



Draft Agenda Annual Joint Programming Conference 2015

Building and Sustaining Commitment to Public-Public Partnerships

24/25 November 2015

MCE Management Centre Europe, Rue de l'Aqueduc 118, 1050 Brussels

In collaboration with



12h00 – 13h00 **Registration of participants and welcome lunch**

13h00 – 14h15 **Plenary session 1 - Looking to the future**
(chair: Kristin Danielsen, RCN)

Welcome and introduction

Peter Droell, Director Innovation Union and European Research Area, DG Research & Innovation

Streamlining the instruments for jointly tackling societal grand challenges

Fulvio Esposito, Chairman of the GPC

Key findings and conclusions of the High-Level Expert Group Joint Programming

Juan Hernani, Chairman of the Expert Group

Public-Public Partnerships and the future of ERA

Susanne Burger, Director Europe, Federal Ministry for Education and Research, Germany

Round table discussion with Q&A

14h15 – 15h30 **Plenary session 2 - Building & Sustaining Commitment**
(chair: Kristin Danielsen, RCN)

ERA-LEARN 2020 – support platform for the Public-Public-Partnerships

Roland Brandenburg, FFG, ERA-LEARN 2020 Coordinator

An analysis of the performance of networks: emergence of impacts and good practice

Effie Amanatidou, University of Manchester

The FACCE JPI Experience: maturity and cooperation with ERA-NETs

Niels Gøtke, Head of Division, Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation

Small country in vast P2P partnerships landscape

Petra Žagar, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Slovenija

Romanian profile in P2Ps

Ioana Ispas, Ministry of National Education, Romania

15h30 – 16h00 **Coffee break**

Delegates move to Parallel Sessions

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Topic 1: Experiences with ERA-NET Cofund under Horizon 2020

ERA-NET Cofund actions under Horizon 2020 merge the former ERA-NET and ERA-NET Plus and have the central and compulsory element of implementing one substantial call with top-up funding from the European Union. Research funders and ministries involved in ERA-NETs had to adapt to the modifications and simplifications (e.g. unit cost for additional activities) that were introduced. The workshop will allow participants to contribute to an assessment of the first ERA-NET Cofund actions under Horizon 2020, to take stock of the first experiences in their implementation, identify critical issues that need to be addressed by consortia and Commission Services in their preparation and implementation and discuss possible adjustments.

Topic 2: Evaluation of Joint Programming – key issues

In order to better assess the Joint Programming process and the 10 Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) the Commission has established a group of high-level experts evaluating the progress made in Member and Associated States on Joint Programming to address Grand Societal Challenges. The workshop will offer the possibilities to discuss with the experts their preliminary findings with a particular focus on options to address key issues that have been highlighted. This will be reflected in the final report that is due to be published in early 2016.

Topic 3: Widening participation in Public-Public Partnerships

The workshop will focus on how to increase participation in P2P from countries which have been less active so far. Possibilities of using Structural Funds for financing activities within JPIs and other P2Ps will be discussed. The discussion will be based on the preliminary findings from the JPI-evaluation on reasons for lower participation from some countries, lessons learned from the Smart Specialization Strategies process, and experiences from relevant member states.

Topic 4: Internationalisation of Public-Public Partnerships beyond Europe

The Workshop will focus on the exchange of experience on how to establish cooperation with funding organisations from e.g. America, Africa or Asia. Practical examples of P2P networks with international participation will be presented as an input. Workshop participants will intend to identify challenges and hurdles and aim to elaborate opportunities for cooperation beyond Europe.

09h00 – 09h30 **Plenary session 3**
(chair: Ken Guy, Wiseguys)

What you ever wanted to know - ERA tools for Public-Public Partnerships
Joerg Niehoff, DG Research & Innovation

09h30 – 11h15 **Parallel workshops day 2: Horizontal issues**

Topic 1: ERA-LEARN 2020: How can the IT platform better serve community interaction, mutual learning and P2P promotion?

During the workshop, results of the respective web survey will be presented (<https://www.eralearn.eu/service/user-needs>). Participants are invited to discuss results, to share good practices and experiences, and to specify their requirements for IT based P2P support features in different sub-sessions. Features to be discussed may refer to the support of joint monitoring, evaluation and benchmarking, or promotion of P2P initiatives, or means of intensified interaction in between P2P experts like blogs, etc.

Topic 2: Engaging stakeholders in Public-Public-Partnerships

For P2Ps to achieve critical mass in addressing major societal challenges, involvement of a wide range of actors, research funders, research communities from academia and industry as well as end users need to be integrated. Most of the P2Ps have developed some measures for including different stakeholders. The workshop will 1) inform participants on new concepts of societal interaction in research, 2) highlight good practice approaches for stakeholder engagement among P2Ps, and 3) provide the opportunity to discuss strategies for specifying the role of stakeholder engagement in developing and implementing R&I programmes and to explore options on how to involve relevant societal actors in research activities.

Topic 3: Strategies for fostering open knowledge and open access in research

Open knowledge and open access strategies are critical issues to be addressed by P2Ps in order to increase dissemination and take-up of research results. In particular for publicly funded research, open knowledge strategies help to foster transparency and promote good-science. The workshop provides an opportunity to review and discuss current approaches performed by P2Ps and benefits and challenges encountered in the implementation of strategies for fostering open knowledge.

Topic 4: Commitment to JPI alignment and evaluation of impact

Alignment of national programmes refers to various levels of the programming cycle (agenda setting, policy design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation) and has to overcome several differences and incompatibilities across the different national and regional contexts. At the same time, countries need to commit shares of the national research budgets and decide which P2P initiatives to take part in. The workshop will 1) present a comprehensive framework for the monitoring and evaluation of Joint Programming activities, 2) present a comprehensive view on alignment covering all the different phases of the programming cycle, 3) give participants the opportunity to discuss on the current approaches and to debate on current and novel alignment modalities at national and regional level.

11h15 – 11h45 **Coffee break** Delegates move to Plenary Session

11h45 – 13h30 **Closing plenary**
(Ken Guy, Wiseguys)

Report on parallel sessions days 1 and 2
Moderators/Rapporteurs of parallel sessions

Conclusions
Fabienne Gautier, Head of Unit ERA Policy and Reform, DG Research & Innovation



Topic 1: Experiences with ERA-NET Cofund under Horizon 2020

Day 1, 16h00 – 18h00

Moderator: European Commission, DG RTD

Background

ERA-NET Cofund actions under Horizon 2020 merge the former ERA-NET and ERA-NET Plus and have the central and compulsory element of implementing one substantial call with top-up funding from the European Union. Research funders and ministries involved in ERA-NETs had to adapt to the modifications and simplifications (e.g. unit cost for additional activities) that were introduced. The workshop will allow participants to contribute to an assessment of the first ERA-NET Cofund actions under Horizon 2020, to take stock of the first experiences in their implementation, identify critical issues that need to be addressed by consortia and Commission Services in their preparation and implementation and discuss possible adjustments.

The outcomes of the workshop will provide input to the ongoing work of ERA-LEARN in developing learning material as well as to an expert group that the Commission Services are planning to launch in order to carry out an in-depth assessment of the first ERA-NET Cofund actions under Horizon 2020.

Objectives

- Identify main problems and obstacles encountered in the preparation and submission of the proposals as well as during grant preparation,
- Assess if the contractual procedures and H2020 rules and simplification measures introduced are likely to facilitate the implementation of the actions;
- Identify critical issues during the implementation of the action, in particular for the cofunded call and financial management within the consortium.
- Discuss to what extent the instrument corresponds to the needs of the beneficiaries (ministries, research funding organizations, research performing organisations)? Is the instrument better tailored to the needs compared to previous ERA-NET schemes?

Agenda

16h00 - 16h30: Key note presentations

- Submitted proposals - strengths and weaknesses from the Commission point of view
- Lessons learnt from the call implementation – optimisation of the public funding
- Consortium management – increasing complexities

16h30 - 17h45: Moderated discussion in rotating configurations (world café style) on the (moderated by ERA-NET coordinators and participants)

- Proposal preparation and submission, grant preparation
- Preparation and implementation of the co-funded call
- Consortium management, in particular financial issues.

17h45 - 18h00: Wrap up by world café moderators and Commission



Topic 2: Evaluation of Joint Programming – key issues

Day 1, 16h00 – 18h00

Moderator: OPTIMAT

Background

In order to better assess the Joint Programming process and the 10 Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) the Commission has established a group of high-level experts evaluating the progress made in Member States and Associated Countries on Joint Programming in addressing Grand Societal Challenges. The main purpose of the Expert Group is to

- Evaluate the progress made in Member States on Joint Programming in addressing Grand Societal Challenges;
- Assess the current commitment and progress to align national research programmes to the common priorities;
- Define success criteria and identify success factors/bottlenecks;
- Consider priorities for operational follow-up for Member States, JPIs and their stakeholders and the European Commission.

The workshop will offer the possibilities to discuss with the experts their preliminary findings with a particular focus on the key issues and how they could be addressed. This will be reflected in the final report that is due to be published in early 2016.

Objectives

- Discuss and validate the key policy issues and problems that have been identified by the expert group
- Encourage a debate on how to address these issues and identify possible areas of actions for the different stakeholders involved (Member States, JPIs, GPC, Commission Services)

Agenda

16h00 - 16h15: Preliminary briefing on the issues and workshop process (Angus Hunter)

16h15 - 17h45: Moderated discussion by member of the Expert Group in rotating configurations (world café style) on how the different stakeholder issues can be addressed (20 minute sessions)

- Member States (Kristin Danielsen)
- JPIs & their stakeholders (Clair Giry)
- GPC (Angus Hunter)
- Commission Services (Juan Tomas Hernani)

17h45 - 18h00: Wrap up by rapporteurs



Topic 3: Widening participation in Public-Public Partnerships

Day 1, 16h00 – 18h00

Moderator: RCN

Background

As Joint Programming Initiatives and other Public-Public Partnerships have become important parts of Europe's research and innovation agenda, the further success of these initiatives will depend on the participation and commitment from member states and associated countries. There are substantial differences between countries both in number of initiatives they participate in, and in how much resources they commit to the joint efforts within the partnerships. Lower level of participation and commitment from some EU 13 member states indicates that the possibility of using Structural Funds in order to finance the national participation in P2Ps is important.

The workshop will focus on how to increase participation in P2P from countries which have been less active so far. Possibilities of using Structural Funds for financing activities within JPIs and other P2Ps will be discussed. The discussion will be based on the preliminary findings from the JPI-evaluation on reasons for lower participation from some countries, lessons learned from the Smart Specialization Strategies process, and experiences from relevant member states.

Objectives

- To identify the current status on differences in participation in Public-Public Partnerships
- To discuss the reasons behind the differences
- To explore possibilities of increased use of the Structural Funds for countries with a low participation
- To discuss ways of widening the participation in JPIs and other P2Ps

Agenda

16h00-17h00: Key note presentations

- Status on participation and commitment to JPIs and other P2Ps from EU 13 member states, seen from the expert group evaluating the JPIs
- Experiences from the Smart Specialization Strategies on the use of Structural Funds in financing P2Ps, seen from the S3 platform
- Reflections on participation in JPIs and other P2Ps from a EU 13 member state

17h00-17h45: Panel discussion (speakers and audience)(moderated by RCN)

- Why is the participation and commitment to P2P low in many countries?
- What can be done to widen the participation?
- What are the possibilities to use Structural Funds to finance participation in P2Ps – and how can this be made easier?

17h45-18h00: Wrap up by RCN



Topic 4: Internationalisation of Public-Public Partnerships beyond Europe

Day 1, 16h00 – 18h00

Moderator: FFG/DLR

Background

The European Union is a world leader in research and innovation but more and more research and innovation is performed beyond Europe. The increasing number of internationally co-authored scientific publications shows that research and innovation are strongly interlinked internationally. Furthermore, global challenges are important drivers for research and innovation and have to be tackled in a common effort as climate change and infectious diseases do not stop at national borders.

Consequently cooperating with partners beyond Europe becomes increasingly important for P2P networks. However, in practice it is not always easy to identify suitable cooperation partners, to build a working basis despite large distances, or to find a common approach across cultures. Nevertheless, there are already a number of P2P networks with some experiences in international participation which can serve as practical examples when considering a network expansion to other continents.

Likewise, there is also an increasing number of third countries which are actively engaging in cooperation with European communities and step up their participation in P2P networks.

This workshop aims to introduce practical examples of such networks and countries and facilitate a discussion on approaches to international cooperation and related benefits.

Objectives

- To present practical examples of P2P networks with international participation
- To facilitate the exchange of experience on how to establish and support cooperation with funding organisations from e.g. America, Africa or Asia
- To identify challenges, obstacles and benefits of Public-Public Partnerships beyond Europe
- To help elaborate opportunities for cooperation beyond Europe

Agenda

16h00-16h10: Introduction (FFG)

16h10-16h40: Practical examples of networks with international participation

3 presentations by P2P networks (ERA-NET, Art. 185, JPI)

16h40-17h45: Roundtable Discussion (moderated by DLR)

with 3 P2P speakers and 3 country representatives and active involvement of the audience

17h45-18h00: Wrap up by DLR/FFG



Topic 1: ERA-LEARN 2020 – How can the IT platform better serve community interaction, mutual learning and P2P promotion?

Day 2, 09h30-11h15

Moderator: VDI/VDE-IT

Background

Netwatch had successfully implemented a web platform for the P2P community until 2014. In the past, the responsibility for content was divided, with only the toolbox for ERA-NET practitioners being under the responsibility of the ERA-LEARN consortium. Since 2015, this has changed: together with the scope of ERA-LEARN, now covering all it based services, the scope of the Web Platform was extended to further P2P communities like Art. 185 and JPI practitioners.

Initial offers have been made to the latter (<https://www.era-learn.eu/>), but uncertainty remains with regard to the type and extent of services to be provided for the communities.

A web survey to that regard has been undertaken by ERA-LEARN 2020 (<https://www.era-learn.eu/service/user-needs>). During the workshop, the participants shall discuss and specify IT based potentials for an enhanced community interaction, mutual learning and P2P promotion.

Objectives

The workshop aims

- to discuss results of the web survey,
- to present good practice and discuss opinions among the participants, and
- to present ERA-LEARN ideas for enhanced community interaction

Subsequently, some of the higher valued functionalities shall be further specified.

Agenda

09h30-09h50 Results of the survey, discussion (DLR, Kristof Bertram)

09h50-10h10 Group works I – outlining requirements and features for the top-requested functionalities

10h10-10h30 Presentation, discussion

10h30-10:50 Group works II - Special topics

I - Is there a need for web based interaction format? Which realisation format would be appropriate?

II – Can we agree on a continuous, semi-standardised accompanying monitoring and benchmarking of P2P networks – instead of sporadic EC surveys?

10:50-11:10 Presentation, discussion

11:10-11:15 Wrap-Up by VDI/VDE IT



Topic 2: Engaging stakeholders in Public-Public-Partnerships

Day 2, 09h30 – 11h15

Moderator: AIT

Background

In order to achieve enough critical mass to address major societal challenges by pooling resources from different countries, involvement of a wide range of actors, such as national research funding organisations, relevant research communities from academia and industry as well as user communities need to be integrated in European Public-Public-Partnerships (P2Ps).

Most of the P2Ps have developed some sort of measures for including different stakeholders in their actions, at different stages of development of their joint planning processes. In most of P2Ps, delegates from different stakeholder groups are represented in the governance structures of P2Ps. However, tasks, procedures, actual involvement, and expected utility of stakeholder engagement differ considerably from each other.

While some P2Ps combined representatives of scientific, technological and societal consultation in one board, other JPIs distinguished between stakeholder groups and their representation, e.g. consultations with industry and technology developers or providers may be organised in a special way distinct from societal stakeholders or citizens. In addition, neither a joint terminology concerning stakeholder engagement nor a definition of common guidelines or good practices for P2Ps have been identified.

Objectives

Against this background, the workshop pursues the following objectives:

- to discuss the purpose and desired outcomes of stakeholder engagement in European P2P,
- to highlight existing approaches for stakeholder engagement among existing P2P,
- to explore options on how to involve relevant stakeholders at different levels of engagement.

Agenda

09:30 – 09:40 Welcome & Introduction

09:40 – 11:15 Presentations and moderated discussion

- Tools and instruments for public engagement in European research policy. (*Dr. Mikko Rask, Consumer Society Research Centre, University of Helsinki, Finland, requested*)
- JPI Urban Europe and the Societal Engagement in Science, Mutual Learning in Cities project: Experiences from a mutual learning exercise with researchers learning from citizens and citizens learning from researchers. (*Dr. Margit Noll, Johannes Riegler, Austrian Institute of Technology*)
- The stakeholder engagement approach of the ERA-NET: BiodivERsA (tba)



Topic 3: Strategies for fostering open knowledge and open access in research

Day 2, 09h30 – 11h15

Moderator: AIT

Background

It is widely acknowledged that open knowledge policies including open access to research publications, research results, and research data contribute to better and more efficient science and to innovation in the public and private sectors. The European Commission therefore encouraged all EU Member States to put public-funded research results in the public sphere in order to make science better and strengthen their knowledge-based economy. For P2Ps an incorporation of open knowledge policies may help to enhance the way researchers collaborate and knowledge is shared. P2Ps may have a distinct role concerning the provision of access not only to research results but also research data and research infrastructures in the area concerned. Thereby, access and re-use of data, infrastructures and tools can be granted more easily and at a reasonable cost, which ultimately can accelerate uptake of new knowledge and foster innovation.

Objectives

As open knowledge and open access strategies are deemed to be critical issues that also need to be addressed by P2Ps in order to increase dissemination and take-up of research results, we want to review and discuss about objectives, approaches, benefits and challenges of open access and open knowledge policies amongst P2Ps.

Agenda

09:30 – 10:15 Presentations on initiatives for implementation of open knowledge strategies

- The Open Science and Research Initiative in Finland (Sami Niinimäki, Ministry Education and Culture)
- Existing approaches to encourage open access and open knowledge among P2Ps: The case of JPI Climate (Patrick Monfray, Petra Manderscheid)
- The relevance of research infrastructures for fostering open knowledge in P2Ps

10:15 – 11:00 Group discussion on open knowledge strategies in P2Ps

- Objectives and focus of open knowledge policies in P2Ps
- Means to enhance access to research data and research findings
- Means to manage access to research infrastructures

11:00 – 11:15 Presentation of results



Topic 4: Commitment to JPI alignment and evaluation of impact

Day 2, 09h30 – 11h15

Moderator: MIUR/Uniman

Background

Increasing the alignment of national programming and their effectiveness are crucial elements of the Joint Programming Process that, even though mainly involving the JPIs, calls for the contribution of the total range P2P activities (JPIs, ERA-NETs, Art. 185s, etc.).

Alignment of national programmes refers to various levels of the programming cycle (agenda setting, policy design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation) and has to overcome several differences and incompatibilities across the different national and regional contexts.

At the same time, countries need to commit shares of the national research budgets and decide which P2P initiatives to take part in. To this end monitoring and impact assessment and the P2P activities demonstrating the actual added value of participating in these schemes has become of primary importance.

The degree of alignment of national programmes at the various stages of the programming cycle can be both a pre-condition and an impact of successful joint programming activities. Due to the novelty of the concept being used in the specific context, the assessment of levels of alignment face several challenges.

To support the P2P community in meeting these challenges and to foster the commitment of Member States toward these goals, specific initiatives have been launched under ERA-LEARN 2020 and by the GPC.

Objectives

The workshop will:

- introduce participants to the overall objectives of the above initiatives and the ongoing activities;
- present a comprehensive overview on the issue of alignment covering all the different phases of the programming cycle accompanied by a selection of case studies to exemplify various modes and approaches to alignment;
- present an impact assessment framework that can serve the purpose of evaluating alignment modalities; and
- give participants the opportunity to discuss on current and novel alignment modalities at national and regional level as well as on possible approaches to the evaluation of alignment in P2P networks.

Agenda

Keynotes

Speakers will be invited to shortly introduce the works with a summary of the current state of play of their initiatives, focusing on the key objectives and the results of particular interest to the themes of the workshop:

- the GPC Implementation Groups on Alignment and on Monitoring of JPIs
- current approaches to alignment – towards a typology
- towards an impact assessment framework on alignment

Interactive Groups

The session will include three working groups discussing the alignment of national programmes and the evaluation of related impact of joint programming initiatives, focusing on the following topics:

- the challenges of evaluating alignment related impacts
- alignment vs other impacts from participation in P2P
- alignment of research programmes and activities: obstacles and good practice elements

All contributions will then be presented in the following plenary session at the conference.