



## Increasing collaboration and cooperation between ERA-NETs and JPIs

The PLATFORM project explored how to increase the synergy between the bioeconomy European Research Area Networks (ERA-NETs) and the Joint Programme Initiatives (JPIs), with the aim to contribute to building the European Research Area. The JPI on Food Security, Agriculture and Climate Change- FACCE-JPI, the JPI Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans, the JPI Climate, the Water JPI, and the JPI A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life; all joint programmes in the bioeconomy domain, were looked into.

The responses to the questionnaire put to the JPIs showed:

- JPIs can learn from ERA-NETs; among others, from their previous experiences and well-established structures.
- Mapping exercises performed by ERA-NETs are useful for JPIs; they provide thematic overviews of the research landscape and often also an overview of institutes, funding organisations, research infrastructures and national existing and future programmes.
- Collaboration with an existing ERA-NET is a potential tool for implementing short-term research priorities of the JPI Strategic Research Agendas (SRA).
- The new ERA-NET Cofund instrument can be used to implement topics from the SRA, provided there is sufficient national financial commitment and critical mass.

Also, an important role was indicated for PLATFORM, in being a linking communicator and forum provider for programming authorities and network actors in the ERA-

NETs and JPIs on bioeconomy relevant topics as well as SCAR Working Groups.





Among information to be exchanged are the following:

- Best practices
- Tools
- Early information on upcoming calls
- Outcomes of mapping and scoping exercises
- Strategic Research (and Innovation) Agendas

The next PLATFORM project can also work together with ERA-NETs and JPIs to catalyse cooperation, exchange, and synergy. Also the experiences with the new Cofund instrument can be gathered and evaluated for its suitability to fulfil objectives of the networks.

Read more in the full report 'Collaboration and cooperation between ERA-NETs and JPIs'. This paper constitutes Deliverable 4.2 of PLATFORM and is part of the work package Common Vision and Strategy. The main objective of this work package is to define the strategic position and dimension of ERA-NETs within the European Research Area and to provide recommendations for high impact cooperation and collaboration of ERA-NETs with other actors in the knowledge based bioeconomy. All reports can be found on the website:

[www.era-platform.eu](http://www.era-platform.eu)

#### About the European Bioeconomy and ERA-NETs

The transition towards a bioeconomy, and the potential of research and innovation to produce 'more and better-quality', contributes to square the circle of ensuring food security, reducing the carbon footprint, recycling natural resources, and new jobs and competitiveness. The European Commission and more and more Member States capitalise on the bioeconomy aiming to secure a competitive food market and to optimise primary production in a global context and in a sustainable way.

More than 30 European Research Area Networks (ERA-NETs) in the bioeconomy sectors have been funded under FP6 and FP7. Through coordination and collaboration between national research programmes, these networks contribute to meeting the challenges Europe faces on the path towards a sustainable bioeconomy, be it in the area of agriculture, forestry or the marine, and on topics ranging from biotechnologies, application of ICT and robotics, organic food and farming, forest-based materials, statutory plant health, rural development, infectious diseases of livestock, or plant sciences.

**PLATFORM**, the FP7 project 'Platform of Knowledge Based Bioeconomy Relevant ERA-NETs' offers mutual learning and networking opportunities to the ERA-NET actors and has developed into a robust forum for funders and programme managers. PLATFORM facilitates increased coordination and cooperation among the networks, for maximising synergies and rationalisation in the area of the bioeconomy.