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Self sustainable network founded

ERA-NET Cofund on Blue Bioeconomy (BlueBio)

Work Package 2

Strategy for the marine biotechnology ERA-NET and beyond in the context of the European Bioeconomy

Publication date: February 2018



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Lead Beneficiary: **Research Council Norway (RCN)**

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Task 2.3

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an overarching summary of the frames and membership of the sustained network formed to take up the legacy from ERA-MBT. This is based on a consortium formed to fulfill **the BG-02-2018 call** on forming a Cofunded ERA-NET addressing the development of the Blue Bioeconomy. The networks from ERA-MBT, ERA-COFASP and JPI Oceans worked together to realize the idea of joining forces in addressing the transdisciplinarity needed to develop the blue bioeconomy.

The full and detailed insight will be available when the application is processed by the Commission, and the consortium (hopefully) can start the project at the end of 2018.

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INTRODUCTION

The ERA-MBT, ERA-COFASP and JPI Oceans initiatives agreed to join forces to form a consortium of European and if possible international funders, interested in value creation from aquatic bioresources. A dialogue with the Commission was initiated and a consortium of 29 funders from 23 countries answered the BG-02-2018 call from the EU-Commission within the deadline of February 13th 2018. If the application is granted, the project will address the aquatic bioresources broadly and work to develop value chains relevant for the multitude of possibilities ranging from sustainable production of food and feed to products and processes with value for a bioeconomy framed society.

Marine biotechnology will be a core enabling technology to realize these aims, and the ERA-MBT knowledge, reports and networks will be continued to contribute to make aquatic bioresources a significant contributor to the bioeconomy.

ERA-NET COFUND ON BLUE BIOECONOMY (BLUEBIO)

OVERALL CONCEPT AND SCOPE

The approach is based on the pooling of financial resources from the participating national and regional research funding agencies with EU co-funding. To achieve agreed research and technology development goals, the Member States seek to apply a range of tools appropriate to the strategic action to be addressed. One of these tools is the first call which is co-funded by EC.

A large call is considered necessary in this area to achieve significant impact. At each stage of the development BlueBio will seek to build on successful research outcomes and avoid duplication with existing projects. Furthermore, additional joint activities that go beyond this co-funded call are planned, to contribute to the national priorities as well as to the strategic research agenda of JPI Oceans, and the ERA-NETs COFASP and MBT. Additional calls and related activities funded through the ERA-NET Cofund could be used to take forward calls for proposals in accordance with the JPI Oceans Operational Plan and tackle common priorities as described by the ERA-NETs. Thus, national research and innovation activities will be combined and aligned in close cooperation and coordination.

The combined activities of BlueBio will create a European Blue Bioeconomy Community which will, in turn, be used to initiate new actions to strengthen Blue Growth in the framework of the bioeconomy. BlueBio will follow the existing value chains and creating new ones. Starting with the sustainable exploration and exploitation of aquatic bioresources; continuing with new or improved approaches for production and processing into a differentiated portfolio of products and services targeting a range of market segments, while applying, and further developing, enabling technologies, particularly the blue biotechnology and digitalisation, for sustainable optimisation throughout the value chain.

The research and innovation areas for BlueBio are illustrated in Figure 1, structuring R&I areas along the value chain from biomass to products and markets (the split arrow) as well as crosscutting and supportive issues (the solid arrows). Potential bioresources and products are detailed in the light blue boxes.

Coordinated actions are required for the industries to strengthen Europe's position in this important and complex economic field in a global market. Solving the challenges and releasing the potential in this field cannot be tackled either at national levels alone, or by a single sector alone. This calls for a pooling of national funding resources on key knowledge gaps.

R&I areas along the value chains – From biomass to products and markets

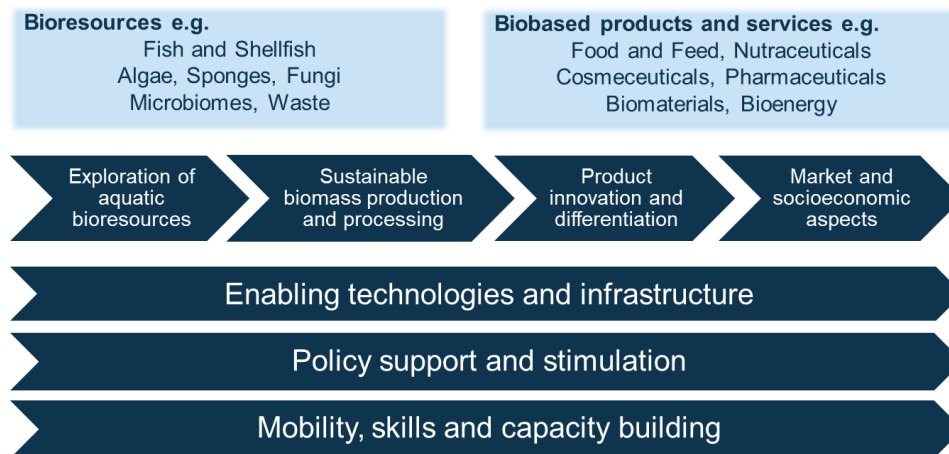


Figure 1. Research and innovation areas along the Blue Bioeconomy value chains from biomass to products and markets, also showing relevant crosscutting R&I areas in the lower part of the figure.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Participant No	Participant organisation name	Short name	Country
1	Norges Forskningsråd (Coordinator)	RCN	NORWAY
2	Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva	MINCYT	ARGENTINA
3	Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek	FWO	BELGIUM
4	Fonds voor Flankerend Economisch Beleid	HERMES	BELGIUM
5	Ministarstvo Znanosti i Obrazovanja	MZO	CROATIA
6	Innovation Fund Denmark	IFD	DENMARK
7	Eesti Teadusagentuur	ETAG	ESTONIA
8	Maaeluministeriumi	MEM	ESTONIA
9	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	MMM	FINLAND
10	Agence Nationale de la Recherche	ANR	FRANCE
11	Region Bretagne	CRB	FRANCE
12	Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung	BMBF	GERMANY
13	Forschungszentrum JÜLICH GmbH	JUELICH	GERMANY
14	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft	BMEL	GERMANY
15	Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung	BLE	GERMANY
16	Geniki Grammatia Erevnas Kai Technologias	GSRT	GREECE
17	Rannsóknamiðstöð Íslands	RANNIS	ICELAND
18	Marine Institute	MI	IRELAND
19	Science Foundation Ireland	SFI	IRELAND
20	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche	CNR	ITALY
21	Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca	MIUR	ITALY
22	Innovaşjon Norge	IN	NORWAY
23	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia	FCT	PORTUGAL
24	Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia	FRCT	PORTUGAL
25	Unitatea Executivă pentru Finanțarea Învățământului Superior, a Cercetării, Dezvoltării și Inovării	UEFISCDI	ROMANIA
26	Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial	CDTI	SPAIN
27	Ministerio de Economía, Industria y Competividad	MINECO	SPAIN
28	Västra Götalands Läns Landsting	VGR	SWEDEN
29	Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande	FORMAS	SWEDEN