



# The ERA-NET scheme

**ERA-NET and ERA-NET Plus actions  
under FP7**

**Jörg NIEHOFF**

DG Research & Innovation  
European Research Area  
Unit B4 - Joint Programming

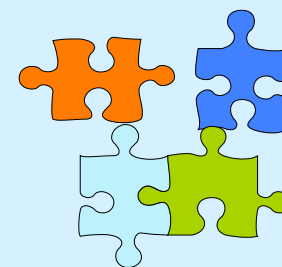
*Research &  
Innovation*

## Coordination of national programmes in FP7

### ERA-NET

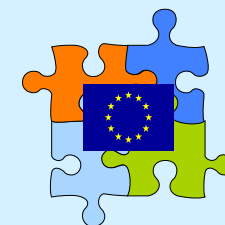
Like in FP6: Coordination of programmes

- ✓ MS agree and fund joint calls/programmes
- ✓ EU funding only for coordination



### ERA-NET Plus

- ✓ New in FP7: To up of a single joint call
- ✓ MS contribute to a joint trans-national call 2/3
- ✓ EU funding for research: 1/3 of the joint call



### Art. 185

Full integration of national programmes at 3 levels:

- ✓ (1) Scientific and (2) financial between MS & EU
- ✓ (3) Management: Single implementing structure





## ERA-NET Objectives

**To develop and strengthen the coordination of public research programmes carried out at national or at regional level.**

“Programmes” should be understood as entire research programmes, or parts of such programmes, or similar initiatives having the following characteristics:

- be strategically planned
- be carried out at national or regional level
- be financed or managed directly by national or regional public bodies, or by structures closely related (e.g. agencies)



## ERA-NET participants

All participants should be either:

- **programme owners**, such as national ministries or regional authorities managing a research programme
- **programme managers** (e.g. research councils, agencies) which implement research programmes under programme owners' supervision
- in justified cases: **programme owners without a research programme** but planning to set up one

Participants from at least 3 different MS or AS

In addition to the minimum number of participants other legal entities (e.g. charities) managing research programmes, may participate.



## ERA-NET activities

ERA-NET may include the following activities to foster coordination and cooperation between programmes:

- 1 – Systematic exchange of information & best practice
- 2 – Definition and preparation of joint activities
- 3 – Implementation of joint activities
- 4 – Funding of transnational research → **Joint calls!!!**



## Joint activities - examples

- Clustering of nationally funded research projects
- Systematic use of multinational evaluation procedures
- Developing joint training schemes
- Developing schemes for mutual opening of facilities or laboratories
- Common schemes for programme monitoring and evaluation, including joint monitoring or evaluation
- Specific cooperation agreements or arrangements between participating programmes
- Schemes for personnel exchange in the context of the above activities



## ERA-NET Plus - Main principles

- Topic of European relevance with critical mass to ensure impact
- Transnational call organised under the responsibility of the participating national/regional programmes  
→ **national rules for funding, reporting etc. can be used**
- Substantial Community contribution to the call budget (33%)
- Proposal evaluation and selection according to FP7 standards  
→ **International per review, excellence criteria!**  
→ **Obligation to follow the ranking list when selecting proposals**



## ERA-NET Plus - minimum conditions

### Rules of 5:

- 5 participants of 5 different Member States or Associated Countries
- Joint call of minimum 5 M€ (Total budget)
- Maximum duration of 5 years

**→ Projects must be finalised with the 5 years**

# ERA-NET Plus: public funding joint call

(Grant agreement between COM and consortium)

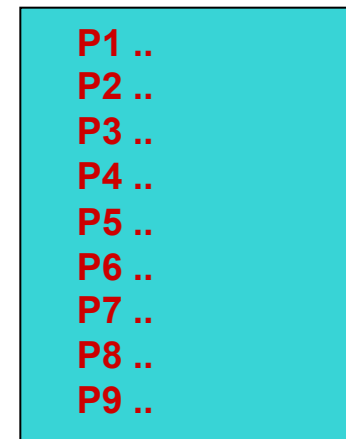
**Call  
contributions**



**Joint Call  
Budget**



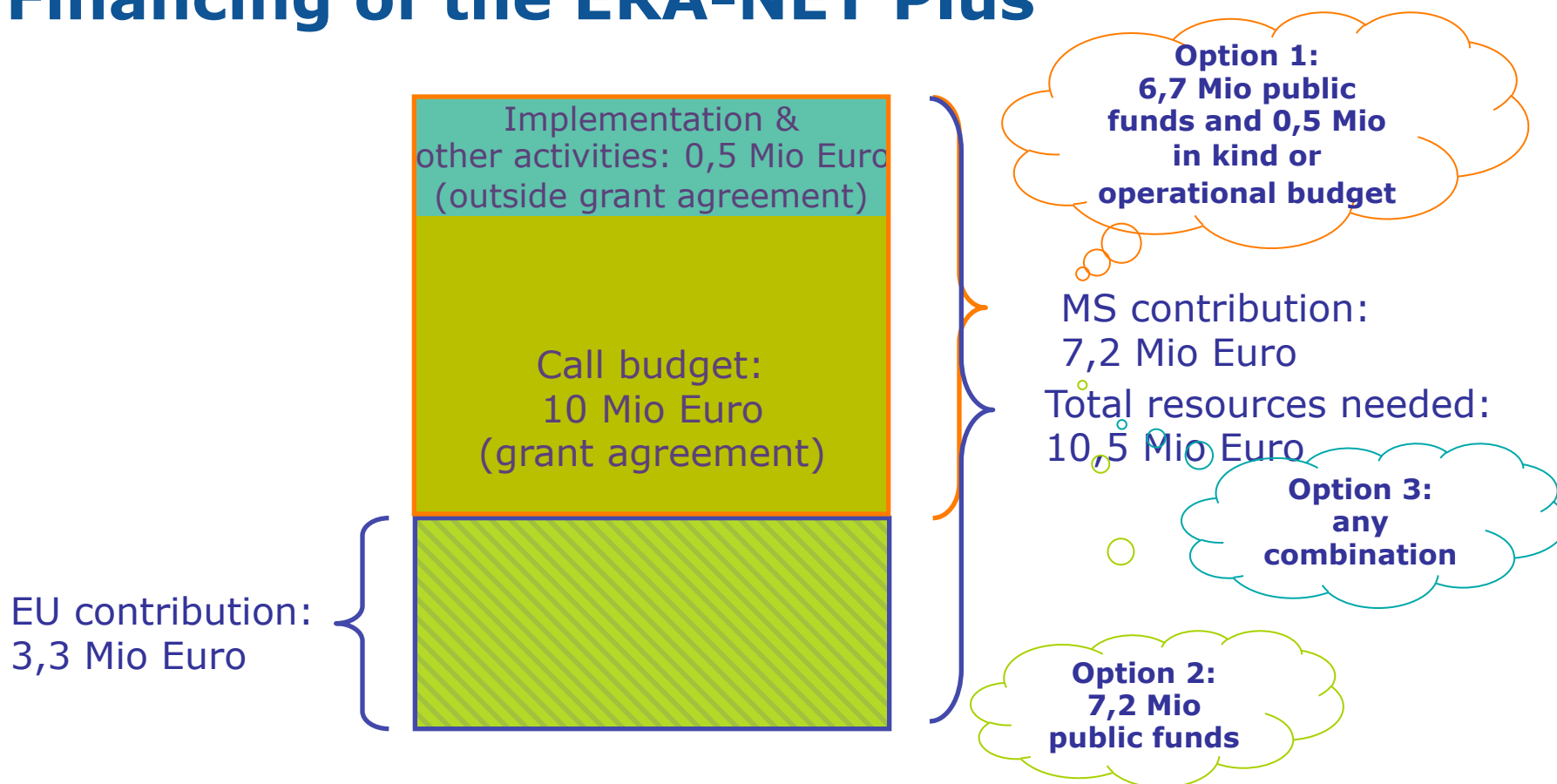
**Final agreed  
Selection list**



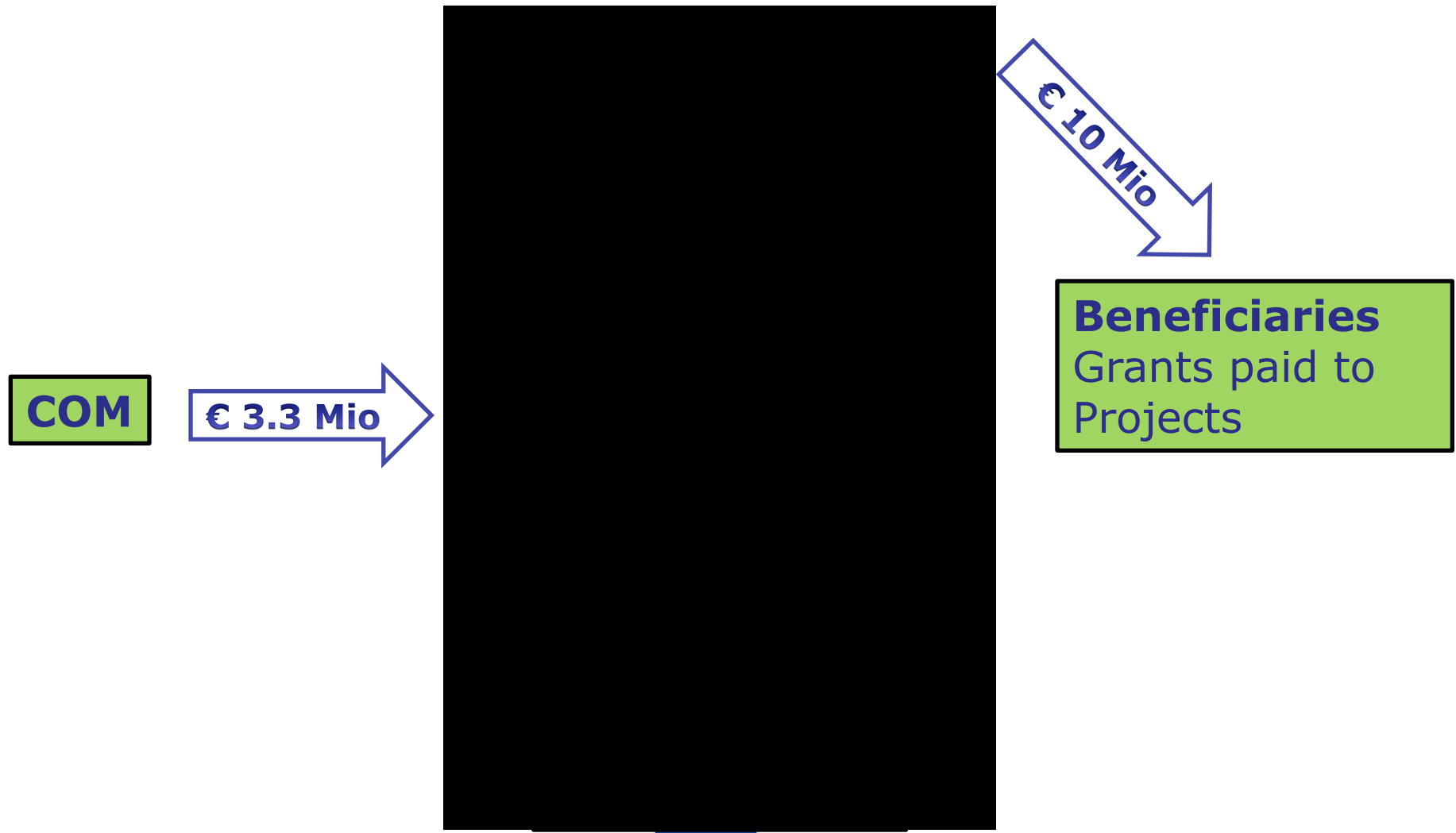
## Final agreed project selection list:

- No adjustments to ranked list after peer review are allowed
- Normally no change at the limit of the reserve list, only for proposals with identical scores or in well justified cases

## Financing of the ERA-NET Plus



## Example: cash-flow





## Evaluation of the ERA-NET Plus call – Step 1

- National eligibility checks (eligibility of proposals/partners, financial liability checks, etc.)
  - Stage 1 evaluation (National requirements?)
  - Balancing of call budgets and requested budgets
- 
- ➔ **Outcome step 1: list of proposals that are invited to submit a full proposal**
  - ➔ **Important: Invite only proposals that would certainly be able to be funded by all national programmes concerned**



## Evaluation of the ERA-NET Plus call – Step 2

**Principle: single international peer review to select the best proposals!**

- At least three independent experts per proposal
- Commission and/or external observer participating
- Evaluation criteria as in FP7:
  - Scientific and/or technological excellence - Quality of the trans-national project (Threshold 3/5)
  - Quality and efficiency of the implementation and the management (Threshold 3/5)
  - Potential impact (Threshold 3/5)
  - Overall Threshold 10

**→ Outcome: ranking list as the basis for proposals selection and national funding decisions**

## Funding Mode: example mixed mode

Source of funding	Function	Tentative volume
National Contribution 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Primary national pot</li><li>• Subject of the Grant Agreement with EC</li></ul>	20,0 M €
National Contribution 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National reserves</li><li>• Further possibly available budget at programmes</li><li>• Can be used by its owners if necessary</li></ul>	1,7 M €
EC contribution 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Topping up of national funds</li><li>• Distribution according to national share (related to National Contribution 1)</li></ul>	60-80 % of EC funds
EC contribution 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Real common pot (Balancing pot) to fill gaps</li><li>• Can be used to fund any eligible applicant</li></ul>	20-40 % of EC funds



## Important Documents

- Workprogrammes
- Guide for applicants (GFA)
- ERA-NET Background Document 2010
- ERA-NET Plus Background Document November 2011  
→ Specific Annex III to the Grant Agreement
- Proposals of successful ERA-NET / ERA-NET Plus actions
- ERA-LEARN toolbox (checklist etc.) on NETWATCH



# Proposal structure (GFA)

## 1. Scientific and/or technical quality

- Concept and objectives
- Progress beyond the state-of-the-art
- S/T methodology and associated work plan  
(Workpackages, activities, deliverables, milestones ...)

## 2. Implementation

- Management structure and procedures
- Individual participants (Organisation, key staff involved, research programme!!!)
- Consortium as a whole
- Resources to be committed

## 3. Impact

- Expected impacts listed in the work programme
- Spreading excellence, exploiting results, disseminating knowledge

[Home](#)

## Network Information

- Networks
- Participating Countries
- Programmes
- Organisations
- Call Calendar

## Strategic Analysis

- Mapping and Monitoring
- Policy Briefs
- Impact Assessment

## Learning Platform

- Toolbox
- Events & Publications

## News

- The future ERA-NET instrument under Horizon 2020
- A successful European public - public partnership - Commission report on the interim evaluation of the European Metrology Research Programme (EMRP)

## The world of R&D programme collaboration

**NETWATCH is the European Commission's information platform on transnational R&D programme collaboration. The current focus is on ERA-NETs, but the scope will be increased to include a broader range of initiatives.**

NETWATCH supports transnational R&D programme collaboration in Europe by:

- mapping networks;
- providing information on Joint Calls;
- analysing the impact of programme collaboration;
- describing the scope and results of individual networks;
- supporting mutual learning among transnational programme networks.

## News

### 13/6/2012 Event "The future ERA-NET instrument under Horizon 2020"

The event is dedicated to the future ERA-NET instrument under Horizon 2020 and allowed a broad discussion between research funders, ministries, ERA-NETs, JPIs coordinators etc. to define user requirements and discuss possible implementation modalities. All documents and presentations are now online!

[Click here to view the event](#)

### 19/04/2012 A successful European public-public partnership – Commission report on the interim evaluation of the European Metrology Research Programme (EMRP)

On 16 April, the Commission adopted its report assessing the achievements of the European Metrology Research Programme (EMRP), an initiative started 3 years ago. Since 2009 metrology research in Europe is jointly addressed, financed and investigated between 22 European countries and the EU in a joint programme, implemented by EURAMET e.V. The Commission was supported during this evaluation by an independent expert panel chaired by Ms. Pia Locatelli, former Member of the European Parliament.

[More..](#)

[Click here to access the News Archive >>](#)

## Research opportunities and calls published

Direct entry for scientist



[Joint call calendar >>](#)

My research field is :

(Select a research field ...)

## How can I benefit from NETWATCH?

Select your profile:

- Researcher
- R&D programme manager
- Research policy maker
- Person new to the field

## Update cycle of NETWATCH

NETWATCH is regularly updated. In addition a comprehensive update is carried out twice a year.

- **Last general update:** January 2012
- **Next planned general update:** June 2012

[More](#)

## Presentation of NETWATCH

 [Click here to download](#)

## ERA-NET Information

- ERA-NETs
- Participating Countries
- Programmes
- Organisations
- Call Calendar

## Strategic Analysis

- Mapping
- Archive (2009)

## Learning Platform

- Toolbox
- Events

## News

- Workshop in Berlin: "Implementing ERA-NETs"
- All EU countries highly involved in fostering public transnational R&D

## [Toolbox](#)

### Objectives of the manual

The central goal of this online manual is to provide the ERA-NET community with a sound basis for the implementation of transnational calls for proposals. You will find general information, practical examples and templates.

These optional descriptions, recommendations and guidelines are based on experiences and realistic scenarios, provided as an interactive compilation of modules which reflect the different phases in the planning and operation of joint calls.

The contents are based on past and ongoing ERA-NETs and have proven useful for specific purposes. The documents may be used as blueprints, references or inspiration for future joint call activities.

There is no doubt that the ERA-NET instrument is suitable for flexible use; consequently material provided here may be appropriate for various scenarios and constellations whereas less appropriate for various other scenarios and constellations.

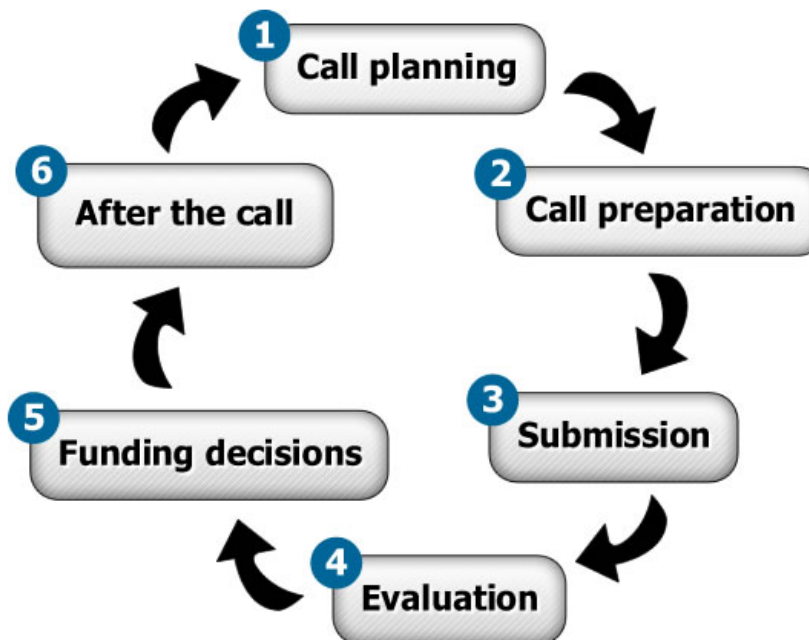
All information is based on the input from ERA-NET coordinators. This compilation was developed by ERA-LEARN to simplify and standardise the execution of joint calls as much as possible.

This revised draft was compiled and published by ERA-LEARN in December 2010. We invite you to check, comment and provide us with feedback. Updated versions are planned on an annual basis.







A [printable version of this manual](#) is provided.

Please note that the printable version does not replace the online version, as it does not contain any hyperlinks or templates.

A [printable checklist](#) for call implementation is also provided.



## Manual and tools for call implementation

1. Call planning 
2. Call preparation 
3. Submission 
4. Evaluation 
5. Funding decisions 
6. After the call 

## Tools for internal review of ERA-NET participation

1. Evaluation criteria
2. Questionnaire To ERA-NET Programme Managers
3. Instructions To Strategic Person within the Agency

## Smart Coordination

1. ERA-NET-Scheme 
2. Article 185 Initiatives 
3. European Technology Platforms (ETPs) 
4. Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs) 
5. EUREKA 
6. Joint Programming 
7. Other Methods of Coordination 



# Thank you for your attention!

## Any questions?

### **Contact**

Jörg Niehoff  
[joerg.niehoff@ec.europa.eu](mailto:joerg.niehoff@ec.europa.eu)  
DG Research & Innovation  
Unit B4 - Joint Programming

*Research &  
Innovation*