Break-out #3 Advancing alignment via the sharing of research infrastructure and data across countries

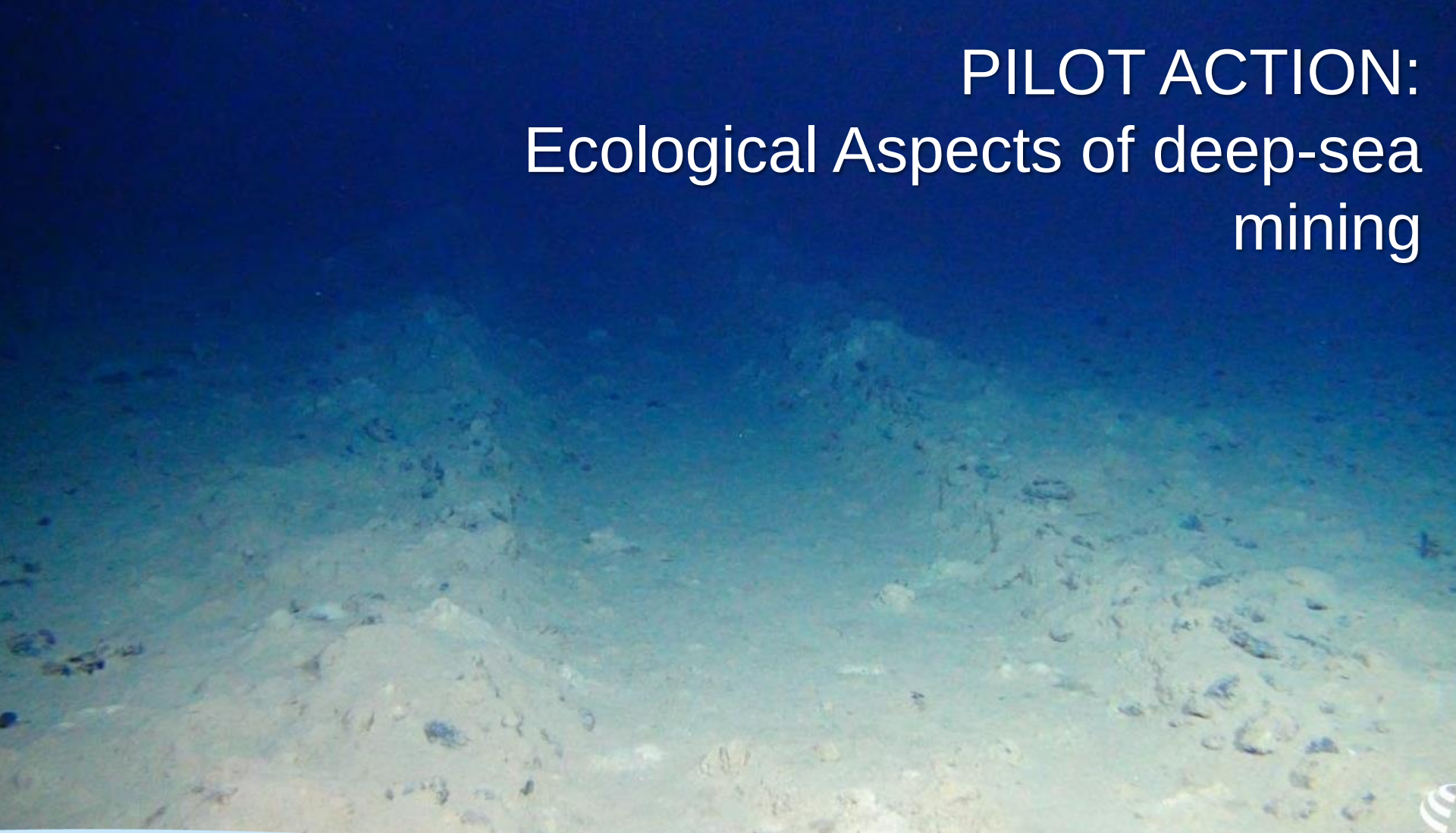
- John Hanus, JPI Oceans (speaker)
- Carlo Rizzuto, Central Eur Research Infrastructures Consortium (speaker)
- Natalia Manola, Open AIRE (speaker)
- Luciano Catani, MIUR. ERA-LEARN
- Denice Moi Thuk Shung, ZonMW, ZonMW, JPI MYBL
- Kristine Naterstad, Norwegian Ministry of research and education
- Martin Baumgarten, FFG.
- Michael Dinges, AIT. ERA-LEARN
- Effie Amanatidou, Univ Manchester. ERA-LEARN (report)
- Christine Bunthof,Wageningen UR. FACCE JPI | PLATFORM (moderator)

Sharing Research Infrastructures Experiences from two Pilot Actions

John Hanus – JPI Oceans Secretariat

JPI OCEANS

PILOT ACTION: Ecological Aspects of deep-sea mining



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GEOMAR

Benefits

- Quick implementation.
- Alignment and integration of national research activities around a common goal.
- Integration of new and ongoing research.
- Community building.
- Cost-cutting.

Challenges

- New process for funding.
- Building a consortium / getting the „most appropriate experts“.
- Securing funding at national level.

PILOT ACTION
Multi-use of infrastructures for monitoring in the North Sea

JPI OCEANS

Benefits

- Reducing the costs of monitoring. (Cost-Benefit-Analysis in progress).
- Freeing up resources for research.
- Standardised data collection and reporting.

Challenges

- Coordination with existing initiatives difficult
- Scaling-up to integrated monitoring programme




Carlo Rizzuto.
Chair central european research infrastructure consortium (CERIC-ERIC)

- There are RI that improve research capability, and those that make it possib
(the second ones have a stronger structuring effect on scientific communitie
- Users should always undergo peer review based selection
- Researchers are hosted free (RI=funding Agency) and data go in the public domain: this gives a strong alignment of resources of different Countries
- The value a hosting organisation gets back compensates the costs
- Risk: management may be submitted to strong political pressures
- Problematic transition from construction to operation: operation costs fall on limited research budgets, this limits sustainability
- Evaluation of infrastructures should not be limited to ESFRI roadmap

What is CERIC-ERIC

- A unique multidisciplinary & multi-technique RI built by integrating existing complementary RIs with a single free/open access
- ERIC consortium supported by 9 Countries in Central EU (Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Slovenia).
- provides analytical and modification techniques based on different microscopic probes (Photons, Electrons, Ions, Neutrons) with over 40 different techniques.
- selects users solely on quality, and open publication of data

What is an ERIC?

- The ERICs are Institutions set-up by the EU, based on EU legislation accepted by all Member Countries
- They have the fiscal exemptions of international organizations, as a stimulus to integrate (align) national resources
- Are relatively easy to set-up and manage (consortia)
- So far 10 have been set-up, most of them supporting RIs with facilities distributed in several Countries

Promote & align OA policies

Participatory Infrastructure

Link to national infrastructures

Link to domain discipline data infras

Open Scholarship

OPENAIRE

Open Science

Open Innovation

Link to open gov data initiatives

Link to open education & learning environments

Key benefits

- **OpenAIRE brandname**
  - **Well recognized in Europe and beyond**
    - **A powerful network with outreach to national nodes & ministries**
  - **Key player in European & global e-Infrastructures**

- **Service-oriented infrastructure**
  - **Infrastructures are good as long as they are invisible**
  - **Services is the key for visibility and uptake**

- **Building on a community of practice**
  - **Experts and not appointed organizations**
  - **Build on existing, continue with emerging best practices**
  - **Free flow, cross-fertilization of ideas**

- **Working on a voluntary level**
  - **Grass root approach – form a community/team**
  - **Synchronization and uptake takes more time**
  - **Lacking ministry commitment**
  - **Not enough funding**

A continuous puzzle

- **Multi faceted operations**
  - **Hard to keep up the human activities with technological advancements**
- **Geographical and thematic boundaries. Interplay of key players**
  - **National infrastructures**
  - **Thematic (domain discipline) infrastructures**
  - **European and global infrastructures**
- **National infrastructures. Combine many local stakeholders**
  - **Institutions, data centers**
  - **Research communities/infrastructures**
  - **Ministries**

Implementation challenges

- **Continuous re-evaluation of people/organizations**
  - **Changing landscape, changing expertise**
- **Policy synchronization and alignment**
  - **Strong EC policies – spanning DGs**
  - **Diverted efforts**
  - **Member states follow (in due time)**
  - **Institutions – need assistance**
- **Going beyond a project**
  - **Willingness to participate vs. willingness to pay**
- **Flexible and inclusive governance**
  - **Keep grass roots approach**
  - **Commitment of EU countries**
  - **Support at the local and national level**

Conclusions

Shared use of infrastructures, shared methodologies, shared data:

- Useful tool to align, integrate and enable national research.
- Cost-effective measure which can free up new research money.
- Enables effective and collective response to policy challenges.
- Requires flexibility in national funding procedures.
- Value is larger than the costs
- Effect : increasing quality (peer review)
- Strenghten the institutional / national advocacy
- Gears implementation of EC policies (open data)

- The effect is larger than the sum of the parts