



ERA  
LEARN  
2020

ERA-LEARN satellite event

## **The future of alignment actions for P2Ps**

*Cooperation between P2Ps and other EU partnerships to better align transnational research and innovation activities*

# Aims

- Disseminate the ERA-LEARN 2020 results of studies on alignment
- Contribute to the current discussion on the future of partnerships by focusing on the alignment features of P2Ps, in particular:
  - broaden the perspectives of P2P alignment actions by cooperating with other partnerships, especially on innovation
  - help to identify the features of future instruments for partnerships which create the best conditions for align. actions/approaches
- Provide further elements for the finalisation of the SWOT analysis by including your experience with strength and weakness of alignment actions and approaches

## Agenda

14:00 – 14:20	Setting the scene: alignment actions of P2Ps ERA – LEARN: Effie Amanatidou (University of Manchester), Michael Dinges (AIT)
14:20 – 14:40	Experiences from the FET Flagships Interim Evaluation Calogero Oddo - Senior Advisor of the FET Flagships Evaluation Panel.
14:40 – 15:00	Experiences from the Central European Research Infrastructures Consortium
15:00 – 16:15	Group work on the future of alignment for P2Ps



# **Alignment in P2Ps Perspectives from ERA-LEARN 2020**

**Michael Dinges, AIT**  
**Effie Amanatidou, UNIMAN**

The future of alignment actions for P2Ps: Cooperation between P2Ps and other EU partnerships to better align transnational research and innovation activities

08.11.2017

# Alignment

## Definition & typology

common definition of alignment in a P2P context;  
typology of different joint actions and instruments that can facilitate the practical implementation of alignment

**Toolbox of current and novel alignment modalities**

synthesises the lessons learned from the case studies

describes specific alignment actions or instruments in practical terms: key benefits and weaknesses and the success factors necessary to ensure effective implementation and impact

current approaches

examine in depth selected actions and instruments that promote greater alignment amongst EU national research programmes and activities

novel modalities

case studies

novelty refers to approaches, modalities and instruments that are new to the overall community: recently been implemented, new topics, not yet been utilised but of potential interest for the P2P community

trans-regional perspective

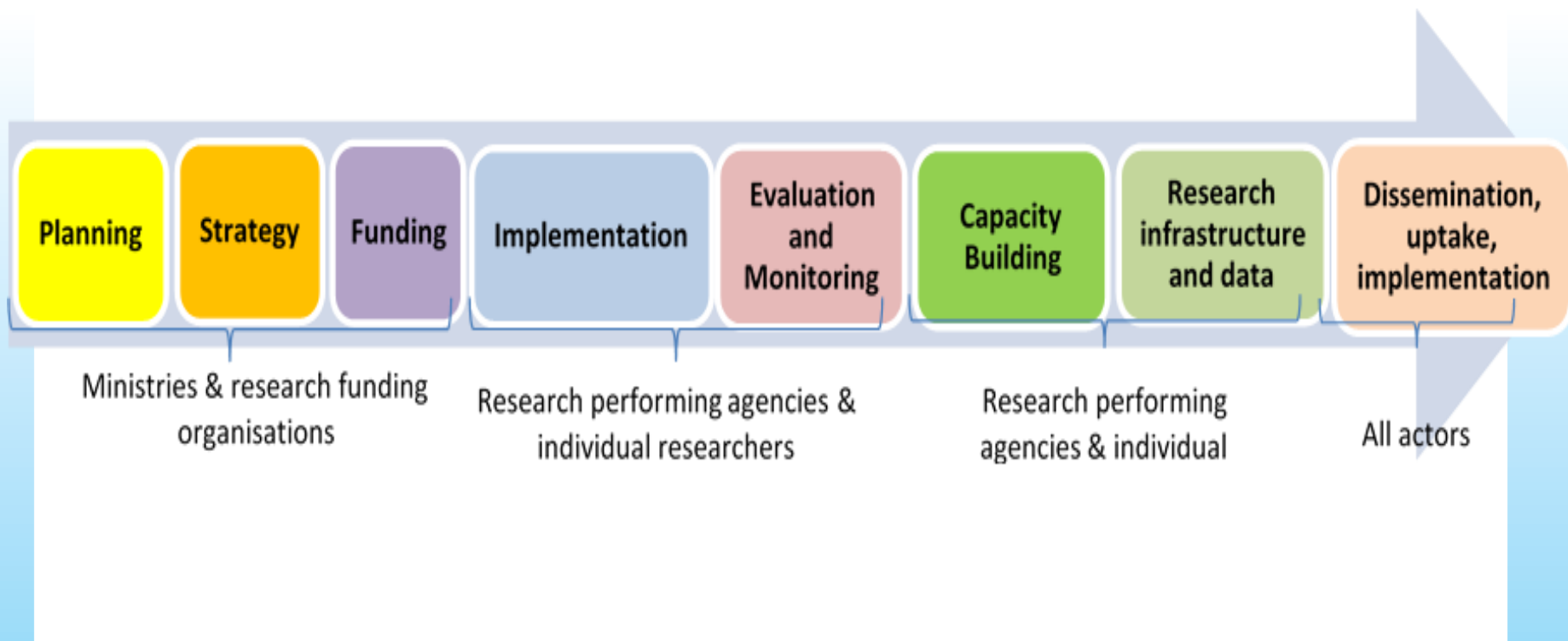
approaches and experiences undertaken at European level having a “regional component”: proximity or homogeneous geographic, common economic, cultural and social challenges/needs and common objectives and strategies, etc.

**SWOT analysis**

based on the assessment criteria developed for the national level and the regional level

illustrates potential future benefits and risks of each specific alignment modality, under given contexts (governance, institutional, operational)

## Alignment actions across the entire research and innovation programming cycle



## Outcomes of ERA-LEARN 2020 with respect to alignment (01/2015-12/2017)

- Revised [Alignment Typology](#) (09/2017)
- [27 Case Studies](#) on current, novel and trans-regional alignment approaches (08/2017)
- [Synthesis report on Alignment Actions](#) (09/2017)
- SWOT analysis specific joint actions to achieve alignment (11/2017)



## Observations based on the case studies: National R&I System and beyond

- Critical actors in all cases are **national actors** (PEOPLE)
- National actors come from **different organisations in the national R&I system**
- Alignment is not a matter of national ministries and/or national funding agencies only
- Case Studies show that **alignment concerns all strategic actors in the national R&I system**
- If alignment is related to provide solutions to **societal challenges, relevant actors** clearly go **beyond the R&I system** and end-users involvement becomes key.



## Observations based on the case studies: National actors concerned with alignment

Persons in power in  
National ministries

- Unit European cooperation AND unit for national strategies and programmes
- Unit for research AND unit for innovation
- Interministerial coordination needed

Persons in power in  
National Funding Agencies

- Unit European cooperation AND unit for national strategies and programmes
- Unit for research AND unit for innovation

Directors/rectors of  
universities and research and  
technology organisations

- Alignment of research agendas/priorities across Europe
- Coordinated use of basic funding
- Coordinated use of research infrastructure

Persons in power in end-user  
networks

(hospitals, cities, industry)

- Strong national community if it comes to implementation is necessary otherwise societal challenges will not be addressed

## Observations based on the case studies: National actors concerned with alignment

### Important elements for national coordination

Awareness raising on national level for joint actions to achieve alignment

High relevance of joint actions achieving alignment on the national/organisations agenda

Commitment at national/organisations level to join actions achieving alignment

Monitoring/Evaluation of activities and adjustment of activities to benefit from alignment on national level

### Example Cases

Austrian alignment position, FACCE JPI Joint Mapping, JPI Climate SRIA

HERA

ERA4CS, ERA-PLANET, Infravation, JPI Oceans infrastructure sharing

Article 185 (AAL, EMRP)

OpenAIRE

## Three alignment levels: strategic, operational and financial

Case studies	Strategic	Operational	Financial
<b>Existing P2P cases that can be useful to other P2Ps</b>			
• MACSUR		X	
• EMRP	X	X	X
• ERA-NET PLUS INFRAVATION			X
• HERA ERA-NET			X
• JPI Ocean's Shared Research Vessel		X	
• FACCE joint mapping	X		
• OpenAIRE		X	
• CoEN	X	X	
• JPI Climate SRIA update	X		
<b>'New' cases that can be useful to P2Ps</b>			
• EERA – Novel	X	X	
• ERA PLANET – NOVEL	X	X	X
• ERA4CS – NOVEL		X	X
• Common national position on alignment – Austria	X		
• Alignment of national AAL Programmes - Austria	X		
• New York University CUSP		X	
• ECSEL – Novel	X	X	X
<b>Transregional cases that can be useful to P2Ps</b>			
• NordForsk	X	X	X
• BONUS	X	X	X
• EDCTP	X	X	X
• CERIC		X	X
• Vanguard	X	X	X
• DACH		X	
• BLUEMED	X		

## Strategic alignment

Challenges and good practice examples (each with their own weaknesses)

- Identifying areas of common interest
  - Joint mapping exercise that was carried out under FACCE-JPI
  - JPI Climate in updating its SRIA
  - But also the BLUEMED initiative
  - Vanguard Initiative for New Growth through Smart Specialisation
  
- Need for national coordination
  - Austria's initiative to develop a national position towards alignment

## Operational alignment

Challenges and good practice examples (not without weaknesses)

- Identification of call topics
  - Nordforsk process
  - EMRP process
  - Austria's programme BENEFIT, aligned to Art 185 AAL initiative
- A central call secretariat for call management and implementation
  - But also the Lead Agency Procedure in the DACH Agreement,
  - Or the ERA-NET HERA
- Funding procedures and reporting
- Sharing of data, results and infrastructure
  - JPI Oceans, CERIC-ERIC, OpenAire but also
  - New York University Center for Urban Science and Progress (CURSP)
- Capacity building and user engagement
  - Knowledge Hub MACSUR but also ECSEL JU

## Financial alignment

Challenges and good practice examples (not without weaknesses)

- Variety of funding models
  - Real common pot for e.g. ERA-NET Infravation or Nordforsk but also looking for alternatives
- In-cash and in-kind contributions (ERA-PLANET or ERA4CS) but also EDCTP
- Ensuring fair national contributions
  - ERA-NET HERA
  - Nordforsk
- Maximising the use of EU contribution (Cofund actions)

## Opportunities and Threats for alignment

An uncertain future calls for even more collaboration (Juncker's White Paper)  
Entails opportunities which however will turn to threats if factors not in place:

- Political commitment to the Joint Programming Process
- A national R&I system that prioritises societal challenges
- National coordination for joint programming, dedicated structure and budget
- Flexible funding for participation in joint programming
- A coherent ERA landscape and overarching joint programming strategy

A dual approach:

- A 'soft' approach for new networks or existing ones aiming at networking, mapping activities, trust building activities, etc.
- A 'stronger' one for more ambitious networks with increased commitment
- But what does that mean for alignment?



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## **WORLD CAFÉ QUESTIONS**



## **Pathways for strengthening the role of P2Ps and for increasing the co-operation and the coherence with other EU R&I partnerships**

- How can a link be established between P2Ps and the next framework programme's definition of topics?
- How can the ERA-landscape become leaner and more coherent?
- Should P2Ps be underlined by specific exit-strategies? How would these be better defined?

## **The role of alignment in the future shape and form of P2Ps**

- Should partnerships strengthen their role as a strategic hub for research and innovation on the relevant FP9 challenge/mission?
- How to ensure sufficient coordination between the challenge/mission in FP9 and the introduction of a partnership roadmap?
- How to ensure smooth transition to a more flexible approach in FP9 with multiple options for organisation and support reflecting different levels of commitment and ambition?

## **A broader understanding of alignment encompassing engagement with users and strengthening the innovation dimension?**

- What are the most urgent alignment issues considering the European Research Area?
- How should innovation orientation be interpreted for P2Ps?
- What are suitable instruments for strengthening co-creation and user engagement in P2Ps?



**Thank you for your attention!**

**Effie Amanatidou, Michael Dinges, Luciano Catani  
on behalf of ERA-LEARN 2020**

**AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH**  
Donau-City-Strasse 1 | 1220 Vienna | Austria  
M +43 664 88390649  
[michael.dinges@ait.ac.at](mailto:michael.dinges@ait.ac.at)