

ERA-CAPS

Global Cooperation in Plant Sciences

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ERA-NET for Coordinating
Action in Plant Sciences



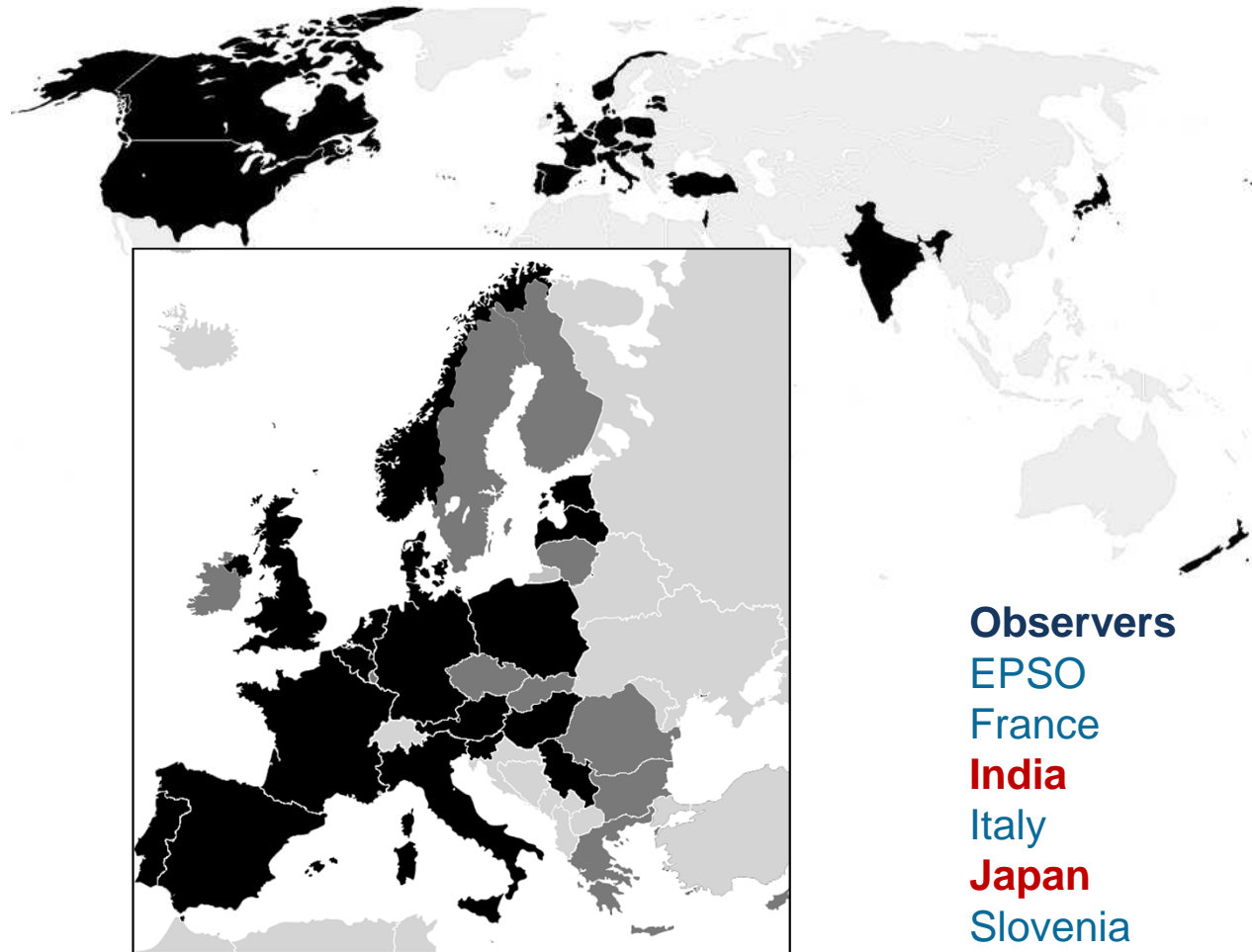


Essential facts

- **ERA-Net for Coordinating Action in Plant Sciences**
- Funded through Framework Programme 7
- Launched **January 2012**, initially 3 years, extended by 6 months
- **FP7: 19 Partners plus 7 observers, incl. five international**
- Now a self-sustained network
- Coordinated by Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, UK
- Builds on the work of the **ERA-Net in Plant Genomics**
- **Two transnational calls: approx. €21M each**



FP7: Partners & Observers



■ ERA-CAPS member, ■ EU member, □ non-member

Partners

United Kingdom

Austria

Belgium

Canada

Denmark

Estonia

France

Germany

Hungary

Israel

Italy

Latvia

Netherlands

New Zealand

Norway

Poland

Portugal

Serbia

Spain

Observers

EPSO

France

India

Italy

Japan

Slovenia

United States



International participants

Partners:

- **Canada: National Research Council**
- **New Zealand: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment**



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HIKINA WHAKATUTUKI

Observers:

- **USA: National Science Foundation**
- **India: Department of Biotechnology**
- **Japan: Japan Science and Technology Agency**





Varying levels of engagement

Active participation

- **USA and New Zealand:** participation in all aspects of the programme including joint calls

Less active/no participation

- **Canada:** NRC restructuring meant no place for ERA-CAPS
- **India and Japan:** observers, so no requirement to participate



Why USA got involved

- **Coordinating research funding** for large projects
- **Best expertise**, regardless of location
- Single common **review process**
- **Fostering cross-national principles** (data sharing, data standards)
- Strengthens **international connections**
- Allows participation in **low-bureaucracy calls**



Why NZ got involved

- Participating in **setting common goals** for international collaboration
- **Reduces duplication**, leverages funding
- **Best expertise**, regardless of location
- **Access to capability**, supporting NZ communities to engage with counterparts internationally
- **Point of reference** for national funding
- Single review process **more efficient** than aligning
- Develops **strategic relationships**
- Fostering **cross-national principles** (e.g. research data)



Call Management

Two calls: two different processes

New Zealand

No different to EU partners, contributed funds to virtual common pot for both.

USA

1st Call: parallel calls between ERA-CAPS and USA

2nd Call: integrated process



First Call: USA MoU

NSF were observers, and so have no formal agreement with other partners

Memorandum of Understanding was required

First call: Parallel call was quicker to organise

- **NSF used Plant Genome Research Program call; coordinated deadlines**
- **Projects with US applicants submit separate proposal to NSF, but reviewed separately in PGRP**
- **MoU with BBSRC (on behalf of ERA-CAPS) assured both sides' review processes were equivalent**



Second Call: USA MoU

First call was successful for NSF: two projects (out of 14) funded with US partners, keen to participate in second call

Memorandum of Understanding signed for Call 2

- Allowed participation as full partner, single review process
- Signed with BBSRC on behalf of ERA-CAPS
- MoU lasts for five years, allowing further calls
- **Increased incidence of US partners in second call applications**

2nd call: 12 projects funded, 6 with US partners



Coordinator's view

- Working with international partners can be very straightforward; but not always the case!
- Brings a global perspective and facilitates the best science
- Communication and flexibility is key for success
- As long as there is mutual benefit and agreed processes, collaborative working is very successful
- As with other countries, personal relationships are essential



Self-sustained network

- ERA-CAPS is now a self-sustained network
- Currently getting MOU signed – smaller network
- **USA:** Full partner in the network. Strong enthusiasm and an active partner – already working on a joint workshop
- **New Zealand:** Observer status. No projects were funded with NZ partners in first two calls. Looking to strengthen national community before joining another call.



Thank you

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A - A+ CONTACT

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ERA-CAPS

ERA-CAPS
Promote sustainable collaboration in plant sciences through coordinating and funding excellent transnational research.

NEWS AND EVENTS

The First ERA-CAPS call for proposals is closed!
The first ERA-CAPS call for proposals is now closed. The call entitled: "Expanding the European Research Area in Molecular Plant Sciences" was launched on 19 November 2012 and closed on 15 February 2013. [Read more](#)

The First call for proposals by ERA-CAPS is now open !
The first ERA-CAPS call for proposals launched on November, 19th 2012 is entitled: "Expanding the European Research Area in Molecular Plant Sciences". [Read more](#)

First joint call launched
Let research begin ! [Read more](#)

PARTNERS

view all partners

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