares information, also through publications, such as the book on “Bioeconomy ERA-NET actions”. Such work is of course always work in progress. Thus, PLATFORM continues performing data collection and analysis in collaboration with ERA-LEARN 2020 and the EC with the aim to create a comprehensive database, and support the work of other WPs in PLATFORM and the work of other ERA-NETs, e.g. in mapping activities for strategic research agenda preparations. In doing so PLATFORM does not only give information but has stepped up to demonstrate impact.
- ERA-NET coordinators will be contacted by the PLATFORM office in the coming months with a request to check and complete data. First step concerns the data about calls as this is also required for the annual update report on ERA-NETs and calls that will be presented at the annual Joint Programming conference.

Master Class on Inclusiveness

Martin GREIMEL (BMLFUW, AT)

Martin Greimel and Kim Turk presented the work done so far in the field of fostering inclusiveness of the so-called low performing countries (LPCs) as well as the next steps.

Highlights:

- The preliminary results of the survey on inclusiveness, whose objective was to measure the performance of LPCs, were presented. The results of this survey which will be comprehensively analysed by the end of the year will be the basis for the PLATFORM Inclusiveness Master Class taking place in Vienna on 10-11 May 2016.
- The Master Class will bring together 20 to 25 decision makers in funding institutions from LPCs, with the aim to provide program funders/managers from LPCs training and guidance on how to get actively involved in bioeconomy related collaboration actions. The Master Class will be organised in collaboration with ERA-LEARN 2020 and COST.
- Synergies in work on inclusiveness were found with JPI Climate and it was agreed that Kim and Martin would try to join the two planned workshops for potential new partners organized by JPI Climate in October and November.

Annual Event 2016

Kim TURK (MIZS, SI)

Kim Turk provided a sneak peek into the 2016 PLATFORM Annual Event, which will take place in October 2016 in Slovenia. The focus of the event will be on inclusiveness and harmonization of ERA-NET activities as was proposed in the ERA-MBT Workshop of finding synergies with other ERA-NETs. In line with communicating for impact an idea to tell stories instead of give PowerPoint presentations in annual events was proposed and it was agreed that the idea will be further explored.

Closing of the 2015 Annual Event

Two members of the PLATFORM Expert Advisory Board, Heather McKhann of JPI FACCE and Carlos Segovia Perez of JPI to COWORK, were present in the 2015 Annual Event and provided final reflections, recommendations and comments regarding the event and PLATFORMs activities.

Heather praised the organisation, focus on specific areas, having enough time to network, and the positive family spirit of the network as welcomed and needed, but recommended also to invite ERA-NETs from other non-bioeconomy areas to the events. She provided two ideas for PLATFORMs future work, methods to evaluate the impact of an ERA-NET and exploring what new instruments, such as the EJPs and FPAs mean for the future.

Carlos agreed with Heather and suggested responsible research and innovation as an additional theme to explore. Furthermore, he argued for a more systematic approach to the annual events, as they are a wonderful opportunity to learn. All participants should make pre-preparation for such a meeting, so that experiences based on a pre-set of criteria can be shared and followed up.

Birger Kerckow and Ino Ostendorf, closed the event thanking all the participants for their active contribution in the event.





Annex 1 - Participants

Name	Organisation	(Primary) Network
ALBERGEL, Jean	IRD	ERAfrica
ANDREASEN, Claus Bo	DCA	C-IPM
ARENTS, Inge	IWT	MBT
BASSLER, Arnd	BLE	SusAn
BENDER, Johannes	BLE	FACCE
BERTELSEN, Ulla Sonne	ICROFS	PLATFORM/CORE Organic
BRIJDER, Matté	RVO	PLATFORM/Bioenergy
BUNTHOF, Christine	WUR	PLATFORM/FACCE Secretariat
GREIMEL, Martin	BMLFUW	PLATFORM/SumForest
IRIMIE, Doru-Leonard	EC	European Commission
JÄGER, Dietmar	BFW	SumForest
KARRASCH, Marion	JUELICH	ERA-SynBio
KERCKOW, Birger	FNR	PLATFORM
KNIPSCHILD, Henning	BLE	Food Security Programme BMEL
KONICKOVA, Nada	NCP Poland	BioHorizon (NCP network)
KREMSER, Annette	JUELICH	PLATFORM/ERASynBio
KWANT, Kees	RVO	PLATFORM/Bioenergy
LAMPEL, Stefan	JUELICH	PLATFORM
LEMKE, Carina	FNR	PLATFORM
LÖFFLER, Huub	WUR	IntenseAfrica/FACCE GB
MANDERSCHIED, Petra	JPI Climate Central Secretariat	JPI Climate Secretariat
MARZETTI, Annamaria	Mipaaf	PLATFORM
McKANN, Heather	DARESE	FACCE Secretariat
MESSEAN, Antoine	INRA	C-IPM
MOGENSEN, Per	INNOFOND	COFASP
NAGY, Zsuzsa	JUELICH	ERASysAPP
OLLAGNON, Marie	INRA	Arimnet2
OSTENDORF, Ino	MINEZ	PLATFORM
PERCY-SMITH, Alex	APS Consulting Services	ARCH
PETITHUGUENIN, Philippe	CIRAD	ARCH
REDD, Tom	JPI Oceans	JPI Oceans
RODEGHIERO, Alfio	MICINN	FORESTERRA
SAGGAU, Elke	BLE	SCAR Foresight Group
SCHULTE, Petra	JUELICH	ERASys APP
SCHULZ, Nikola	JUELICH	SUSFOOD
SEGOVIA PERÉZ, Carlos	ISC III	JPI to COWORK
SMITH, Rhonda	MINERVA	CommBeBiz
SÜPTITZ, Gabriele	SMWA	ERA-IB
SVENSSON, Jan	Formas	SCAR SWG Forest
TINOIS, Nicolas	JUELICH	FACCE SURPLUS/FACCE Secretariat
TURK, Kim	MIZS	PLATFORM/WW-NET+
VASKE, Marianne	DLR	ERANet LAC
VON BOTHMER, Philipp	FNR	PLATFORM
WAGENMAKERS, Patricia	MINEZ	ARCH
WESTPHAL, Hans	DLR	Inno Indigo
WILEY, Paul	BBSRC	ERA-CAPS
ZULIM DE ZWARTE, Casper	MINEZ	PLATFORM



PLATFORM

PLATFORM Annual Event 2015

'ERA-NETs for Impact and Global Cooperation'

10-11 September 2015

WHITE Spreelounge, Edisonstr. 63, 12459 Berlin, GERMANY

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 10 September 2015, 08:30 – 17:30

08:30  *Registration / Coffee*

09:00 Opening, Welcome and Introductions

09:00 Opening by the chair persons Birger Kerckow (FNR, DE) & Ino Ostendorf (Ministry of Economic Affairs, NL)

09:05 Welcome Speech (*Eckhard Heuer, BMEL*)

09:10 Introduction to the Horizon 2020 PLATFORM project (*Christine Bunthof, WUR*)

09:20 Introduction to the Annual Event 2015 (*Philipp von Bothmer, FNR*)

09:30 Current developments regarding Bioeconomy ERA-NET actions in Horizon 2020 (*Doru-Leonard IRIMIE - EC, DG Research & Innovation, F3*)

BLOCK 1 – Impact and alignment

Background papers provided to participants:

Report of Platform World Café Workshop 'Think Back, Act Forward' 2015

Report on Collaboration among public-public research coordination networks in the bioeconomy from FP7 Platform

09:50 PLATFORM Project Task Results: Collaboration between Member States - presentation of results of the PLATFORM World Café Workshop 'Think Back, Act Forward' (held 27 March 2015, Schiphol, The Netherlands) (*Annette KREMSER, JUELICH*)

10:00 Interactive session on alignment, cooperation and interaction among networks (*moderation: Casper ZULIM DE SWARTE*)

10:00 Objectives of PLATFORM concerning cooperation among networks (*Kees KWANT – MinEA*)

10:15 Case study MBT ERA-NET (*Inge ARENTS, IWT*)

10:30 Guided brainstorm (1)

10:45  *Coffee break (15 min)*

11:00 Guided brainstorm (2)



11:30 Conclusions & Recommendations



BLOCK 2 – Outreach to other geographical regions

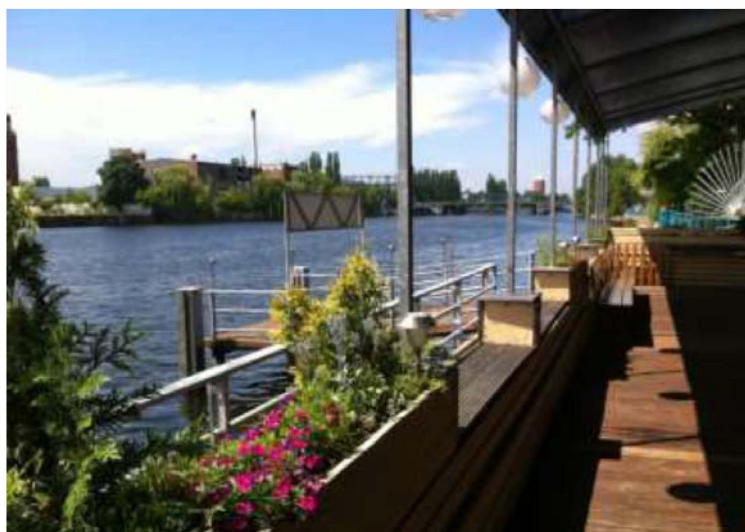
Background paper provided to participants:

Global partnerships in ERA-NETs - International Cooperation of bioeconomy ERA-NETs and JPIs from FP7 Platform

- 12:00 International cooperation in ERA-NET joint calls: Introduction/Overview
(*Philipp VON BOTHMER, FNR*)
- 12:10 ERAfrica - success, experiences, lessons learned (*Jean ALBERGEL - IRD*)
- 12:30 ARD and ARCH - success, experiences, lessons learned (*Patricia WAGENMAKERS - MinEA*)
- 12:50  *Lunch break (1h)*
- 13:50 ProIntenseAfrica – aim and plans of the initiative (*Huub LÖFFLER - WUR*)
- 14:10 ARIMNet - success, experiences, lessons learned (*Marie OLLAGNON - INRA*)
- 14:30 INNO INDIGO - success, experiences, lessons learned (*Hans WESTPHAL - DLR*)
- 14:50 ERASynBio - success, experiences, lessons learned (*Annette KREMSER - JUELICH*)
- 15:10 ERANet LAC - success, experiences, lessons learned (*Marianne VASKE - DLR*)
- 15:30 ERA-CAPS - success, experiences, lessons learned (*Paul WILEY - BBSRC*)
- 15:50  *Coffee break (20 min)*
- 16:10 Group work on outreach to other geographical regions
- 17:00 Results of group work
- 17:30 *End of Day 1*

Thursday evening

BBQ and drinks at the river Terrace of WHITE Spreelounge





Friday, 11 September 2015, 9:00 - 14:00

BLOCK 3 – Communication and dissemination

09:00 PLATFORM Project Task Results: Cofund planning and management - presentation of results of Master Class (held 25-26 June 2015 in Brussels) with focus on lessons learned from first Cofunds (*Ulla Sonne BERTELSEN, AU-ICROFS*)

09:30 Crash Course on Communication for Impact

09:30 Introduction (*Rhonda SMITH, CommBeBiz*)
Delivering Impact from Communication Activity – how to define and recognise it

10:00  *Small break to take a coffee and gather into the groups & receive initial briefing from moderator (10 min)*

10:10 In groups, delegates will consider a range of scenarios and discuss how to plan for the creation and utilisation of impact for the benefit of their projects and common cause

11:00  *Coffee break (20min)*

11:20 Group feedback & plenary discussion – two rapporteurs from each group to present (5 minutes each max)

11:55 Impact insights – summary points (Rhonda SMITH)

12:00 Outlook to next events and related ongoing work

12:00 Spotlights on ERA-NETs – collection and assessments of networks, calls, and research projects information for the big picture of results and impact (*Christine BUNTHOF, WUR*)

12:15 Master Class on Inclusiveness (*Martin GREIMEL, BMLFUW*) & Annual Event 2016 (*Kim TURK, MIZS*)

12:30 Recommendations and comments from the PLATFORM Expert Advisory Group members

12:45 Event wrap-up & Conclusions

13:00  *Sandwiches*