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Introduction

Previous cooperation: ECABit-Network

- Participating to the “**Regional Innovation and Incubation Capacity Building Workshop Eastern Europe – Central Asia**”, Kiev, June 9 - 11, 2005 aiming to:
- **Main goal :Promoting Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Eastern Europe & Central Asia:**
61 participants from 18 countries The majority was managers and staff of incubators, other innovation and entrepreneurship organizations, and with policy makers
- **FP7:**Black Sea Era-Net, ERA.NET-RUS Plus;
- **Horizon 2020:** Black Sea Horizon



Policy framework- National Strategy for RD&I 2014-2020

- **The National Strategy for Research, Development and Innovation (NSRD&I) 2014-2020** establishes the priority areas of smart specialization and public priority areas
- developed in 2013, coordinated by the MEN, led by a consortium of **14 R&DI** organizations; contributions from more than **150 organizations** nationally representative categories
- online over **4000 researchers** and specialists about the evolution and impact of science and technology both nationally and internationally.

National Strategy for RD&I 2014-2020

- 3 RD&I areas defined: smart specialization, public priorities and basic research

Areas of **smart specialization** identified and supported by NSRD&I 2014-2020 are:

- bio-economy;
- information and communications technology;
- space and security;
- energy, environment and climate change;
- eco-nano-technologies and advanced materials

NSRD&I 2014-2020

Public priorities:

- health
- heritage and cultural identity
- new and emerging technologies

Basic Research

NSRD&I 2014-2020

The **Vision** main pillars:

- Pillar 1. **Regional and global affirmation**: firms become key innovation operators.
- Pillar 2. **Excellence in Internationalization**: RDI area of opportunity.
- Pillar 3. "**Leadership**" regional frontier science and technology: breakthroughs in strategic areas .
- See "*Extreme Light Infrastructure-Nuclear Physics*" - Magurele, or International Center for Advanced Research (**ELI-NP**) " Danubius Delta", Tulcea) and by stimulating technological concentrations (clusters) border.

NSRD&I 2014-2020

Specific objectives:

OS1. Creating an enabling environment for private sector initiative through entrepreneurship training tools and marketing results of RD&I based on **partnerships between public and private operators.**

OS2. Support **smart specialization** by concentrating resources **in research and innovation** with economic relevance and potential RD&I shown, through **public-public partnerships**

OS3. Focus a significant part of RD&I activities **on societal issues**, for developing public sector capacity RD&I to seek and adopt research results and to respond to global challenges related topics of importance to Romania.

OS4. Supporting aspiration to excellence in research at the frontier of knowledge through research in Romania **internationalization**, international assessment, Romanian RD&I system more attractive by mobility and partnerships.

National Strategy for RD&I 2014-2020

Lines of action: an integrated combination of measures ("*policy mix*") covering the main dimensions of policy RD&I :

1. Fiscal Policies;
2. Policies for public procurement of research and innovation;
3. Policies competitive funding to RD&I for public and private sector;
4. Policies on intellectual property rules;
5. Policy on cooperation and concentration;
6. Policy institutional financing;
7. Policy on human capital;
8. Governance Policies RD&I system.

National Strategy for RD&I 2014-2020

O.S 1 Creating and enabling environment for private sector initiative

The main lines of action are the management of intellectual property and tools oriented funding: tax credits, venture capital funds and guarantee funds.

Though the **Structural Funds** are sustained the following measures:

- Creation of an investment fund with seed capital for the entrepreneurs with innovative ideas; an investment fund (venture capital) and growth capital for innovative start-up.
- Creation of a system of loans (micro-loans, working capital loans, loans for development investment);
- Creation of a system of individual guarantees to cover technology risk in favor of innovative SMEs.

National Strategy for RD&I 2014-2020

Internationalization

Support the **Romania's participation** in Joint Programming Initiatives (JPI), Joint Technology Initiatives (JTI), European Innovation Partnerships (EIP), the bilateral programs, international bodies and cooperation with third countries.

NSRD&I 2014-2020

NSRD&I 2020 is implemented through the following main instruments, plus sector-specific policies (fiscal, educational and so on):

❖ National Funds

- National Plan for Research, Development and Innovation 2014-2020;
- The sectoral plans of ministries
- Plans Romanian Academy and its subordinate units
- Other sectoral policies

❖ EU Structural Funds

- Competitiveness Operational Programme - Objective "Increasing the capacity of the RDI for 2014-2020" (start-up and spin-off).
- Human Capital Operational Programme - part of the "Education and Training"
- Regional Operational Programme - part of the "Competitiveness and the business environment for SMEs"
- Rural Development Operational Programme - part of "Investment in agriculture and rural development".

Supporting PPP/JTI through the National RD&I Plans



- **Programme 1:** Development of the National Research and Development System
- **Programme 2:** Increase Competitiveness of the Romanian Economy through Research, Development and Innovation
- **Programme 3:** European and International Cooperation
- **Programme 4:** Fundamental and Frontier Research
- **Programme 5:** Support to Programmes managed by Institutions with a Scientific Coordination role in Areas of Strategic Interest

Supporting PPP/JTI through the National RD&I Plans-PPP

	2 ND NATIONAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION PLAN	3 RD NATIONAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION PLAN
Duration	2007-2014	2015-2020
PPP at national level	Program 4 – Partnership in priority areas; Program 5 – Innovation	Program 2 – Increase the Competitiveness of the Romanian Economy through Research, Development and Innovation
PPP at European level	Program 4 – Partnership in priority areas;	Dedicated program: Program 3: European and International Cooperation
Legal framework	European projects were financed using the framework for national projects	European projects have a dedicated framework for financing



UEFISCDI/MEN European projects

FP6

- EUROPOLAR
- COOREERS
- HY-CO
- SKEP
- ROMOB
- ERA-ENV
- INTEGRATIG-ACC
- ROINTERA
- INT-ER-LINK
- SEE-ERA-NET
- MANUNET I

FP7

- TRANS REG NCP
- GEALTH NCP NET
- DISCOVER EUROPE
- ENV NCP TOGETHER
- BILAT UKR
- HERITAGE NET
- EUROSIS
- **Black Sea ERA Net**
- MARTEC II
- ERAIB
- ERACOBUILD
- NET HERITAGE
- MNT II
- ERA AGE EXT
- CROSSTEXNET
- SEAS ERA
- E-RARE 2

FP7

- FACCE ERA-NET PLUS
- SUSFOOD
- ERA-MIN
- SINN ERA-NET
- M-ERANET
- MANUNET II
- ERANET LAC
- CORE ORGANIC PLUS
- ERA IB2
- CHIST-ERA
- ERA-MBT
- INCOMERA
- SEERA-EI
- TRANSCOSME
- RIFI
- HIVERA
- JHEP
- NEURON II

FP7

- **ERA.NET-RUS.Plus**
- NMP TEAM II
- ETNA PLUS
- EURONANOMED II
- ERA SYSAPP
- INFECT ERA
- DANUBE-INCO.NET
- RESPOTNET
- FAIR
- SEE-ERA NET PLUS
- NMP TEAM
- EURONANOMED
- NET4 SOCIETY 2
- HERITAGE PLUS
- **COFASP**

H2020

- **BSH**
- ERA-CVD
- SMARTGRIDPLUS
- ERA-HDHL
- EURONANOMED III
- EXEDRA
- COBOITECH
- CORE ORGANIC
- SUSFOOD 2
- **RI-LINKS2UA**
- FACCE-SURPLUS
- ERA-GAS
- BIODIVERSA 3
- E-RARE 3
- GEOTERMICA
- QUANTERA
- MANUNET III
- ERA4CS
- ACT
- PROSAFE
- NEURON
- 4 PRIMA CASA
- WATERWORKS
- ENSUF
- INNOVOUCHER
- COLUMBUS

ROMANIA AND JOINT UNDERTAKINGS



2 ND NATIONAL RD&I PLAN		3 RD NATIONAL RD&I PLAN
CLEAN SKY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public-private partnership to speed up technological breakthrough developments and shorten time to market for new solutions tested on Full Scale Demonstrators• 110 members (including Romania)	CLEAN SKY 2
ENIAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public-private partnership on Nano electronics aimed at enhancing the further integration and miniaturization of devices and increasing their functionalities• November 2009 – Romania became a member of ENIAC JU	ECSEL
ARTEMIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public-private partnership aimed at increasing and leveraging private and public investment in sector of embedded computing systems in Europe• Romania is a founding member, December 2007	
IMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public-private partnership on innovative medicines aimed at increasing investment and supporting pre-competitive R&D in biopharmaceutical sector in Europe	IMI 2
FCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public-private partnership to support R&D&T activities in the field of fuel cells and hydrogen• 2009 – Romania became member of the Research Group	FCH 2
AAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public-private partnership to strengthen the industrial opportunities in Europe through the use of information and communication technology (ICT)	AAL

PPT –European Perspectives-Good practice example- COFASP ERA-NET project

COFASP Cooperation in Fisheries, Aquaculture and Sea food Processing

Main results: a project data base; 4 case studies, a foresight exercise, a strategic research agenda to support the EU policy for next years (2030 year); 3 JTCs; 16 funded projects

- 29 partners from 17 countries; duration 36 months

Objectives

➡ to enhance **innovation** in and **competitiveness** of the primary sectors **fisheries and aquaculture** as well as subsequent **seafood processing** and distribution to the consumer.

➡ to **underpin the revision of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)** and to ensure its successful implementation



PPT Good practice example-COFASP ERA-NET project

- 3rd JTC-organized in common I with ERA-MBT project. Reason: both projects are:
 - Networks of National and regional Funding Organizations from Europe; CSA funded by EU
 - Has similar objectives:
- **To support research on sustainable exploitation of marine renewable resources;** area of **blue biotechnology** (COFASP); More information at the link: www.cofasp.eu ;
- **To support Europe's marine biotechnology community** to participate in a lasting enterprise-driven network that adds value to marine biological resources (ERA-MBT; <http://www.marinebiotech.eu/marine-biotechnology-era-net>)



PPT –European Perspectives-Good practice example-COFASP ERA-NET project

Topics

- ➔ 1. Fisheries stock assessment and dynamic modelling using 'omic' methodologies and tools
- ➔ 2. Genome based approach to genetic improvement of aquaculture species
- ➔ 3. Explore opportunities for the use of biotechnological tools, including targeted enzymes to develop more efficient seafood processing methods and high value products



PPT –European Perspectives-Good practice example-COFASP ERA-NET project

Evaluation of the call –General conclusions

- The 3rd first COFASP organized together with ERA-MBT ERA.NET in general **was appreciated as good, well designed and well organised.**
- The call received an overall positive evaluation and this appeared to be consistent across the different target groups (**applicants, expert evaluators and funders**).
- Overall, funders and expert evaluators seemed to give better scores than applicants.

PPT –European Perspectives-Good practice example-COFASP ERA-NET project

Evaluation of the call -Applicants

Positive aspects

- the communication with the Call secretariat and National Contact Point good
- the calls turned to be successful, even though there was limited participation of funded organizations from different countries
- the proposal submission and proposal evaluation process were (good)
- great chance to produce good science and collaborate with people around Europe.

Critical aspects

It is highly frustrating to work for two months and to find out after r 5 months that the scientific merits and the consortium are both excellent, but the financial requirements of some of the partners are too large and hence the proposal cannot be considered.

PPT –European Perspectives-Good practice example-COFASP ERA-NET project

Evaluation of the call -Experts

Positive aspects

- the communication with the Call secretariat;
- time for doing the scientific evaluation
- the proposal evaluation process (very well)
- the "Conflict of interest" prevention
- the online tool

Critical aspects

- more time for working within the panel meeting

PPT –European Perspectives-Good practice example-COFASP ERA-NET project

Evaluation of the call- Funders

Positive aspects

- the call preparation: MoU negotiation, call documents, timeline the topic selection process even it was a bit more complicated and less extensive due to the (late decision on) cooperation with MBT.
- call announcement, Guidelines for applicants, the communication with the Call secretariat
- the call procedure, the online tool

PPT –European Perspectives-Good practice example-COFASP ERA-NET project

Evaluation of the call- Funders

Critical aspects:

- the call text was long to obtain and the consequence was that the time for applicants to answer to the call was too short.

PPT –European Perspectives-Good practice example-COFASP ERA-NET project

Recommendation for improvements

- the visibility and content of the COFASP website for applicants
- the evaluation procedure ([funder](#)).
- better distribution of evaluators, i.e. too many coming from the same country. reports to the unsuccessful applicants to be more supportive ([funder](#)).
- the financial aspects of the project should be separated from the scientific and other aspects of the call ([applicant](#)).
- the evaluators should focus on the merits or the disadvantages of the scientific part rather than on the budgetary or administrative issues.
- need more time for the panel meetings ([expert](#)).

PPT –European Perspectives-Good practice example-COFASP ERA-NET project

Recommendation for improvements

- The online tool ([applicant](#)):
- Formatting was extremely problematic; especially the pre-submission part;
- The "Conflict of interest" prevention ([funder](#))
- The negotiation and contract signature phase ([applicant](#))



Thank you for your attention!

Name of presenter: Domnica Cotet

Organization: Business Incubator Centre

Contact details: domnicab@yahoo.com