

## Introduction to the interactive session on alignment, cooperation and interaction among networks in Block 1 – Impact and alignment

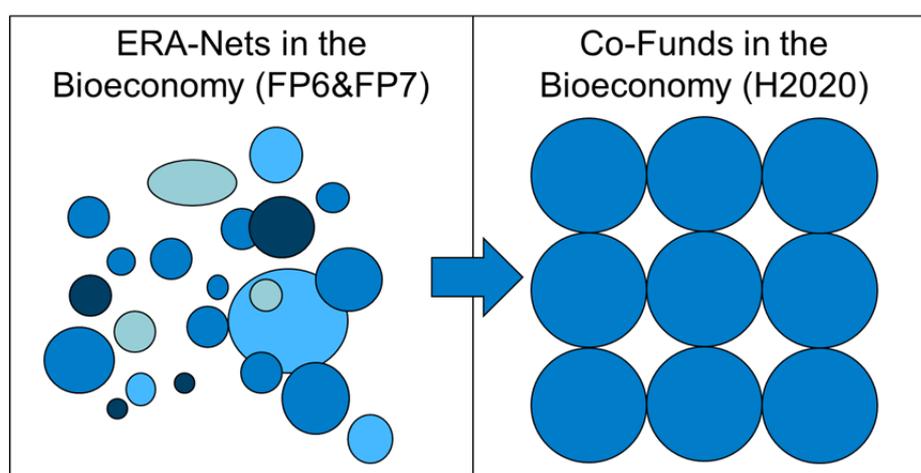
### Theme: Scouting emerging cooperation needs

Discussing the need for P2P cooperation in the coming years taking into account all aspects and disciplines of the bioeconomy. PLATFORM aims for increased coordination in bioeconomy research and innovation. The project will perform gap analysis and identify 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.

### Underlying Problem:

In the past ERA-nets were based on very specific fields and funding organisations would base their funding decisions primarily on the relevance of the topic for their country. This led to over 30 ERA-nets in the bioeconomy under FP6 & FP7. In the new situations all Cofunds need a minimum investment of MS of €10M. The focus of a single Cofund is much wider than a single topic of an ERA-net. Such a wider scope can lead to an integrated approach across the different sectors and very often leads to new approaches and more innovation and more efficient research. This leads to a more coherent ERA in the bioeconomy, but on the other hand it creates a problem for funding organisations because the focus and mass of Cofunds need to be wider and bigger. Funding agencies need to find “a common denominator” to fund these larger co-funded calls.

This forces funding organisations to find new ways to collaborate. Either in new Cofunds with a wider scope (i.e. market driven, sector driven or technology driven) or in collaborating with running initiatives to address certain topics in a call.



### Aim of the workshop:

Is to produce a set of building blocks for scenario's to develop Cofund calls.

**Expected outcome:**

The workshop should lead to an advice to organisations preparing Cofunds for the 2016-2017 call. Furthermore the Cofund should lead to an advice to European Commission and National Policy makers on development of future Cofund calls in the bioeconomy. This advice could be used as input for the Bioeconomy Stakeholders Conference in 2016.

**Session time schedule:**

10:00	Objectives PLATFORM	- What PLATFORM aims with cooperation - What kind of input does PLATFORM need - What will PLATFORM deliver	Kees Kwant
10:15	Case Study	Marine biotechnology	Inge Arents
10:30	Guided Brain Storm (1)	Open brainstorm - Collecting building blocks	Casper Zulim de Swarte
10:45	Break		
11:00	Guided Brain Storm (2)	Building scenario's	Casper Zulim de Swarte
11:30	Conclusions & Recommendations	What are the main recommendation to PLATFORM?	

**Background documents:**

The session builds on the results of earlier work of

- i) FP7 PLATFORM Task 4.1 - Recommendations on collaboration among ERA-NETs with possible coordinated calls - and related discussions at the Annual Events 2012-2014.

Report: "Collaboration among public-public research coordination networks in the bioeconomy"  
[Fact sheet PDF](#), [Full Report PDF](#), [Webpage](#)

- ii) H2020 PLATFORM Task 1.1 - World Café Workshop 'Think Back, Act Forward'.

Report: "Think Back, Act Forward – Future transnational Members States research and innovation collaborations in Horizon 2020" [short report PDF](#), [Full report PDF](#), [Webpage](#)

Letter to EC: written in view of a Workshop (27 April 2015, Brussels) for the Programme Committee of Societal Challenge 2 organised by DG RTD to discuss the use of possible new instruments for Cofund Actions in Societal Challenge 2 (Bioeconomy) in view of the preparation of the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2016-2017. The letter presented the outcomes of the workshop TBAF and position regarding new ERA-NET instruments [Letter](#), [Newsitem](#).

**Questions for the Guided Brainstorm:**

- How to develop a framework for Cofunds in the bioeconomy with focus and mass for multiple topics?
- How to develop a research agenda for Cofunds?
- How to make best use of call opportunities in Cofunds?