



Horizon 2020

Support to Public-Public Partnerships

Jörg NIEHOFF

DG Research & Innovation

Dir. B – Innovation Union and
European Research Area

Unit B2 – ERA Policy and Reform

*Research &
Innovation*



ERA-NET Cofund – main features

ERA-NET Cofund: implementation of a co-funded joint call for proposals (compulsory, one co-funded call per Grant Agreement)*

EU contribution: mainly a proportional contribution to total public funding of the joint call

Additional EU contribution to coordination costs on the basis of a unit costs for additional activities including additional calls without top-up funding

Stable reimbursement rate: ERA-NET Plus reimbursement rate from FP7 (33%) applies

Co-funded calls: proposal evaluation and selection according to Horizon 2020 standards

* ERA-NETs based on a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) are no longer possible. Only in exceptional cases it might be considered to support the preparation and structuring of specific emerging P2Ps that demonstrate clear European added value.

A. Implementation of a single joint call (MS contribution in cash)

- Call for proposals organised by national/regional funding agencies
- Activities: call preparation, implementation and follow-up
- **Eligible costs:** financial support paid to third parties

B. Implementation of a single joint call (MS contribution in cash) and additional activities

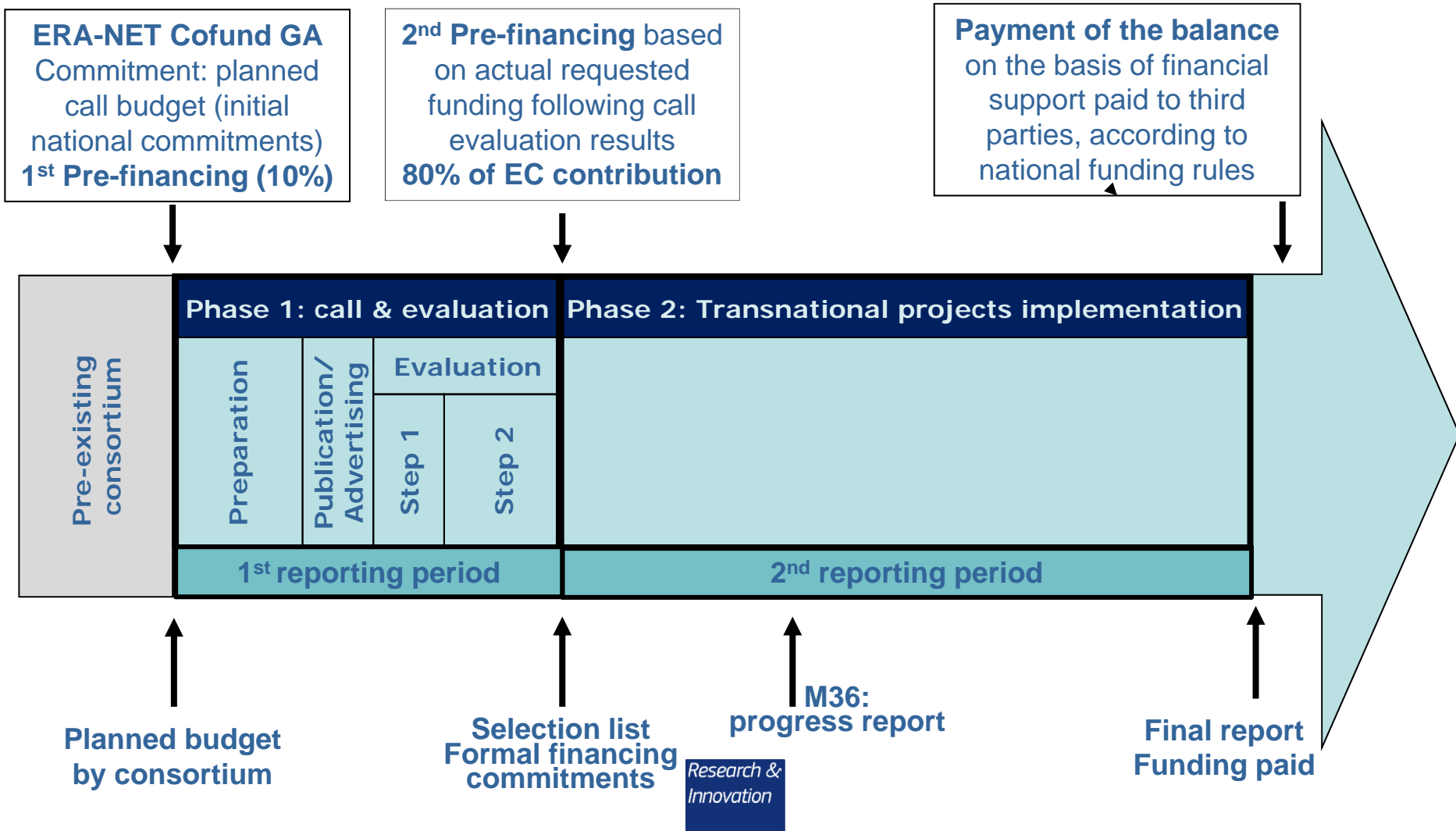
- Call and activities as in A.
- Additional joint activities including additional joint calls without Union top-up funding.
- **Eligible costs:** financial support paid to third parties and coordination costs for additional activities (unit costs per beneficiary per year).

C. Implementation of a single joint call (MS contribution in kind)

In exceptional cases

- Call for proposals organised by governmental research organisations
- Beneficiaries carry out the projects resulting from the call themselves
- **Eligible costs:** costs of trans-national projects on the basis of Horizon 2020 rules
- In-kind contributions: non-reimbursed expenditure

Default: 2 reporting periods



First indications from H2020 ERA-NETs

	FP7	Horizon 2020
Number of countries per call	10	18
Average call budget [Euro million]	8,8	27,9
Share of EU13		
- budget	5%	6%
- participation	13%	21%
Countries participating in calls		
100%	-	3 (BE, ES, NL)
> 80%	-	5 (+ PT, NO)
> 60%	3 (BE, FR, DE)	12 (+ AT, FR, DE, IT, PL, RO, UK)



Situation today

ERA-NETs focus on launching one cofunded call for proposals, other activities in addition, often in a series of Grant Agreements

→ **de-fact long-term cooperation between Commission Services and Member States**

ERA-NETs submitted via open calls for proposals

→ **No competition!**

Topics for ERA-NETs identified in close collaboration with Member States

→ **Delay between first discussion of topics and launch of the cofunded call typically 3-4 years**

Small population of beneficiaries, strongly standardised proposals

→ **External evaluation of little added value**



What are Framework Partnership Agreements?

Formalised agreement between the EC and 'partners' (MS programme owners and managers in this case) who may be potential beneficiaries of grants. Designed to support:

- Mutual interest and common general objectives.
- Actions defined and agreed jointly.

Foreseen by the Financial Regulation.

Part of the initial design of the ERA-NET instrument in H2020 in order to allow **grants to identified beneficiaries**

Already used in a number of H2020 areas (e.g. FET Flagships).



Proposed approach for ERA-NET Cofund

Option to conclude Framework Partnership Agreements (FPAs) for selected areas, e.g.

- **Societal challenge** or sub-challenge
- **Existing configurations** that will implement a series of calls
→ currently considered by challenge 2,3 and 5

Advantages

- More Strategic approach to ERA-NETs with Increased involvement of programme managers and programme owners.
- Establishment of long-lasting joint programming research efforts between Member States in areas of common interest.
- Simplification of ERA-NET administrative arrangements: proposal submission, evaluation and grant preparation.
- Drastic reduction of the time between identifying research areas which could benefit from an ERA-NET and the launch of co-funded calls in those areas. Acceleration of the time to market.

FPAs are not a new instrument!



Implementation: Framework Partnerships

Step 1: Call for proposals for FPA

- Identify and select consortium of programme managers and owners that are committed to design and implement an action plan addressing the specific challenge.
- Signature of FPA between the Commission and consortium.
- Duration: the start of the action until the end of Horizon 2020



Implementation: Framework Partnerships

Step 2: Submission of Specific Grant Agreements (SGAs)

- Discussion on Specific grant agreements (SGA) between the Commission and the beneficiaries for a selected area.
- Submission and selection based on the invitation to submit a proposal to the Commission.

Step 3: Proposal evaluation and grant preparation

- Internal evaluation and negotiation.



FPA ERA-NET Cofund

- Member States and Commission commit to addressing the specific challenge with a consistent set of resulting ERA-NET Cofund actions.
- Broad coverage of countries and their different programme managers and owners.

But:

- **No governance**
- **No consortium agreement**
- **No reporting**
- **No commitment, costs, budget**
- **No obligation to participate in resulting ERA-NETs**



Role of the FPA coordinator

- Draft and submit the proposal
- Grant preparation and signature
- Launching amendment requests (1-2 per year) to keep legal entities participating in SGAs updated (should be triggered by Commission services)

→ minimum effort once the FPA is signed

Difference to other FPAs

- FPA proposal comes with a detailed set of actions that are implemented subsequently
→ **ERA-NET: only a general "action plan" and the intention to implement ERA-NETs on to be identified topics**
- Same coordinator for FPA and SGA
→ **ERA-NET: different coordinators for FPAs and SGAs**
- Only FPA coordinator can submit proposals
→ **ERA-NET: the SGAs are submitted by the coordinators of the SGAs**
- All partners are in each SGA
→ **ERA-NET: Only those partners of the FPA that participate actively in the SGA**

**But: significant consequences on MGA and IT architecture,
subject to approval of the hierarchy**



Screening of P2P activities in WP 2016/17

Preliminary screening

ERA-NET Cofund: 2016 € 128,6 million, 2017: € 108,5 million

CSA: 2016 € 8,25 million, 2017: € 3 million, of which around € 5,25 million for JPIs in 2016

→ All but one JPI are currently expected to get CSA no.2

COST: 2016 € 38,96 million, 2017: € 38,96 million

EJP Cofund: 2016 € 50 million, 2017: € 35 million

Expert Groups: € 0,62 million (Art.185 evaluations)

ERA-NET Cofund in WPs 2014 until 2017

	2014		2015		2016		2017	
	€M	no	€M	no	€M	no	€M	no
Excellent Science								
Future and Emerging Technologies					18	2	5,0	1
Industrial Leadership								
ICT			6,0	1				
Nano, Materials, Biotech and Manufacturing			12,5	1	30,0	3		
Societal challenges								
Health, demographic change and wellbeing	27,4	4	15,0	3			5,0	1
Food security, agriculture, marine, bioeconomy	5,0	1	15,0	3	17,6	3	38,5	6
Secure, clean and efficient energy	36,8	3	36,3	4	30,0	4	30,0	4
Smart, green and integrated transport					10,0	1		
Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials	18,2	2	51,0	3	13,0	1	25,0	2
Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies	5,0	1	5,0	1	5,0	1	5,0	1
Science with and for society					5,0	1		
Total	92,4	11	140,8	16	128,6	16	108,5	15



P2P in WP 2016/17 – ERA-NET Cofund (I)

Excellent Science, Future and Emerging Technologies

- FET ERA-NET Cofund CHIST-ERA
- FET ERANET Cofund in Quantum Technologies
- Partnering environment for FET flagships

Industrial Leadership

- ERA-NET on Nanomedicine
- ERA-NET on manufacturing technologies supporting industry and particularly SMEs in the global competition
- ERA-NET Cofund on Biotechnologies



P2P in WP 2016/17 – ERA-NET Cofund (II)

SC1 - Health, demographic change and wellbeing

- Personalised Medicine

SC2 - Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research ...

- Organic farming and food production
- Sustainable food production and consumption
- A knowledge platform for the intestinal microbiome
- Marine technologies
- Sustainable crop production
- Innovative forest-based bioeconomy
- GMO research
- Nutrition and epigenome
- Plant Molecular Factory



P2P in WP 2016/17 – ERA-NET Cofund (III)

SC3 - Secure, clean and efficient energy

- Cross-thematic ERA-NET on Applied Geosciences
- ERA-NET Cofund actions supporting Joint Actions towards the demonstration and validation of innovative energy solutions

SC4 - Smart, green and integrated transport

- ERA-NET Cofund on electromobility



P2P in WP 2016/17 – ERA-NET Cofund (IV)

SC5 - Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials

- ERA-NET Cofund on Raw materials
- ERA-NET Cofund actions supporting Joint Actions towards sustainable green economy in Europe and beyond

SC6 - Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies

- Dynamics of inequalities across the life-course
- Culture, integration and European public space

Science with and for society

- Promoting Gender equality in H2020 and the ERA



P2P in WP 2016/17 – CSAs and expert groups

CSAs for JPIs

- Antimicrobial resistance
- Water
- Urban Europe

Other CSAs

- Towards an ERA-NET on public health research
- SCAR Support Action
- PRIMA
- Continuation ERA-LEARN 2020

Expert groups for interim and final evaluations of Art.185 initiatives, meta evaluation Art.185



Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?

Contact

Jörg Niehoff

joerg.niehoff@ec.europa.eu

DG Research & Innovation

Head of Sector Joint Programming

Unit B2 – ERA Policy and Reforms

Research &
Innovation