Platform of bioeconomy ERA-NET Actions

THE ERA-NET EXPERIENCE: Slovenia

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Research Landscape

• 4 Universities
• 15 National Research Institutes
• 12,111 researchers (5,619 in private sector)
• 1,015 research organizations (including R&D units in business companies)
International cooperation

- Art.185
- CIP (Poly4EmI)
- COSME
- COST
- ETPs
- EUREKA
- JPIs
- JTIs (IMI2, BBI)
- Research infrastructures (ESFRI)
- HORIZON 2020 (ERA-NET Co-fund)

FP7
- Share of SI participation in the total participation is 0.8%
- Country received 0.4% of total EC contribution
- Relatively succesful as SI represents 0.4% inhabitants of EU
ERA-NET Participation

- **Platform of bioeconomy ERA-NET Actions**

**MIZŠ**
- ARIMNET2
- SUMFOREST
- ERA-MBT
- WW-NET+
- ERASynBlo
- SUSFOOD
- WW-NET2
- ERASysBio+

**MKG**
- FORESTERRA
- CORE
- ORGANIC
- PLUS
- SusAn

**ARRS**
**MOP**
**MII**
**IJS**

FP7 (% of the total FP7 funding in the instrument)

- Collaborative research projects: 52.4%
- Network of excellence: 0.8%
- Coordination and support actions: 15.3%
- Infrastructure initiatives: 3.1%
- Marie Curie Actions: 13.5%
- SME Measures: 6.4%
- JTI calls and initiatives: 4.3%
- ERA NET actions: 0.3%

**SLOVENIA**

652635 – PLATFORM2 – MC on Inclusiveness, 10-11 May 2016, Vienna, Austria
Participation

• Interest from research community
• Positive experience from previous ERA-NETs (continuation)
• Success of SI researchers in previous ERA-NET calls
• Critical mass of researchers in the thematic covered
• Following national strategy (e.g. Smart specialisation)
• Financing and transnational cooperation for research fields that are financially disadvantaged
• Opportunity to develop the research community
• Invitation to join
Commitment

• Typical financial commitment 630.000,00 € for 3 years/ERA-NET: funding of 2-3 selected projects
• yearly for ERA-NETs: 1’5 M€

WW- NET: A success story:

• WOODWISDOM-NET: 3rd call - funded 13 projects of which 6 with SI participation
• WOODWISDOM-NET: 4th call - funded 24 projects of which 7 with SI participation (14 partners → 6 from industry)
Young University established in 2003
Young ambitious team
Collaboration with industry
Established networks with partners at home and abroad

WW-NET as an important stepping stone in network creation, providing opportunities for further collaboration in COST and H2020 Teaming program + a facilitator of industry – academia collaboration
+ funding agency perspective

Institutional benefits

– increasing synergies between MIZS and other ministries
– increasing collaboration between MIZS and SRA
– enabling links with countries where research policy and international integration are more advanced

Increasing excellence and impact

– Implementing a bottom-up approach – stakeholder consultations
– Giving national funding a focus
– Implementing truly international peer review
– Technology transfer promotion
– SME participation promotion

Improving national procedures

– learning from different funding organizations (we need more of that!)
– finding common solutions to common funding problems (we need more of that too!)

Integration and visibility of SI science into the EU
+ researcher perspective

- Opportunity to **assess the quality & competitiveness of research**
- Opportunity to **participate in transnational projects** (ERA-NETs as a kindergarten for FP projects)
- Opportunity to be at the **forefront of scientific development**
- Opportunity to be **actively involved in strategic content definition**, directly impacting national and European research policy (SAB membership)
- Opportunity **to gain insight into project evaluation** by forming part of the international expert basis (SEC membership)
- Opportunity to **participate in capacity building activities**
- Opportunity for **increased mobility**
Challenges

- National legislation is not adapted to transnational cooperation
- Human resources and funding are limited
- Lack of an internationalization strategy
- Lack of set national research priorities
- State aid rules
- Moving up the TRL scale
Confronting challenges

Establishing procedures
- Joining an ERA-NET
- Setting the budget for JTCs
- Simplifying national procedures in – JTCs
- Searching for synergies with ESIF

Everything is difficult before it’s easy!
- Omitting the national call
- Consortium agreements
- Monitoring procedures
Tokens of advice

*ERA-NET Schemes are a very suitable mechanism for LPCs and their research communities to become involved in transnational activities!*

• Convince the decision makers: promoting the added value of ERA-NETs is a must!
• Chose the ERA-NETs you participate in wisely (less can be more!)
• Assume an active role in ERA-NET: a must for knowledge transfer and capacity building
• Share your problems and ask for help!
• Tune into the ERA PORTAL
Thank you for your attention

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