



Federal Office for
Agriculture and Food



COFASP
ERA-net

Benefit of Cross Border Research and Networking

Funders Perspective

Federal Office for Agriculture and Food – BLE

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COFASP Policy Day

10 January 2017

BLE - European Research Affairs

BLE involvement

Starting point ERA-NET Core Organic – FP6

- 12 ERA-Nets
along the whole value added chain
including Forestry and Fisheries
- 2 JPIs - FACCE & HDHL



Overall Goal of Cross Border Research and Networking **Strengthening the European Research Area (ERA)**

Challenges / Barriers for researchers & funders:

- ERA is fragmented
- Less research capacities in Member States
- Different regulations / rules and administrative items in Member States / Europe
- Different languages
- Decision makers are not always convinced by cross border work and research

The two levels of Networking within ERA-NETs - Impact aspects

1. Funders – Project Owner & Manager – Main tasks

- Writing **common proposals for ERA-NETs** on EU level
e.g COFASP
- **Harmonizing MS funding systems**
- Creating **common Strategic Research Agendas & Implementation Plans**
- Creating **Foresight studies for sectors** (e.g. COFASP Foresight)
- Developing **strategies for sustainability** of networking
- **Funding of common research** „Virtual common pot“ or with EU top-up (Co-fund ERA-NET)

2. Researchers – Research Organizations

- **Realizing Cross border research projects – common research**
- ...

Cross border research Added value for funders

- **Using national programs for cross border research** to cover challenges in sectors and realising common work on grant challenges e.g. climate change and food security
- **Using synergies** and bring together capacities & facilities across Europe
- Benefit of networking and knowledge exchange across borders
- **Cross boarder research / work strengthens the position of MS** in context with research management on European level



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Thank you very much for your attention

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