



PLATFORM



Concluding report of PLATFORM2 Networking of the bioeconomy relevant ERA-NETs

May 2018

PLATFORM2 ran from 2015-2018 and this project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement 652635.



Participating organisations in PLATFORM2

Partner	Beneficiary legal name	Short name	Country
P1	STICHTING WAGENINGEN RESEARCH	WUR	The Netherlands
P2	MINISTERIE VAN ECONOMISCHE ZAKEN	EZ	The Netherlands
P3	Forschungszentrum Jülich Project Management Jülich	JUELICH	Germany
P4	Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e.V.	FNR	Germany
P5	Bundesministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft	BMLFUW	Austria
P6	Ministrstvo za izobraževanje, znanost in šport	MISZ	Slovenia
P7	Aarhus Universitet	AU-ICROFS	Denmark
P8	InnovationsFonden	IFD	Denmark
P9	Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari e forestali	Mipaaf	Italy

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Summary for Publication

Summary of the context and overall objectives of the project

The platform of bioeconomy ERA-NETs (PLATFORM) was initiated to bring together and support with workshops and best practices the European Research Area Networks (ERA-NETs) and other relevant public-to-public (P2P) networks in the area of the bioeconomy: food, agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, climate, biodiversity and biotechnologies. Through its activities PLATFORM established a forum for funders and programme managers and played since 2012 a central role in facilitating and improving the coherence between the P2P networks active in the bioeconomy.

The project received funding from the European Commission under the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) and Horizon 2020 (H2020). PLATFORM meta-networked the funders, programme managers and other key actors of ERA-NETs, Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) and other P2P networks. The project under H2020 (2015-2018) continued and expanded the work of FP7 PLATFORM (2012-2014) by further improving exchange and cooperation and strengthening the impact of these P2P networks on the European Research Area and the European bioeconomy.

More than 30 ERA-NETs have been set-up in FP6 and FP7 on a wide range of scientific subjects and disciplines relevant to the bioeconomy. In H2020 18 ERA-NET Cofund actions were initiated, many are a continuation of the FP7 ERA-NETs, others were initiated by JPIs. The network of actors from ERA-NETs, Cofunds, and JPIs further expanded, as well as the interactions with e.g. the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research Collaborative and Strategic Working Groups (SCAR CWGs and SWGs), the European Commission (EC), the European Innovation Partnership Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI) and Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI-JU). PLATFORM strengthened the initiatives undertaken for mutual learning and capacity building and capitalized on coordination among networks to rationalize on limited resources for maximal impact and on informing policy makers. Flexibility to address relevant developments and to engage in interaction and dialogue was kept.

Description of work performed and main results

In 2012-2015

FP7 PLATFORM organised inspiring annual events, dedicated workshops, a master class for call managers, fruitful two-way interactions with the EC, the EIP-AGRI and with the BBI-JU. Surveys, analysis and events also engaged ERA-NETs from neighbouring themes with bioeconomy relevance and other P2Ps. As one result of this broad network is the published book on bioeconomy ERA-NETs and their activities giving a comprehensive overview of all joint calls incl. data on the funded research projects.

In 2015-2018

H2020 PLATFORM further strengthened mutual learning, maximised synergies and increased coordination and expanded the network to new ERA-NET actions (Cofund), more JPIs and stronger interaction with SCAR. On the website, a searchable database on bioeconomy P2Ps, joint calls and funded research projects has been constructed, including real time online statistical analytics functionalities. A World Café workshop (27 March 2015, Schiphol, The Netherlands) was held to ponder new, sustainable and alternative models for cooperation between public research

programmes. The series of Annual Events continued and enabled actors to discuss emerging cooperation needs, opportunities and tools: Annual Event 2015 “ERA-NETs for Impact and Global Cooperation”, 10-11 Sept. in Berlin; Annual Event 2016 “The bigger picture: P2Ps for Inclusiveness and Innovation”, 6-7 Oct. 2016 in Ljubljana; and Annual Event 2017 "P2P Networks for Impact, Co-creation and Internationalisation", 5-6 Oct. 2017 in Rome. H2020 PLATFORM fostered inclusiveness in all its work, in particular by the Master Class directed at new Member States (10-11 May 2016, Vienna) and sessions at the Annual Events on improving both involvement and performance. PLATFORM provided opportunities for capacity building for P2P actors such as ERA-NET project managers and call secretariats by sharing experience and by way of master classes on planning and managing (Cofund) calls (25-26 June 2015, Brussels, and 7-8 June 2017, Copenhagen), as well as through evaluation and monitoring of ERA-NETs (8-9 June 2017, Copenhagen).

The reflections and recommendations that resulted from the mutual learning activities and the annual events have been summarised in policy briefs. In total four policy briefs were published:

- Policy Brief No. 1 The future of cooperation and collaboration in public-public partnerships between Member States –“Think Back, Act Forward”
- Policy Brief No. 2 Co-creation of a Global Bioeconomy
- Policy Brief No.3 The role of the ERA-NET instrument in fostering inclusiveness and Policy
- Brief No.4 Alignment in the Bioeconomy

The PLATFORM project and its achievements were promoted by the members of the consortium who actively participated in meetings of the P2P networks and other relevant networks. Presentations were given at conferences and workshops. Furthermore PLATFORM dispersed its accomplishments in a monthly newsletter and published a leaflet, a poster, policy briefs, a statistical overview of the bioeconomy P2Ps and a brochure.

Progress beyond the state of the art and expected potential impact

PLATFORM contributed to the European Research Area with impact on two cross-cutting dimensions. PLATFORM increased the interaction and coherence between bioeconomy coordination initiatives (the ‘*what*’; thematic dimension) and achieved a more effective and harmonised environment for the ERA-NET implementation (the ‘*how*’; operational dimension).

1. Contribution to European Research Area in the Bioeconomy

Strategic Programming in ERA-NETs and in JPIs in the areas of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture and bio-bases industries – the sectors that make up the bioeconomy is one of the strongest in Europe in terms of national research programme coordination. H2020 PLATFORM consolidated a robust network of Member States coordination activities aimed at increasing collaboration between funders and programme managers on key-research areas.

Inclusiveness. PLATFORM encouraged a more inclusive European Research Area in bioeconomy by involving new Member States.

Alignment. PLATFORM capitalised on a better alignment of ERA-NETs and national research programmes within the bioeconomy by bringing the P2P actors together and by developing policy recommendations to improve alignment and multilateral collaboration in the bioeconomy.

Transparency. PLATFORM achieved more transparency in the European Research Area in bio-based economy by collecting information on P2P partnerships in one centred place, the PLATFORM database.

2. Effective implementation of ERA-NETs

Good practices. PLATFORM contributed to efficient and effective implementation of coordination activities by bringing together expertise and organising mutual learning activities.

Monitoring impact indicators. PLATFORM contributed to a robust framework for monitoring performance and evaluating impact of P2P coordination actions in the bioeconomy.

Rationalisation. PLATFORM helped Member States and the EC to rationalise on the use of limited resources by giving insight through its database on the state of play, and by bringing together programme managers from the different ERA-NETs, JPIs and SCAR groups facilitating building more coherency and synergy.

Coordination. PLATFORM encouraged increased coordination in bioeconomy research and innovation by performing a gap analysis and identified coordination needs and opportunities.

Project public website

The URL of the PLATFORM project website is www.era-platform.eu

Images attached to the Summary for Publication

Networking for Bioeconomy Public-to-Public Networks

www.era-platform.eu


PLATFORM – Meta-network for P2Ps in the bioeconomy

The platform of bioeconomy ERA-NETs was initiated to bring together European Research Area Networks (ERA-NETs) and other relevant public-to-public (P2P) networks in the area of the bioeconomy: food, agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, climate, biodiversity and biotechnologies. Through its activities PLATFORM established a forum for funders and programme managers and played since 2012¹⁾ a central role in facilitating and improving the coherence between the P2P networks active in the bioeconomy.

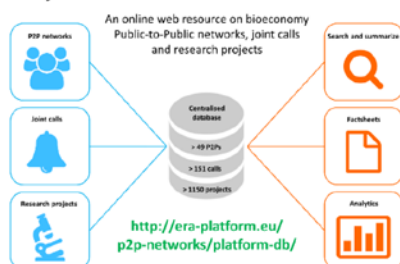
Activities and Products of H2020 PLATFORM²⁾

PLATFORM Mutual Learning Activities

- World Café Workshop “Think Back, Act Forward”, 27 March 2015, Schiphol, The Netherlands
- Master Class on ERA-NET (Cofund) planning and call management, 25-26 June 2015, Brussels, Belgium
- Master Class on Inclusiveness, 10-11 May 2016, Vienna, Austria
- Master Class on Cofund Actions – tools and methods for efficient call management, 7-8 June 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Workshop on Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment of P2P networks and projects, 8-9 June 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark

PLATFORM DB:

Bioeconomy P2P networks information source



PLATFORM Outreach and Dissemination

The members of the PLATFORM consortium actively participated in meetings of the P2P networks and other relevant networks. PLATFORM maintained a website with a comprehensive news section and published a monthly newsletter, a leaflet, a poster, policy briefs, a statistical overview of the bioeconomy P2Ps and a brochure.

PLATFORM Annual Events



ERA-NETs for Impact and Global Cooperation
10-11 September, Berlin, Germany



The bigger picture: P2Ps for Inclusiveness and Innovation
6-7 October, Ljubljana, Slovenia



P2P Networks for Impact, Co-creation and Internationalisation
5-6 October, Rome, Italy

PLATFORM Policy Briefs



Policy Brief No. 1 The future of cooperation and collaboration in public-public partnerships between Member States – “Think Back, Act Forward”



Policy Brief No. 2 Co-creation of a Global Bioeconomy



Policy Brief No. 3 The role of the ERA-NET instrument in fostering inclusiveness



Policy Brief No. 4 Alignment in the Bioeconomy

Impact

- **Contribution to European Research Area in the Bioeconomy** PLATFORM increased interaction and coherence by consolidating a robust network of Member States research and innovation coordination activities.
- **Effective implementation of ERA-NETs** PLATFORM organised training and knowledge transfer enhancing the professionalism and operational efficiency of the P2P networks whose actors collectively now hold more oversight and expertise of the ERA-NET instrument.
- **Harmonisation of actions** PLATFORM supported the P2P networks to implement activities in a better coordinated manner, *vis-a-vis* and in interactions with other related programmes (SCAR, EIP-AGRI, BBI-JU) within the bioeconomy.

¹⁾ PLATFORM ran from 2012-2014 and received funding from the EU FP7 programme under Grant Agreement 288422

²⁾ PLATFORM2 ran from 2015-2018. The Platform of bioeconomy ERA-NET Actions has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement 652635.

Core of the report of the period: Project objectives, work progress and achievements, project management

1. Explanation of the work carried out by the beneficiaries and Overview of the progress

The project 'Platform - Networking of bioeconomy relevant ERA-NETs' (PLATFORM) has five Work Packages:

WP1 Practice:	Efficient, effective, and inclusive organisation of ERA-NET activities
WP2 Policy:	Bottom up recommendations to improve impact
WP3 Communication:	Project dissemination, interaction, and collection of bioeconomy ERA-NET information
WP4 Annual Events:	Meetings for networking, sharing information and experience, and enhancing coordination and collaboration
WP5 Project Management	

The report provides an overview on achievements of the PLATFORM2 initiative (1 March 2015 – 28 February 2018).

1.1 Objectives

Strategic objective

The strategic objective of the project is to increase coordination and maximise synergies in the area of bioeconomy.

Operational objectives

The project PLATFORM targeted the following goals:

1. to extend and consolidate the learning platform developed under the FP7 project PLATFORM in order to improve implementation of ERA-NETs in the area of the bioeconomy;
2. to provide expert policy advice on ERA-NETs for European policy makers in the area of research and innovation in bioeconomy such as the SCAR, the GPC and the European Commission, including policy advice on emerging cooperation needs, inclusiveness of ERANETs and alignment of research programming;
3. to strengthen and expand the network of ERA-NETs in the bioeconomy by organising inspiring and animated meetings specifically tailored to the needs of ERA-NET managers and policy makers responsible for research programming;
4. to develop an online searchable repository in order to make information and data analyses more accessible for the ERA-NET actors and environment.

Objectives WP1 Practice: Efficient, effective, and inclusive organisation of ERA-NET activities:

- Explore new models for programme owners and managers to work together.
- Foster the involvement of European countries that are presently less active in the ERA-NET/ERA-NET+/ERA-NET Cofund funding schemes.
- 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 discussing first experiences with implementation.
- Provide guidance and facilitate mutual learning on tools and methods for efficient call management.
- Assisting bioeconomy ERA-NETs to monitor and evaluate their added value and impact

Objectives WP2 Policy: Bottom up recommendations to improve impact:

- To survey the bioeconomy areas for cooperation potential in view of research and innovation needs.
- To give recommendations for collaborations among programming authorities, under the co-fund instrument or otherwise, for P2P and for public-private initiatives, including with existing initiatives.
- To assess the performance, ambitions and potential of countries that are currently less active in Bioeconomy ERA-NETs.
- To give recommendations for fostering inclusiveness.
- Overview on programme alignment.

Objectives WP3 Communication: Project dissemination, interaction, and collection of bioeconomy ERA-NET information:

- To disseminate information about the project and news on its activities.
- To provide a centralised web based repository of information on bioeconomy relevant ERA-NETs.
- To present and represent the initiative at relevant meetings and conferences.
- To liaise with other bioeconomy coordination and networking initiatives, European policy bodies, and programme manager bodies.

Objectives WP4 Annual Events: Meetings for networking, sharing information and experience, and enhancing coordination and collaboration

- To organise an annual event that is dedicated to the public-public coordination networks in the bioeconomy
- To gather delegates in networking, information exchange, and gaining knowledge
- To engage ERA-NET actors and other key stakeholders in discussing on ERA instruments, the bioeconomy, and coordination for impact
- To have open, inclusive and interactive deliberations towards common perspectives and joint recommendations.

Objectives WP5 Project Management

- To coordinate the project and teamwork.
- To ensure efficient and adequate administrative, financial, legal and ethical management.
- To prepare the financial and technical reports and to manage submission of all deliverables.

An overview of the projects work packages, tasks, deliverables and milestones is given in Table 1.

Table 1 Project overview of work packages, tasks, deliverables and milestones

Status dd 2018.03.01					
	Month	Date	PM	Lead	Status
WP 1 Practice: Efficient, effective, and inclusive organisation of ERA-NET activities					
T1.1 World Café Workshop 'Think back, act forward' - 27 March 2015, Schiphol, The Netherlands					
MS1.1 World Café Workshop on H2020 coordination options and needs of programme owners held	2	April 2015		3-JUELICH	completed
MS1.3 Report on future transnational Member States RTD collaborations in Horizon 2020 with outcomes from the World Café Workshop discussed with at least two major fora within a year months after the publication	14	April 2016		3-JUELICH	completed
D1.1 Report of the World Café Workshop	4	June 2015	3	3-JUELICH	completed
T1.2 Master Classes on Implementing Cofund calls - 25-26 June 2015, Brussels, Belgium + & 7-8 June 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark					
MS1.2 Master Class Cofund planning and managing is held	8	Oct 2015		7-AU-ICROFS	completed
MS1.6 Master Class Cofund call implementation is held	27	May 2017		7-AU-ICROFS	completed
D1.2 Report of Master Class Cofund planning and managing	9	Nov 2015	2	7-AU-ICROFS	completed
D1.4 Report of Master Class on Cofund call implementation	29	July 2017	1	7-AU-ICROFS	completed
T1.3 Master Class on Inclusiveness: increasing participation and performance of currently less involved countries with ambition to be more engaged 10-11 May 2016					
MS1.4 Master Class on Inclusiveness: increasing participation and performance of currently less involved countries with ambition to be more engaged is held	15	May 2016		5-BMLFUW	completed
MS1.5 Recommendations and other outcomes from the Master Class to foster Inclusiveness discussed by bioeconomy ERANETS	21	Nov 2016		6-MIZS	completed
D1.3 Report of Master Class on Inclusiveness	17	July 2016	3	5-BMLFUW	completed
T1.4 Workshop on evaluation and monitoring of ERA-NETs - tbc					
MS1.7 Workshop Evaluation and monitoring of ERA-NETs is held	32	Oct 2017		8-IFD	completed
D1.5 Teaching material and findings and recommendations from the Workshop on evaluation and monitoring of ERANETS	34	Dec 2017	3	8-IFD	completed
WP2 Policy: Bottom up recommendations to improve impact					
T2.1 Scouting emerging cooperation needs					
T2.3 Impact of cross border coordination of research programmes by ERA-NETs					
MS2.1 Session for bottom-up policy recommendations for coordination of bioeconomy research and innovation organised jointly by Task 2.1. and Task 2.3 during PLATFORM's Annual Event 2015 <i>Note : we plan to have a session in each of the Annual Events</i>	8	Oct 2015		3-JUELICH	completed
<i>Session during Annual Event 2016</i>		Oct 2016			completed
<i>Session during Annual Event 2017</i>		Oct 2017			completed
D2.2 Compilation of the Annual Policy Briefs <i>Note: D2.2 will be compiled once all three policy briefs are produced</i>	34	Dec 2017	6	3-JUELICH	
<i>sub-deliverable 2.2a: Policy Brief No. 1 The future of cooperation and collaboration in public-public partnerships between Member States – 'Think Back, Act Forward'</i>		Dec 2015			completed
<i>sub-deliverable 2.2b: Policy Brief No. 2 Co-creation of a Global Bioeconomy</i>		Dec 2016			completed
<i>sub-deliverable 2.2c: Policy Brief No. 3 The role of the ERA-NET instrument in fostering inclusiveness</i>		Jan 2017			completed
<i>sub-deliverable 2.2d: Policy Brief No. 4 Alignment in the Bioeconomy</i>		Dec 2017			completed
T2.2 Fostering inclusiveness					
MS2.2 Definition of the objectives of the surveys addressing the matter of inclusiveness	6	Aug 2015		6-MIZS	completed
MS2.3 Selection of pilot countries for more elaborated work on inclusiveness, including case detailing for presentation at the master class on inclusiveness and the Annual Event 2016	11	Jan 2016		6-MIZS	completed
T2.3 Impact of cross border coordination of research programmes by ERA-NETs					
D2.1 Perspective Document on Inclusiveness (also deliverable for Task 2.2)	19	Sept 2016	2	6-MIZS	completed

WP3 Communication: Project dissemination, interaction, and collection of bioeconomy ERA-NET information					
T3.1 Project dissemination					
MS3.1 Style guide, logo and set of formats (for meeting agenda's, presentations, documents, reports, mailings, and the website) developed	3	May 2015		1-WUR	completed
MS3.2 Website revised in new style	4	June 2015		1-WUR	completed
D3.1 Leaflet and poster	6	Aug 2015	2	1-WUR	completed
D3.3 Brochure	33	Nov 2017	4	1-WUR	completed
T3.2 Profiling bioeconomy ERA-NETs					
MS3.3 Information on bioeconomy ERA-NETs and their activities updated following first inventory round and extra search functionalities implemented	6	Aug 2015		1-WUR	completed
MS3.4 At least 50 news items published by the end of the second year <i>Note: In 2014 FP7 PLATFORM started with the publication of newsletters. Issues 1-5 were published before the start of H2020 PLATFORM</i>	24	Feb 2017		1-WUR	completed
PLATFORM Newsletter, issue 6 - 16 March 2015					
PLATFORM Newsletter, issue 7 - 21 April 2015					
PLATFORM Newsletter, issue 8 - 5 June 2015					
PLATFORM Newsletter, issue 9 - 24 August 2015					
PLATFORM Newsletter, issue 10 - 12 October 2015					
PLATFORM Newsletter, issue 11 - 16 November 2015					
PLATFORM Season's Greetings and Newsletter - 18 December 2015					
PLATFORM Newsletter, issue 13 - 25 January 2016					
PLATFORM Newsletter, issue 14 - 4 March 2016					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 15 - 11 April 2016					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 16 - 9 June 2016					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 17 - 11 July 2016					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 18 - 19 September 2016					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 19 - 7 November 2016					
PLATFORM Season's Greetings and Newsletter - 20 December 2016					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 21 - 25 January 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 22 - 13 February 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 23 - 7 March 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 24 - 27 March 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 25 - 18 April 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 26 - 11 May 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 27 - 29 May 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 28 - 26 June 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 29 - 1 August 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 30 - 15 September 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 31 - 24 October 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 32 - 27 November 2017					
PLATFORM Season's Greetings and Newsletter – 20 December 2017					
PLATFORM newsletter, issue 34 - 20 February 2018					
MS3.5 Information on bioeconomy ERA-NETs and their activities updated following second inventory round	34	Dec 2017		1-WUR	completed
D3.2 ERA-NET statistics on website <i>Note: a comprehensive statistics exercise is done in 2017-2018</i>	14	May 2016	4	1-WUR	completed
T3.3 Outreach and interaction					
D3.4 Articles in at least two magazines	35	Jan 2018	2	1-WUR	completed
WP4 Annual Events: Meetings for networking, sharing information and experience, and enhancing coordination and collaboration					
T4.1 Organisation of PLATFORM 2015 Event					
MS4.1 PLATFORM 2015 Event announced	2	April 2015		4-FNR	completed
MS4.2 PLATFORM 2015 Event is held	8	Oct 2015		4-FNR	completed
D4.1 Report of the PLATFORM 2015 Event	10	Dec 2015	4	4-FNR	completed
T4.2 Organisation of PLATFORM 2016 Event					
MS4.3 PLATFORM 2016 Event announced	17	June 2016		6-MIZS	completed
MS4.4 PLATFORM 2016 Event is held	21	Nov 2016		6-MIZS	completed
D4.2 Report of the PLATFORM 2016 Event	24	Feb 2017	4	6-MIZS	completed

T4.3 Organisation of PLATFORM 2017 Event					
MS4.5 PLATFORM 2017 Event announced	28	July 2017		9-MiPAAF	completed
MS4.6 PLATFORM 2017 Event is held	32	Oct 2017		9-MiPAAF	completed
D4.3 Report of the PLATFORM 2017 Event	35	Jan 2018	4	9-MiPAAF	completed
WP5 Project management					
T5.1 Overall steering of the project					
D5.1 Kick off Meeting report	3	May 2015	3	1-WUR	completed
<i>Note: In total five Consortium meetings were held and reports have been made for all meetings. Only the report of the KoM had to be uploaded as a Deliverable. Only the report of the KoM had to be uploaded as a Deliverable. List of all Project Consortium Meetings are:</i>					
<i>Kick-off Meeting, 26 March 2015, Bennekom, The Netherlands</i>					
<i>PLATFORM Consortium meeting #2: 24 November 2015, telco</i>					
<i>PLATFORM Consortium Meeting #3: 30 March 2016, telco</i>					
<i>PLATFORM Consortium Meeting #4: 23 September 2016, telco</i>					
<i>PLATFORM Consortium Meeting #5: 15 December 2017, telco</i>					
T5.2 Administrative and financial management					
MS5.1 Project intranet launched	2	April 2015		1-WUR	completed
T5.3 Reporting					
MS5.2 Interim financial report, prognoses and (adjusted) planning	20	Oct 2016		1-WUR	completed
MS5.3 Periodic report of month 1-18	20	Oct 2016		1-WUR	completed
MS5.4 Periodic report of month 19-36	36	Feb 2018		1-WUR	completed
MS5.5 Publishable final report	36	Feb 2018		1-WUR	completed
D5.2 In case requested by the Commission Services, reports of partners on progress of the Work and the use of Resources/EU funds in first year	13	Mar 2016	3	1-WUR	completed
D5.3 In case requested by the Commission Services, reports partners on progress of the Work and the use of Resources/EU funds in second year	25	Mar 2017	3	1-WUR	completed

1.2 Explanation of the work carried out per WP

1.2.1 WP1 Practice: Efficient, effective, and inclusive organisation of ERA-NET activities

This work package harboured the activities centred around practical, operational, aspects of ERA-NETs. Two workshops and three master classes were organised. The outcomes were widely disseminated and used to fuel further dialogues. For each task the target groups, timing, and programmes were tailored to the specific aims and topics. Task leaders were in charge of preparations, organisation, and follow-up of the event in their task. All project team members contributed by comments and suggestions to plans and documents. Furthermore, some team members were involved as a co-organiser, or speaker, or otherwise contribute to the work, in particular where there is a strong link with a task they are in charge of.

T1.1 World Café Workshop “Think back, act forward” , 27 March 2015, Schiphol, The Netherlands Organised by P3 JUELICH

The PLATFORM workshop "Think Back, Act Forward" aim was to discuss options for long-term Member States research and innovation cooperation in the area of the bioeconomy and related subjects. The workshop especially focussed on the experiences so far with the new ERA-NET Cofund instrument, and on the needs and expectations of the user community, and explore also alternative ways of cooperation.

Invited were responsible officers from funding agencies running Cofund actions, or planning to do so in the near future, as well as those with experience from ERA-NET Plus, as well as other key actors

including representatives from the EC.

As Horizon 2020 changed conditions and settings for the Member States coordination activities profoundly, there is a necessity to think about new, sustainable and alternative models of future cooperation and collaboration between national publicly funded research programmes. Therefore the overall goal of this creativity workshop was (1) to identify main challenges within existing instruments of collaboration, and, (2) to envision, design and discuss improved schemes of future collaboration in public-public partnerships between the member states. This workshop used the well-established creativity method LEGO Serious Play to visualize ideas and to enable a better communication. Outcomes were fed into further activities of the PLATFORM project including Policy Briefs to bring in recommendations regarding cooperation modalities, tools and (funding) instruments.



The full report of this Workshop can be downloaded from the PLATFORM website:

<http://era-platform.eu/project/platform-h2020/activities/workshop-think-back-act-forward/>

T1.2 Master Class ERA-NET Cofund Actions, 25-26 June 2015, Brussels, Belgium & 7-8 June 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark

Organised by P7 AU-ICROFS

Task 1.2 consisted of 2 Master Classes. The first **Master Class “ERA-NET Cofund Actions - ERA-NET (Cofund) planning and call management”, 25-26 June 2015 in Brussels, Belgium**, for the ERA-NET project managers was organised with the focus on lessons learned from the first Cofunds. Also learnings from Plus projects were included. In addition learning topics more from ERA-NETs with focus on innovation, multi-ERA-NET calls and how to manage institutional funds had been discussed. There was also time to look into the Framework Partnership Agreement and Specific Grant Agreement – the new instruments for ERA-nets which were expected to start in 2017.

All the participants learned important tips and tricks for their current or future work. The most important themes for ERA-NET coordinators were identified on forehand, and the project managers with experiences on the themes were presenting. 1) Ulla Sonne Bertelsen presented the experiences from CORE Organic on how this ERA-NET is successful in optimising the use of national funds, decrease imbalances in share of EU funds and include all funders; 2) Marion Karrasch presented how ERA-IB direct calls to increase innovation aspects and SME involvement; 3) Kerry Young presented the expert evaluation and how BESTF2 handled the change to the requirements for Plus/Cofund calls; 4) Chloé Deygout explained how ERA4CS had planned a call which includes institutional funds; 5) Nicolas Tinois shared the planning of additional activities in FACCE-SURPLUS; 6) Heather McKhann from FACCE-JPI presented experiences with multi-network calls - how networks can collaborate in one Cofund action; and 6) Ulla Sonne Bertelsen moderated an exchange of

experiences with fund management. All these themes were discussed after the introduction, and all participants contributed one by one with their experiences.



The full report of this Master Class can be downloaded from the PLATFORM website:

<http://era-platform.eu/project/platform-h2020/activities/masterclassera-netplanningandmanagement/>

The second **Master Class Master Class on “Cofund Actions - tools and methods for efficient call management”, 7-8 June, Copenhagen, Denmark**, for the ERA-NET project and call secretariat managers was organised with the focus on implementation of Cofund calls and tools for and methods of efficient call management.

The participants learned from experiences of P2P networks that were among the first to start as Cofund ERA-NETs. The first expert Roland Brandenburg (ERA LEARN, FFG, Austria) presented an overarching topic relevant for all ERA-NETs that is the Cofund funding scheme and the functioning of the “Black box” mechanism. The presentation was followed by four separate expert presentations specifically engaging with the ERA-NET Cofund call management prepared by: Christian Breuer (CoBioTech, Jülich, Germany) on “Support tools for match making and handling of applications and evaluation”, Daria Julkowska (E-RARE, ANR, France) on “Evaluation and ranking of applications”, Anna Gossen (ERA-NET Neuron, DLR-PT, Germany) on “Selection of recommended applications, funding decisions and project negotiation” and Ivana Trkulja (AU-ICROFS, Denmark) on “Dissemination and joint project monitoring”. Each of these four presentations introduced one of the Working topics of the Master Class. Participants were engaged in the presentations and this resulted in an active knowledge exchange with the topic experts and also fruitful exchange among the participants referring to different practices from their own ERA-NET contexts. The methods used in relation to the working topic D envisaged also a role-play as a part of the interactive session.



The full report of this Master Class can be downloaded from the PLATFORM website:

<http://era-platform.eu/project/masterclass-and-workshop-june-2017/>

T1.3 Master Class on Inclusiveness: increasing participation and performance of currently less involved countries with ambition to be more engaged, 10-11 May 2016

Organised by P5 BMLFUW with support of P6 MISZ

The aim of the Master Class on Inclusiveness was to provide Programme funders/manager from Low Performing Countries (LPCs), as defined in the Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation Programme of H2020, with training and guidance on how to get actively involved in bioeconomy related collaboration actions.

As background for the Master Class, PLATFORM performed an analysis on the performing of LPCs. Not only participation of LPC's in bioeconomy ERA-NET initiatives was investigated, but also their role when participation is secured (type of activity they perform, participation in joint transnational calls and their success rate, etc.). PLATFORM therefore performed Fostering inclusiveness surveys in September 2015 (survey for ERA-NET project coordinators) and in February 2016 (surveys for NCP/PC/SCAR members and ERA-NET participants from LPCs). The information gathered through the surveys were presented and served as a background for the Master Class.

Other interesting contributions concerned inclusiveness in COST Actions, ERA-LEARN, INCO ERA-NETs and the role of Bio-NCPs to promote inclusiveness in European research consortia, for Horizon2020 as well as for calls from ERA-NETs and JPIs. Furthermore two ERA-NET coordinators shared their experiences with LPC participation and speakers from Latvia and Slovenia reported on their views and presented success stories of participation in bioeconomy ERA-NETs.

The participants had a very inspiring and fruitful meeting, and contacts were established with regard to participation in new ERA-NET Cofunds. And, while discussion on the matter of terminology and the effects of wording (self-fulfilling prophecies), the suggestion to rename LPCs into 'High Potential Countries', was well received.



The full report of this Master Class can be downloaded from the PLATFORM website:

<http://era-platform.eu/project/platform-h2020/activities/master-class-inclusiveness/>

T1.4 Workshop Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment of P2P Networks and Projects, 8-9 June 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark

Organised by P8 IFD with support of P1 WUR

The question of monitoring and evaluation of the added value of ERA-NETs is gaining increasing attention. Several bioeconomy ERA-NETs are discussing the most appropriate indicators and implementation procedures for monitoring and evaluating their performance. Monitoring and evaluation constitutes an issue common to all ERA-NETs. The workshop focused on self-evaluation of ERA-NETs. The assessment of the impact of joint calls is a key aspect of evaluation. The audience target group consists of current or future ERA-NET monitoring and evaluation task leaders in bioeconomy ERA-NETs. The workshop was set-up in such a way that there were two main lecture-like presentations, one on the topic of impact assessment presented by Effie Amanatidou (ERA-LEARN, UNIMAN, UK) and one on the aspect of monitoring and evaluation presented by Patries Boekholt (Technopolis Group). The first lecture was followed by a World Café session and a presentation on the pilot for centralised project-level impact assessment. The pilot was presented by August Hunter (ERA-LEARN, Optimat, UK) and experiences of 3 bioeconomy ERA-NETs that participated in this pilot were shared. The second lecture presentation was followed by presentations by the P2P networks that are conducting monitoring and evaluation already within their networks, Bettina Heimann on monitoring and evaluation of projects and Stefanie Margraf on monitoring and evaluation of networks and their activities besides calls. This was concluded with an interactive session on defining indicators of good performance, harmonizing mid-term and end-term reporting survey formats and the use of seminars and evaluators in research project monitoring.



The full report of this Workshop can be downloaded from the PLATFORM website:

<http://era-platform.eu/project/masterclass-and-workshop-june-2017/>

1.2.2 WP2 Policy: Bottom up recommendations to improve impact

This work package supported and informed national programme owners and managers in their endeavours towards better coordination and also towards opening up to currently underrepresented Member States that would be interested to join. The actors within the existing ERA-NETs and JPIs have, collectively, a good oversight and expertise and are well-positioned to explore opportunities for collaboration, as well as to give recommendations on new networks needed. Inclusiveness was improved by identifying countries with ambition and potential to get more involved than they currently are and supporting them to increase participation in particular through a Master Class in the first RP and through a session of the Annual Event 2016 (see WP4). Results of analyses and discussions will be communicated to decision makers at national and European level through policy briefs. Four Policy Briefs have been published in total.

Task 2.1 Scouting emerging cooperation needs

Compiled by P2 EZ and P3 JUELICH

Two PLATFORM Policy Briefs have been published as result of Task 2.1. The first policy brief ‘The future of cooperation and collaboration in public-public partnerships between Member States’ compiles the main conclusions of the PLATFORM World Café workshop ‘Think Back, Act Forward’ on collaboration between Member States, held March 27th, 2015 at Schiphol Airport in The Netherlands. It was sent in a letter to the EC and was provided as input for the EC workshop on April 27th, 2015 about the new instruments for Cofund Actions in Societal Challenge 2.

The second policy brief ‘Co-creation of a Global Bioeconomy’ is a result of discussions held at the first PLATFORM Annual Event in the session “Impact and alignment” and the session “Outreach to other geographical regions”. The session “Impact and alignment” was based on the inventory of collaboration opportunities. In this policy brief PLATFORM partners propose the ERA-NET instrument and give several recommendations to address the societal challenges of the 21st century on a global scale.

Task 2.2 Fostering inclusiveness

Compiled by P6 MIZS and P5 BMLFUW

A statistical overview of LPC participation in bioeconomy ERA-NETs and surveys for ERA-NET coordinators, LPC NCPs /PC /SCAR members, and LPC ERA-NET participants were performed in Task 2.2. The results of the surveys served as a basis for the PLATFORM Master Class on Inclusiveness (T1.3). The results of the surveys and the outcomes of the Master Class were further discussed with the whole bioeconomy P2P community and other relevant stakeholders in the 2016 PLATFORM Annual Event and resulted in the recommendations in Policy Brief No. 3. In the spirit of building an inclusive European Research Area, the Policy Brief No. 3 “The role of the ERA-NET instrument in fostering inclusiveness” provides recommendations for the ERA-NETs, Member States and the EC on how so-called lower performing countries (LPCs) can become an integral and empowered part of the ERA-NET community.

T2.3 Impact of cross border coordination of research programmes by ERA-NETs

Compiled by P3 JUELICH and P2 EZ

An inventory on alignment activities of ERA-NET Cofund Actions in the bioeconomy was performed as part of Task 2.3 together with Task 2.1. The inventory was used as a base for discussion in the session "Impact and alignment" at the PLATFORM Annual Event 2017, 5-6 October, Rome, Italy. Policy Brief No. 4 "Alignment in the bioeconomy" resulted from the discussion held in this session and provides recommendations on how to improve alignment on policy level, at bioeconomy level, at program level and at joint call level.



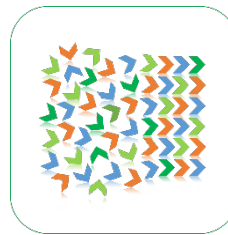
Policy Brief No. 1 The future of cooperation and collaboration in public-public partnerships between Member States – 'Think Back, Act Forward'



Policy Brief No. 2 Co-creation of a Global Bioeconomy



Policy Brief No. 3 The role of the ERA-NET instrument in fostering inclusiveness



Policy Brief No. 4 Alignment in the bioeconomy

The Policy Briefs can be downloaded from the PLATFORM website:

<http://era-platform.eu/publications/policy-briefs/>

1.2.3 WP3 Communication: Project dissemination, interaction, and collection of bioeconomy ERA-NET information

This work package provides all means and support to ensure effective communication between the ERA-NETs and other initiatives targeted by this project, including interaction with the wider bioeconomy community.

T3.1 Project Dissemination

Performed by P1 WUR

The main goal for dissemination of PLATFORM activities and results was to raise awareness and share knowledge of the project activities and outcomes, in particular with regard to impact ERA-NETs, in order to serve the bioeconomy ERA-NETs and wider community and make PLATFORM a successful and sustainable project.

Within the first months of PLATFORM a style guide (MS 3.1) and formats were prepared, as a uniformed style for all communication means further professionalised the production of the projects communication material, be it meeting agenda's, documents, presentations, reports, brochures, posters, mailings, or the website.

The communication strategy contemplates activities and actions to engage the following external and internal audiences:

Internal audiences

- Project participants (consortium)
- Expert Advisory Group
- European Commission

External audiences

- Key actors from ERA-NETs, JPIs and SCAR WGs in the field of the bioeconomy
- European level policy and advisory bodies, e.g. the SCAR, the GPC, and the H2020 SC2 Programme Committee
- National research policy makers and funding bodies
- Relevant EU projects and initiatives
- Bioeconomy private sector and PPP initiatives

PLATFORM disseminated information about the project and news on its activities with the goal to inform and engage coordinators and other key actors from ERA-NETs, JPIs and SCAR Working Groups in the field of bioeconomy. Furthermore PLATFORM raised awareness on ERA-NET achievements and key overarching issues among research funders, programming authorities and permanent policy bodies and to strengthen its interaction with other coordination, networking and learning initiatives. Workshop reports, master class teachings and analysis of the bioeconomy ERA-NETs activities were made available for the benefit of the wider ERA-NET community through the project's website, monthly newsletters, a brochure and posters, and promoted on meetings and conferences.

Table 2 shows an overview of dissemination and communication activities performed in the PLATFORM project.

Table 2 Dissemination and communication activities in the PLATFORM project

Activity category*	RP1	RP2	Total	Details of the activities
Organisation of a Conference	1	2	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Event 2015, 10-11 September 2015, Berlin, Germany Annual Event 2016, 6-7 October 2016, Ljubljana, Slovenia Annual Event 2017, 5-6 October 2016, Rome, Italy
Organisation of a Workshop	3	2	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Café Workshop, 27 March 2015, Schiphol, The Netherlands Master Class on ERA-NET management and call management, 25-26 June 2015, Brussels, Belgium Master Class on Inclusiveness, 10-11 May, Vienna Austria Master Class on Cofund Actions, 7-8 June 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark Workshop on Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment, 8-9 June 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark
Press release	2	1	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PLATFORM H2020 launch sent to EPSO to be published in their newsletter Policy Brief 2 distributed to EPSO, EIP-AGRI Service Point and ERA-LEARN Policy Brief 3 news item on ERA-LEARN website, on Danube-INCONet website and in their newsletter, on EIP-AGRI website, on BioHorizon website, email to Widening NCP's
Non-scientific and non-peer-reviewed publication (popularised publication)	3	4	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy Brief 1 Policy Brief 2 Policy Brief 3 Policy Brief 4 Poster Poster PLATFORM DB Analytical report
Exhibition	-	1	1	See overview (Re)presentation of PLATFORM at other meetings/conferences
Flyer	1	1	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flyer Brochure
Training	-	-	-	-
Social Media	541	175	716	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twitter: 560 tweets LinkedIn: 156 discussions
Website	221	344	565	News items published 565
Communication Campaign (e.g. Radio, TV)	-	-	-	-
Participation to a Conference	3	4	7	See overview (Re)presentation of PLATFORM at other meetings/conferences
Participation to a Workshop	3	5	8	See overview (Re)presentation of PLATFORM at other meetings/conferences
Participation to an Event other than a Conference or Workshop	9	6	15	See overview (Re)presentation of PLATFORM at other meetings/conferences
Video/Film	-	-	-	-
Brokerage Event	-	-	-	-
Pitch Event	-	-	-	-
Trade Fair	-	-	-	-
Participation in activities organised jointly with other H2020 projects	14	9	23	See overview (Re)presentation of PLATFORM at other meetings/conferences
Other	-	-	-	-

*Categories as listed in the Participant Portal

Total numbers in the table above resemble the information in the Participant Portal. Approximately €90.000 has been spent on dissemination and communication activities, this is a rough estimate based on the person months spent in Work Package 3.

PLATFORM published 29 newsletters. On average the newsletter consisted of 20 news items per issue and contained standard an overview of open and upcoming calls and an overview of upcoming events. We scanned for news of individual ERA-NETs for further distribution, wrote own news items whenever there is something to disseminate from the project, and followed ERA, Horizon, and bioeconomy development for picking up news relevant to the bioeconomy ERA-NET community. News items on the website were added on a weekly basis. Table 3 shows the number of news items per quarter that were published on the PLATFORM website. Also In the second period of the PLATFORM project a brochure was published. Table 4 shows the estimated number of persons reached in the context of all dissemination and communication activities.

Table 3 Number of news items published on the PLATFORM website in the second period of the project

Year	Quarter	News items published
2015	March	8
2015	April-June	31
2015	July-September	26
2015	October -December	41
2016	January-March	41
2016	April-June	49
2016	July-August	25
2016	September	27
2016	October-December	52
2017	January-March	67
2017	April-June	68
2017	July-September	60
2017	October-December	42
2018	January-February	28
	Total	565

Table 4 Estimated number of persons reached, in the context of all dissemination and communication activities

Type of audience*	Number of persons reached
Scientific Community (Higher Education, Research)	500
Industry	50
Civil Society	
General Public	
Policy Makers	200
Media	
Investors	
Customers	
Other	

*Type of audience as listed in the Participant Portal

Please note that the numbers in this table are an educated guess and mainly based on the number of persons on the mailing list of the newsletter and the number of persons attending the PLATFORM activities and persons reached through PLATFORMs outreach and interaction. PLATFORM audience is described in more detail in the text above.

T3.2 Profiling bioeconomy ERA-NETs

Performed by P1 WUR

In 2014 PLATFORM published a book about the bioeconomy ERA-NETs and their actions. In H2020 PLATFORM a big step forward has been taken in information management, the development of a comprehensive *web based* repository: PLATFORM DB. This makes the data searchable and more accessible for statistical analysis and visualisation of the outcomes. The repository is integrated in the PLATFORM website. In the course of 2018 it will be integrated in www.jointprogramming.nl.

The aim of the repository is to serve P2P partnership actors as well as policy makers, national programme managers and the science community. There is general benefit in terms of promoting P2Ps, and there is the benefit in that the compilation of data provides insights and useful knowledge for the P2P actors themselves. The DB design enables doing analysis to assess impact, to monitor and to illustrate trends. The large amount of data is analysed to yield statistics on e.g. call budgets, and projects funded. Tailored analyses have been conducted for to WP1 and WP2 tasks on call management, best practices, policy briefs, and evaluation and monitoring. Furthermore an analytical report is published.

For developing database and functionalities the Task leader (WUR) engaged WUR database specialists. The beta version of PLATFORM DB was released in September 2016 and the PLATFORM DB 1.0 was released January 2017. A second round of development of functionalities was done in the course of 2017 improving search functionalities. Data was added continuously up to and even two months beyond the end of PLATFORM project.

To minimize the efforts for P2P coordinators staff of WUR pre-filled the database as much as possible with the data already available. For this PLATFORM Office staff needed extra hands-on support. Students were hired who have spent in total more than 700 hours filling the database. As first sources of the information the CORDIS website and the websites of the individual ERA-NETs and other P2Ps were used. All networks within the areas of food, agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture, forestry, biodiversity, environment and biotechnologies (the remit of PLATFORM) were contacted in 2016 and again in 2017 to provide information additional information such as on budget per project, and research institutes that participate in each of the research projects funded through their P2P partnership.

PLATFORM worked in close cooperation and shared collected data with the ERA-LEARN 2020 project, of which one of the tasks is to support the EC to monitor ERA-NET Cofund actions on an ongoing basis. In this way the bioeconomy ERA-NET coordinators were approached to provide their data just once by one party only (PLATFORM). A second collaboration was with EIP-AGRI to display relevant data from the PLATFORM database in the projects database of EIP-AGRI. Furthermore collaboration was formed by Technopolis Amsterdam office, who were hired by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs to do impact assessment on Ministries funded research projects. Through the work for PLATFORM WUR could provide valuable information for this.

PLATFORM DB gives an immediate overview of the P2P's in the bioeconomy. The database can be searched on several levels being P2P network, calls and research projects. Besides lists and factsheets of the networks, calls and research projects there is a graphical display of the data where data in the database can be analysed real-time, generating new graphs and figures on the go. Furthermore there is a map showing details of countries participating in the P2P networks, calls and research projects. Also the database can be searched on organisation, showing for each organisation participation in P2P networks, calls and research projects.

T3.3 Outreach and interaction

Lead by P1 WUR

PLATFORM is represented through its coordinator in the Expert Advisory Group of SUSFOOD2 and as a stakeholder partner in Core Organic Cofund. Also the PLATFORM coordinator is member of the European Bioeconomy Stakeholder Panel as one of the academic stakeholders. Further PLATFORM is represented at a number of meetings and events listed below in table 5.

Table 5 (Re)presentation of PLATFORM at other meetings/conferences

<i>Overview for reporting (re)presentation/ participation in PLATFORM project time by PLATFORM consortium members. In case more than one member is mentioned, it is possible that some where there in PLATFORM time, while others where not.</i>				
Date	Event	Place	Size of audience	(re)presentation
2015.04.21	Societal Challenge 2 Coordinators Day Organiser: EC	Brussels	150	Presentation by C. Bunthof in afternoon parallel session (size of audience 20) and sent presentation to organiser for distribution
2015.04.27	Workshop for Cofund Actions for H2020 SC2	Brussels	30	Presentation by C. Bunthof
2015.09.2-3	IB-platform meeting	Riga	30	Presentation by C. Bunthof
2015.09.29	Workshop about alignment typologies Organiser: ERA-LEARN - Caroline Lesser (FACCE-EVOLVE time)	Brussels	25	Participation by C. Bunthof and moderated a session.
2015.11.11-13	2nd C-IPM Annual meeting Organiser: C-IPM	Rome	45	Presentation by C. Bunthof
2016.01.12	NWO-broad meeting about COFUND	The Hague	30	Presentation by C. Bunthof
2016.01.14-15	Annual JP Conference Organiser: EC + ERA-LEARN website: www.era-learn.eu/events/annual-joint-programming-2015-new-date-2016	Brussels	350	C. Bunthof moderated sub session about 'Commitment to JPI alignment and evaluation of impact' B. Kuzniar actively took part in workshop 'ERA-LEARN 2020: platform features - media, needs, monitoring' Presentation by N. Gotke in plenary session 'The FACCE JPI Experience: maturity and cooperation with ERA-NETS' Participation by Ulla Bertelsen
2016.03.17	Second Exploratory meeting with stakeholders - European BioEconomy Stakeholders Manifesto	Brussels	30	Participation in discussion by C. Bunthof
2016.04.11	2nd Bioeconomy Stakeholder Workshop for Bio-NCPs (Development of partnerships between BioHorizon and Joint European R&I Funding Initiatives) Organiser: BioHorizon	Utrecht	25	Presentation by C. Bunthof
2016.04.12+13	BioEconomy Stakeholders' Conference (BioEconomy Utrecht 2016)	Utrecht	300	K. Kwant and N. Gotke were moderators World Café 'Working session towards Manifesto'. Participation by C. Bunthof, B. Kuzniar, C. Zulim de Swarte, Annamaria Marzetti and Serenella Puliga.
2016.05.18	Workshop (Impact Assessment) Organiser: ERA-LEARN May 18: workshop organised by Effie Amanatidou about impact assessment	Brussels	30	Participation by C. Bunthof
2016.05.19	Task Force meeting Small committee, Brainstorm organised by Angus Hunter about impact assessment of projects	Brussels	12	C. Bunthof participated in discussion and provided input for a first draft of an impact assessment form
2016.05.31	Danube Region Meeting	Berlin	130	Presentation by M. Greimel

2016.06.07	Conference (Exploitation Strategies for Bioeconomy Research Proposals) Organiser: ProBio	Brussels	70	Presentation by C. Bunthof and workshop
2016.06.14	Meeting with EIP AGRI Service Point	Brussels	5	Participation by C. Bunthof
2016.10.13	Workshop for the Participation of Non-EU Black Sea and EaP Countries in Thematic COFUND ERANETS & JPIs Organiser: Black Sea Horizon Project	Baku	30	Presentation by M. Greimel
2016.11.22-23	Annual Joint Programming Conference 2016 Organiser: EC + ERA-LEARN	Brussels	400	Participating by some PLATFORM team members participated
2016.11.29-30	Common Workshop "Smart mitigation of GHG in Livestock Production" Organisers: FACCE ERA-GAS, SusAn, ICT-AGRI-2	Potsdam	70	Participation and presentation by C. Bunthof
2016.12.06	SCAR Plenary	Brussels	50	Slides made by PLATFORM coordinator WUR for presentation by Barna Kovacs
2017.01.19	PC/SCAR Workshop	Brussels	50	Dissemination of Policy Brief No. 3 by M. Greimel
2017.03.30	PC/SCAR Workshop	Brussels	50	Slides prepared by C. Bunthof; presentation by M. Greimel; further participation by A. Marzetti and S. Lampel
2017.04.19	Joint Programming Conference Organiser: Wageningen International, WUR	Wageningen	60	Organisation and participation by C. Bunthof Participation and presentation by B. Kuzniar
2017.06.28	COST CONNECT Organiser: COST	Brussels	40	Participation and presentation by C. Bunthof
2017.06.28	Diner debate of ProBio Organiser: ProBio	Brussels	70	C. Bunthof joined in
2017.09.21	EZ H2020 Kennisdag Organiser: EZ	The Hague	50	Participation by C. Bunthof
2017.10.17-18	SUMFOREST Final Conference Organiser: SUMFOREST	Barcelona	80	Presentation about the importance of the ERA-NET funding instrument, and participated in the panel discussion by C. Bunthof
2017.11.7-8	Annual Joint Programming Conference Organiser: ERA-LEARN	Brussels	400	Participation and co-organised Session on bioeconomy by C. Bunthof
2017.12.14	SUSFOOD2 EAG Organiser: SUSFOOD2	Madrid	40	Participation by C. Bunthof
2018.01.30-31	ERA-CoBioTech Hub Meeting	Dresden	40	Participation by C. Bunthof
2018.03.28	Mutual Learning Workshop: Maximizing collaboration among EC funded projects communicating about Bioeconomy	Brussels	30	Participation and presentation by C. Bunthof

1.2.4 WP4 Annual Events: Meetings for networking, sharing information and experience, and enhancing coordination and collaboration

PLATFORM organised each year an event for which all networks were invited to delegate one or two persons to engage in two days of presentations, break-out discussions, and formal and informal networking.

T4.1 Organisation of PLATFORM 2015 Event, 10-11 September 2015, Berlin, Germany

Organised by P4 FNR & P1 WUR, with support of P2 EZ, P6 MISZ and P9 Mipaaf

The theme of this event was 'ERA-NETs for Impact and Global Cooperation'. ERA-NETs that focus on collaboration with regions or countries beyond Europe spoke in the session dedicated to global cooperation, as well as bioeconomy ERA-NETs that have international partners. This followed after a

session on alignment, collaboration needs and interactions. The second day was on communication for impact, with group work on scenarios. Two networks ERA-MBT and Joint EIARD SCAR Strategic Working Group - ARCH organised their meetings back-to-back with PLATFORM and there was a joint boat trip with dinner.



The full report of this Annual Event can be downloaded from the PLATFORM website:
<http://era-platform.eu/project/platform-h2020/activities/first-platform2-annual-event/>

T4.2 Organisation of PLATFORM 2016 Event, 6-7 October 2016, Ljubljana, Slovenia*Organised by P6 MISZ & P1 WUR, with support of P2 EZ, P4 FNR and P9 Mipaaf*

PLATFORM held its annual event 2016 in Ljubljana, Slovenia on 6-7 October 2016. The event brought together 55 representatives of the bioeconomy P2P partnerships to learn about and discuss the issues of inclusiveness and innovation. In addition to the ERA-NETs, there were also representatives of JPIs, some Bio NCPs and ministry representatives of inclusiveness countries.

The event was setup in three blocks. The first covering the topic of impact and alignment, included a keynote from Barna Kovacs, PLATFORM project officer of DG RTD Directorate Bioeconomy and SCAR Secretariat, and introductions about two topics to be discussed by the participants during the breakout session. The topics covered in the breakout sessions were “Evaluation of the ERA-NET Cofund scheme” for which an expert group is appointed by the Commission and “Building blocks for Bioeconomy Stakeholder Manifesto” for which the European Bioeconomy Stakeholders Panel has taken up the task of further refine the building blocks. PLATFORM is represented in the Panel. The outcomes of the discussions on this topics will feed into a Policy Brief and into the finalizing steps of the manifesto.

The topic of the second block was Inclusiveness of low performing countries (LPCs). The block consisted of presentations on widening participation in H2020, outcomes of the PLATFORM survey and the Master Class on Inclusiveness and presentations on experiences from LPCs on participating in P2P partnerships. Also there were presentations of several networks telling about their experiences on including LPCs. This was followed by breakout group work and a panel discussion on the inclusiveness challenges and on achievements so far in the bioeconomy.

The topic of day two and the third block, was innovation and exploitation strategies. This block was designed to strengthen the interaction between research oriented ERA-nets and Innovation oriented

European Networks. This block gave the participants a look into a wider innovation landscape in which ERA-NETs can play an important role on the lower technology readiness levels through involvement of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), EUREKA EuroAgri FoodChain, the Central-East and South-East European Regional Office of the European Forest Institute (EFI), CoBioTech and the H2020 ProBio project.

The second half of the morning showed real life cases and views from research and industry participants on innovation and exploration of results.



The full report of this Annual Event can be downloaded from the PLATFORM website: <http://era-platform.eu/project/platform-h2020/activities/platform-annual-event-2016-ljubljana-slovenia/>

T4.3 Organisation of PLATFORM 2017 Event, 5-6 October 2017, Rome, Italy

Organised by P9 Mipaaf & P1 WUR, with support of P2 EZ and P4 FNR

The PLATFORM Annual Event 2017 was held on 5-6 October in Rome, Italy. The event brought together 55 representatives of the bioeconomy P2P networks to learn about and discuss the issues of alignment, internationalisation and co-creation. In addition to the coordinators and programme managers of the P2P networks in the area of the bioeconomy, also persons from SCAR Working Groups attended the meeting.

The event was setup in three blocks. The first covering the topic of impact and alignment, included a keynote from Nelly Bruno of DG RTD Directorate Policy Development and Coordination on the approach and results of the H2020 Mid Term Evaluation. Nelly was in charge of the evaluation and presented the results with special focus on the outcomes with regards to relevance, impact, effectiveness of JPIs and ERA-NETs. After this presentation the word was given to Leonidas Antoniou, chair of the High Level Group Joint Programming (GPC), who explained the views and recommendations of the GPC for the joint programming process that were recently communicated in the opinion paper “Future of Joint Programming to address societal challenges”. The third presentation of this morning was given by Christien Enzing from Technopolis, who performed a study for the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs on the assessment of national contribution to transnational research projects of P2Ps. After the coffee break the programme continued with the

interactive session on the alignment of activities within and between the P2P networks. The outcomes of the discussions in the different break-out groups will feed into a Policy Brief on alignment.

The topic of the second block addressed the common issue of internationalisation, in particular collaboration with partners beyond Europe. The block consisted of presentations on collaborations, a presentation on collaboration between Europe and Latin America, the experience of INIA (ES), a presentation by Matthew Hooper from the New Zealand government on the experience from New Zealand as a non-European country participating in ERA-NETs and a presentation on the recently started Art. 185 initiative PRIMA focussing on the Mediterranean countries. After the coffee break this block was continued with several presentations from the P2P networks: ERA-CAPS, Euphresco and ERA-MBT, on their experience establishing a sustainable network including international partners. The last presentation of this block was from Diego Galeano from Argentina who gave a presentation on the Argentinean experiences of being involved in a H2020 consortium. This block was concluded with a panel discussion on the benefits and challenges of international collaborations.

The second day continued with a block on co-creation and responsible research, this block was co-organised with European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI) and started with an introductory lecture given by Willemine Brinkman of the EIP-AGRI Service Point on behalf of Inge van Oost of EC DG-AGRI, in which the concept of co-creation and responsible research were explained and also the EIP-AGRI tools: thematic networks, multi-actor projects, focus groups and operational groups. The lecture was followed by two presentations from the P2P networks on stakeholder involvement, JPI-HDHL presented engaging stakeholders in boards in the development of SRA, implementation plan and research, and BiodivERSA presented the BiodivERSA stakeholders handbook published in 2014 and how it is being used for the benefit of their research projects. The block was concluded with an interactive session on how co-creation is used as base for tools the EIP-AGRI and how it is or can be used more in the P2P networks activities. For the interactive session persons with hands-on experience of the EIP-AGRI tools were invited to the Annual Event to moderate the group work.

This event, being the last PLATFORM Annual Event, ended with the PLATFORM parade, a line-up of pitches by the PLATFORM consortium members on the highlights of the project tasks.



The full report of this Annual Event can be downloaded from the PLATFORM website: <http://era-platform.eu/project/platform-h2020/activities/platform-annual-event-2017-rome-italy-5-6-oct/>

1.2.5 WP5 Project management

This WP made sure the project run smoothly management-wise and that the financial and progress reports were delivered timely. The organisation of the kick-off meeting and of project management meetings was foreseen in this WP, as is the steering of the teamwork.

T5.1 Overall steering of the project

Performed by P1 WUR

Coordinating the project, inspiring and facilitating good teamwork, monitoring the progress of tasks, while keeping flexibility to adjust plans taking into account developments relevant to ERA-NETs in order to ensure optimal performance.

The coordinator led the project, organised the teamwork, and monitored compliance with the planning and where necessary made minor adjustments in the execution of the work. The coordinator kept track of the progress with regard to timing of activities, producing deliverables and reaching milestones. There were in total five consortium meetings, the first was the Kick-off meeting, the other four meetings were held through a Telco. Relevant information was shared, each task leader gave a work update to the rest of the team and ideas and concept documents were discussed. Concept minutes were prepared by PLATFORM Office and through an email round adapted by the project consortium. The coordinator also maintained the contacts with the Expert Advisory Group. The members of the EAG were invited to each Annual Event and were contacted for advice regarding activities and comments on concepts. The coordinator had regular meetings with the project partners of the Ministry of Economic Affairs on steering the activities of the initiative.

T5.2 Administrative and financial management

Performed by P1 WUR

Ensuring adequate project administration, swift distribution of the EC payments and accurate financial accounting in accordance with EC H2020 rules.

This task constituted the typical project office work. A consortium agreement was drawn up with procedures for decision taking, internal reporting, risk management, and rules for expenditures. A project intranet (MS5.1) was maintained for keeping a repository of project documents, reports, letters, mailing list, planning boards and status overviews. Handling correspondence and keeping all contact lists and the information in the Participant Portal up-to-date is also part of the administration. The financial management includes distribution of EC payments, managing travel cost reimbursements, monitoring expenses. The first and interim payment were received and distributed to the partners.

T5.3 Reporting

Performed by P1 WUR

Fulfilling H2020 reporting obligations regarding the periodic reports, deliverable reports and the publishable final summary.

The project was split in two reporting periods, M1-18 and M19-36. The project coordinator WUR prepared the periodic reports (MS5.3, MS5.4) with contributions from all participants. All participants had to complete cost statements and deliver a text on the task under their responsibility. Deliverables were continuously submitted. The coordinator collected and uniformed layout and uploads the deliverables for each of the Work Packages.

1.3 Impact

H2020 PLATFORM contributed to the European Research Area with impact on two cross-cutting dimensions. H2020 PLATFORM increased the interaction and coherence between bioeconomy coordination initiatives (the '*what*'; thematic dimension) and achieved a more effective and harmonised environment for the ERA-NET implementation (the '*how*'; operational dimension).

1. Contribution to European Research Area in the Bioeconomy

Strategic Programming in ERA-NETs and in JPIs in the areas of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture and bio-bases industries – the sectors that make up the bioeconomy is one of the strongest in Europe in terms of national research programme coordination. PLATFORM consolidated a robust network of Member States coordination activities aimed at increasing collaboration between funders and programme managers on key-research areas.

Inclusiveness. PLATFORM encouraged a more inclusive European Research Area in bioeconomy. The PLATFORM consortium itself consisted of several participants active in the field of inclusiveness, one project participant from an EU13 country and three coordinators of ERA-NETs that make specific efforts on involving new Member States. Two members of the Expert Advisory Group are from an EU13 country. The project hosted a Master Class on participation of EU13 countries in ERA-NETs.

Alignment. PLATFORM H2020 capitalised on a better alignment of ERA-NETs and national research programmes within the bioeconomy. The project coordinator was involved in alignment approached and activities in FACCE-JPI, one project participant was working on evaluation of alignment in JPI, ERA-NET and Cofund actions, others were involved in alignment in their respective networks and organisations. The project made an inventory of hurdles for alignment of ERA-NET activities with national programmes. Based on this inventory PLATFORM H2020 developed policy recommendations to improve alignment and multilateral collaboration in the bioeconomy. Furthermore special attention was given to alignment at the annual PLATFORM events.

Transparency. PLATFORM H2020 achieved more transparency in the European Research Area in bioeconomy. The projects funded through ERA-NETs were difficult to find. In FP7 PLATFORM a vademecum was published of all active ERA-NETs in the bioeconomy. PLATFORM H2020 built on this work and developed a searchable online database of projects funded through bioeconomy ERA-NETs and other relevant P2P partnerships. Access to the database is free and open to anyone with an interest in European research and innovation. This database is a valuable tool for programme managers to search ongoing research and innovation project and coordinate European efforts for a more efficient working European Research Area. The information in the database was used for a report on the analytics of bioeconomy P2P networks.

2. Effective implementation of ERA-NETs

Good practices. PLATFORM H2020 contributed to efficient and effective implementation of coordination activities. Expertise from key actors from ERA-LEARN and JPIs To Co-Work were brought in through two members of the Expert Advisory Group. The members of the project team are themselves experienced ERA-NET managers which brings a vast amount of experience-based insight gained through their years of international P2P involvement. PLATFORM H2020 organised several mutual learning activities designed for programme managers of ERA-NETs. The activities

supplemented the collective knowledge of the actors. The participants of the master classes and workshops act as ambassadors, adding to further outreach.

Monitoring impact indicators. PLATFORM H2020 contributed to a robust framework for monitoring performance and evaluating impact of P2P coordination actions in the bioeconomy. Having impact information available supports decision makers and guides the design of networks and joint actions. Activities and actors involved are well-placed to serve the community and environment with knowledge on the methods and outcomes of monitoring and evaluating the ERA-NET impacts. PLATFORM organised a Workshop on “Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment” and involved bioeconomy ERA-NETs in participating in the pilot study on P2P impact assessment conducted by the ERA-LEARN 2020 project.

Rationalisation. PLATFORM helped Member States and the EC to rationalise on the use of limited resources by giving insight through its database on the state of play, and by bringing together programme managers from the different ERA-NETs, JPIs and SCAR groups facilitating building more coherency and synergy. Rationalisation on the use of limited resources is an overarching objective of the ERA-NET scheme and an important argument for countries to be involved in the ERA networks. PLATFORM H2020 targeted rationalisation through the interactions between actors, dissemination of the inventory results, expert policy advice in dialogues and the policy briefs. More specifically with regard to meetings and surveys, a World Café workshop for structured deliberation on coordination was organised. An inventory was compiled of alignment actions and options, by contacting network coordinators, and organised discussions at the Annual Event about rationale and opportunities, thus addressing the issue of rationalisation actively and inclusively. Outcomes were used to feed in to policy recommendations.

Coordination. PLATFORM H2020 encouraged increased coordination in bioeconomy research and innovation. The project performed a gap analysis and identified coordination needs and opportunities. This includes interdisciplinary collaboration, opportunities for collaboration between initiatives that address subsequent steps of the same value-chain (e.g. production, processing and retailing food), and coordination among initiatives addressing a common societal challenge, e.g. food security. Coordination with users-led innovation such as addressed by the EIP-AGRI is also relevant for quite a few of the bioeconomy ERA-NETs. Yet another aspect of coordination is with regions beyond Europe. One Advisory Group members is an expert on coordinating co-creation of knowledge involving end users. Some members of the project team have experience with coordination with another ERA-NET to develop joint calls that address a theme that is in the middle of the scope of the two networks. Some ERA-NETs are linked closely in theme with the BBI-JU. A large network with European and African partners has embarked in the IntensAfrica initiative, building on an ERA-NET. The project invited speakers from these and other initiatives that involve coordination between one thematic network with another, or one regional network that extends collaboration, or one discipline-focussed network that works across sectors in addressing jointly a societal challenge.

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