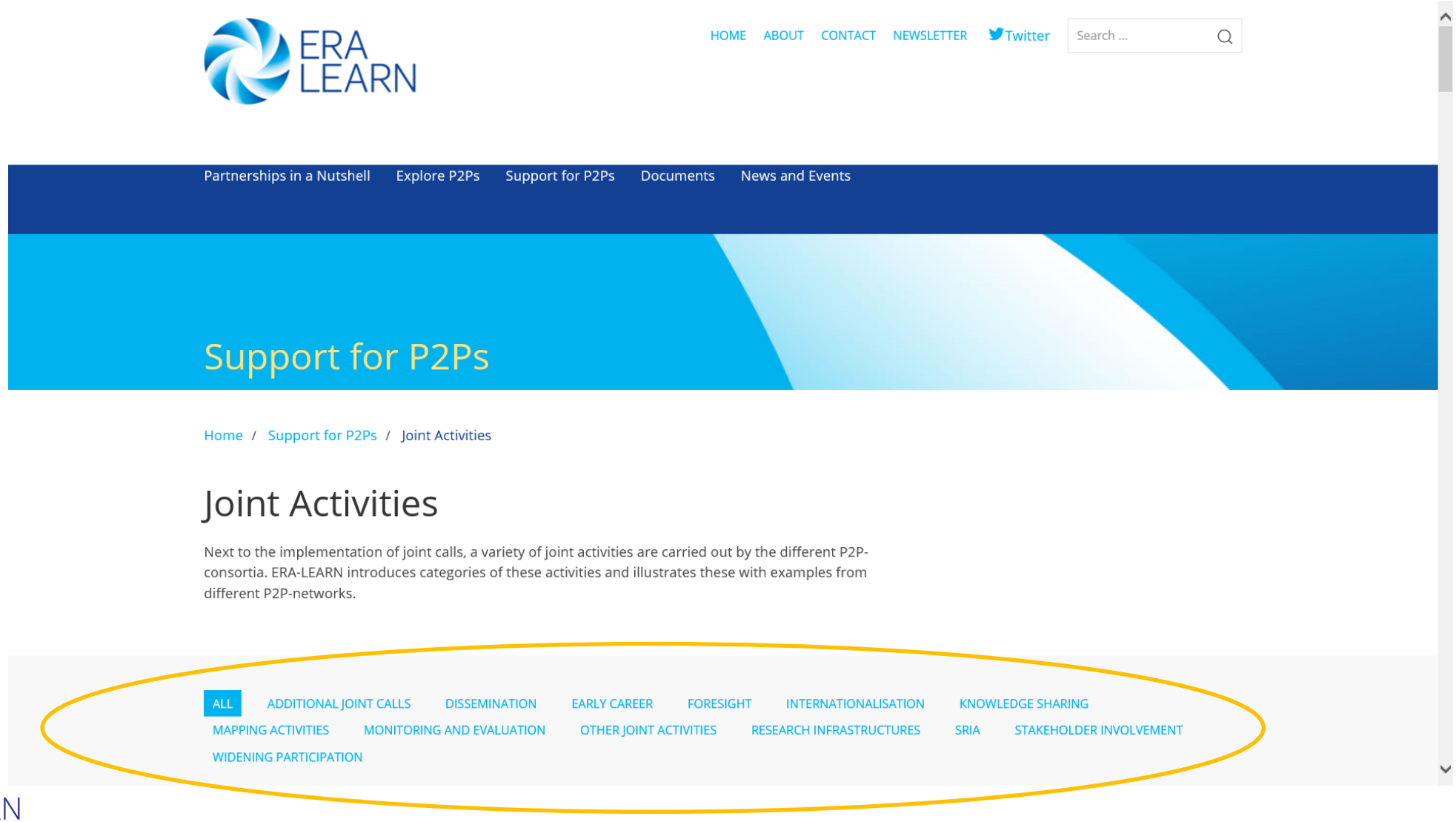
Supporting the preparation of future European Partnerships

Session D: Activities and contributions beyond joint calls

Moderator: Christiane Wehle (DLR Project Management Agency, Germany; ERA-LEARN)

Rapporteurs: Ursula Bodisch (FFG), Effie Amanatidou (both ERA-LEARN)

Overview: additional activities in H2020



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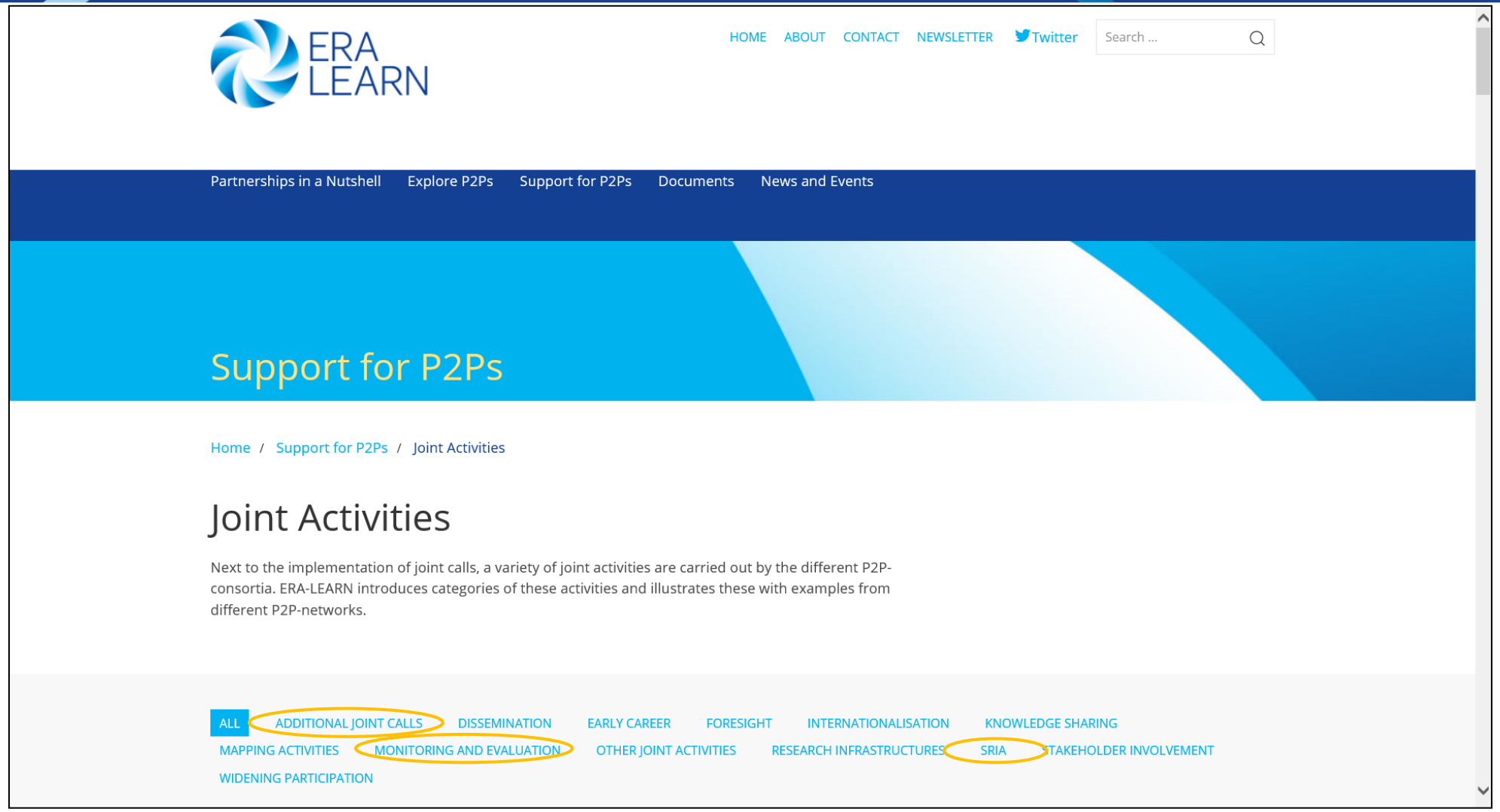
Overview: core activities for funders



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Overview: additional activities in H2020 - examples stakeholder engagement

ALL | ADDITIONAL JOINT CALLS | DISSEMINATION | EARLY CAREER | FORESIGHT | INTERNATIONALISATION | KNOWLEDGE SHARING | MAPPING ACTIVITIES | MONITORING AND EVALUATION | OTHER JOINT ACTIVITIES | RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES | SRIA | STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT | WIDENING PARTICIPATION

Example Biodiversa Stakeholder Engagement Handbook

The BiodivERsA Stakeholder Engagement Handbook is designed to help research project teams to better plan and engage with non-academic stakeholders, including policy makers. The objective of the Handbook is to provide a framework and selection of tools so that each research consortium can determine which types of stakeholder engagement are the most profitable for their research project. More information is available here. (http://www.biodiversa.org/702)

Visit Website

Example Urban Europe

The case study "Co-creation of a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda in a Joint Programming Initiative - A New Stakeholder Involvement Approach of JPI Urban Europe" (https://www.era-learn.eu/publications/other-publications/annual-summary-report-on-good-practices-in-the-implementation-of-jpis)demonstrates how a co-creational process design can be used to integrate the perspectives of heterogeneous stakeholders across different countries when setting up a strategic research and innovation agenda (SRIA). The case study shows that a co-creational process design bears potential to establish sustainable stakeholder commitment and provide a nucleus for (in-) formal stakeholder networks. Co-creation approaches can therefore be regarded as a stakeholder involvement (SHI) modality to which other JPIs may refer to in general.

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Example Water JPI

The case study "Bridging the gap towards Innovation - The Water JPI Activities on Stakeholder Involvement" (https://www.era-learn.eu/publications/other-publications/annual-summary-report-on-good-practices-in-the-implementation-of-jpis) provides information on the Water JPI approach to addresses the complex challenge of stakeholder involvement (SHI) throughout the policy cycle of a JPI with different activities and instruments. Specific attention is given to means to involve innovation-driven end-users (i.e. economic sector respective water suppliers and utilities)

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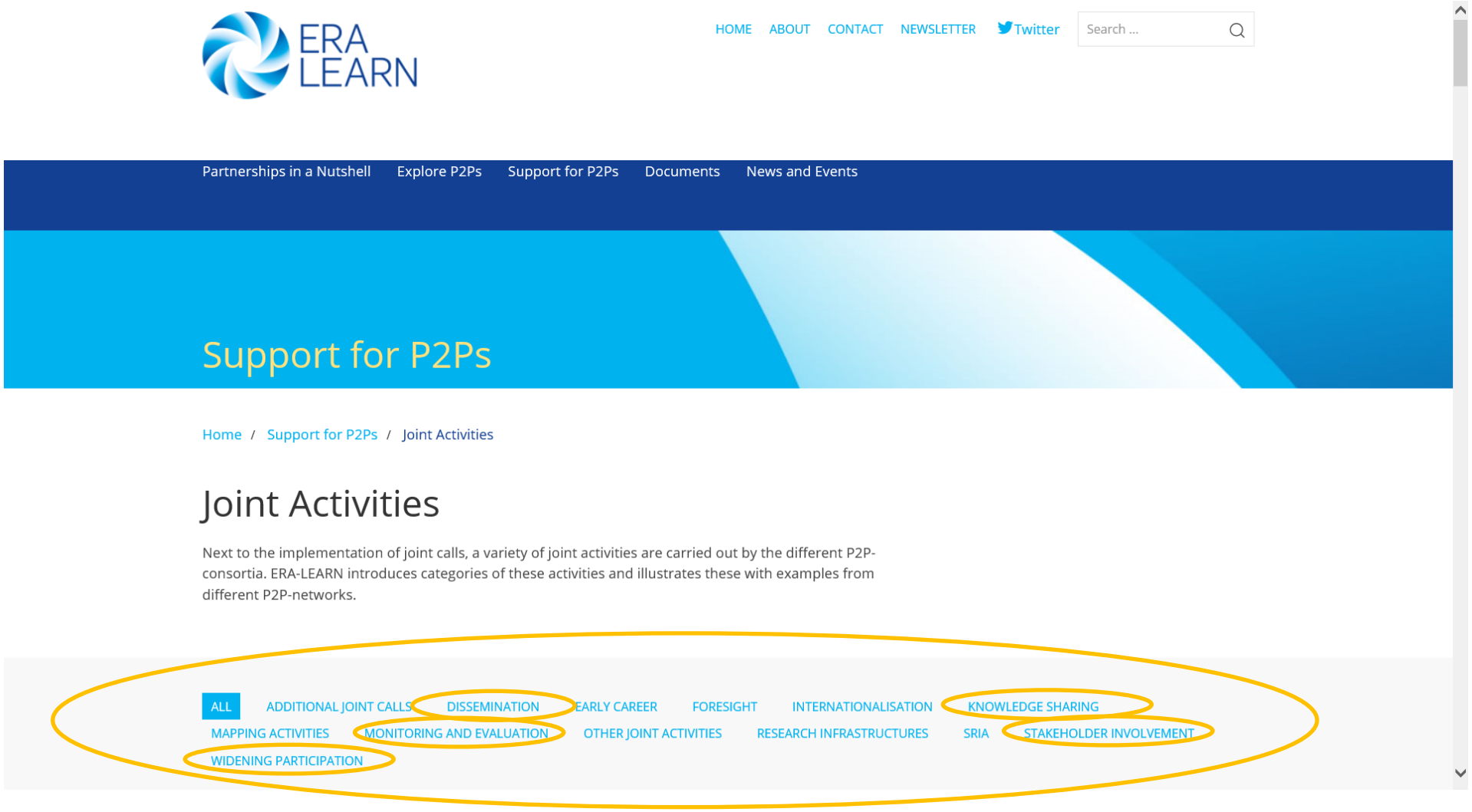
Overview: additional activities especially relevant in Horizon Europe

- transparency
- openness
- impact
- coherence
- coordination with regional/ national programmes



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Guiding questions

- **What can be learned from previous partnerships (e.g. additional activities from ERA-NETs, EJP cofunds, Joint Programming Initiatives)?**
- **What types of additional activities have been identified so far in the preparation of the new partnerships?**
- **Which types of organisations are best placed to prepare these additional activities? What kind of commitments are needed?**
- **Which activities are better directly implemented by partners, which by providing financial support to third parties?**
- **... what is realistically feasible (given the existing ressources)???**

Supporting the preparation of future European Partnerships

Session D: Activities and contributions beyond joint calls

Maria Reinfeldt (EC), Andrej Lintu (EC)

Background

What does Horizon Europe say?

Annex III: Systemic approach ensuring active and early involvement of Member States and achievement of the expected impacts of the European Partnership through the flexible ***implementation of joint actions of high European added value*** *also going beyond joint calls for research and innovation activities,* ***including those related to market, regulatory or policy uptake****.*

Why? To deliver on impact, and to ensure the added value of Partnerships compared to traditional R&I projects.

What is the experience so far, findings from past evaluations?

- Need to **maximise the impact of our research results for policy** (see e.g. meta-evaluation of Art 185s)
- *"the operational modalities [of partnerships] still* ***mostly rely on the traditional calls for projects****…with respect to more systemic reforms and innovations, the traditional approach is* ***not likely to result in major impact****. Partnerships are a tool that should be used to establish ambitious new innovation environments facilitating the development of* ***new experimental platforms****. This requires the adoption of* ***new types of approaches, activities*** *and projects constellations, as well as integration of* ***demand side measures*** *(smart regulations, standards and norms, procurement, etc.)."* (source: Technopolis report 2017)

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Input to the discussion based on screening of proposals

Examples of out of the box thinking…

With Horizon Europe tools (RIA, IA, CSA…)

- **CSA used as tool to enable synergies with other initiatives (instead of internal coordination support)**
- **Business validation and ecosystem activities**
- **Living labs (farming, health and care)**
- **Enabling the participation of cities/municipalities in R&I projects (urban transition)**
- **Activities to ensure access to research data and infrastructure (health)**
- **Trials and pilots**

Additional activities by partners

- **Contribution to regulatory processes, standardization (hydrogen, 5G)**
- **Strengthening cross-project collaboration**
- **Deployment of technology (hydrogen valleys, circularity hubs)**
- **Implementation of new models/policy innovations by public sector (personalized medicine)**

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Session D: Activities and contributions beyond joint calls

Input from: Sirpa Nuotio, Academy of Finland (AKA)

Experiences – from a funding agency point of view 1/2

Academy of Finland funds high-quality research and actively contributes its science policy expertise to advance the quality and impact of scientific research, support the renewal of science and develop research environments in Finland.

Academy of Finland has participated in 32 European networks during last 5 years: JPI Water, JPND, JPI MYBL, BONUS, EDCTP, ERA-NEURON, ERAPerMed, EJP RD, BiodivERsA, CHIST-ERA, HERA, …..

Added value of co-funded partnerships as compared with usual EU-projects: There is (hopefully!) closer and more direct link for national policy making

- Societal impact cannot be fully realised without actions and decisions at national level
- Need for cross-sectorial interaction and collaboration
- Decision makers (such as ministries) and stakeholder prefer involvement in broad programmes (instead of individual projects).

➔Activities beyond joint calls are important in pathway to broader scientific and societal impact

Motivation of a national funding agency: benefit of national landscape as part of European and global effort, but taking account of the profile of the funding agency

- Academy of Finland: high-quality, impact and renewal

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Experiences – from a funding agency point of view 2/2

Activities beyond joint calls can create significant impact!

Positive examples:

- SRIA contributed to national water strategy - and vice versa. Partnership is an efficient way to bring important views in attention of other countries and other European actors.
- Policy briefs and analyses have been useful to 1) inform decision makers directly and 2) help researchers to communicate about their research
- Stakeholder forums: necessary for dialogue
- Foresight activities: useful for dialogue
- Networks, platforms, knowledge hubs: improving methods, practises, data management, monitoring etc.
- Global collaboration: knowledge sharing, databases, new practises, etc.
- Capacity building, networking and training activities, especially early career researchers, as well as improved professional competence of participants
- Awards and prizes; visibility

Plans / Expectations

Important to strengthen activities beyond joint calls ➔ increasing both scientific and societal impact

- European partnerships should be more than funding research projects
- This should be reflected in implementation plan and budget of the partnership
- This should be reflected also in follow-up indicators (not only financial monitoring)
- Funding agencies can easily fund research projects, but often more difficult to fund activities beyond joint calls, ➔ Commission support is very helpful and needed especially here
- Expectations in increasing dialogue with stakeholders, also nationally
- Expectations also towards joint concrete actions in global context
- Common guidelines are useful, each partnership is different
- Challenges: complexity, national coordination, participation in technology- and industry-driven partnerships

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Session D: Activities and contributions beyond joint calls

Input from: JPI More Years, Better Lives
Denice Moi Thuk Shung

Experiences – JPI MYBL

x fast track projects

X Overview of landscape and its important actors

X expert workshop

X Alignment & mutual learning

Plans – HCST partnership

xForesight & strategy

X bring together all relevant stakeholders and work on the longer term vision.

X Implementation, knowledge transfer

X common strategy among all relevant stakeholders to align implementation and scale-up actions and mutual learning activities.

Supporting the preparation of a future European Partnership on biodiversity

Session: Activities and contributions beyond joint calls

Xavier Le Roux, BiodivERsA Chair and Coordinator

& Claire Blery, BiodivERsA CEO

Experiences from biodiversa

11,550 funded projects referenced

Projects/programs
Res Infrastructures
Collaboration networks
Nature-based solutions
…

Mapping and foresight

Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda

Guides
R&I workshops

Stakeholder engagement

Funding joint calls for research

9 calls
234 Mio€
(158 Mio in cash)

Knowledge transfer

Other activities: alignment, mobility schemes

Policy briefs

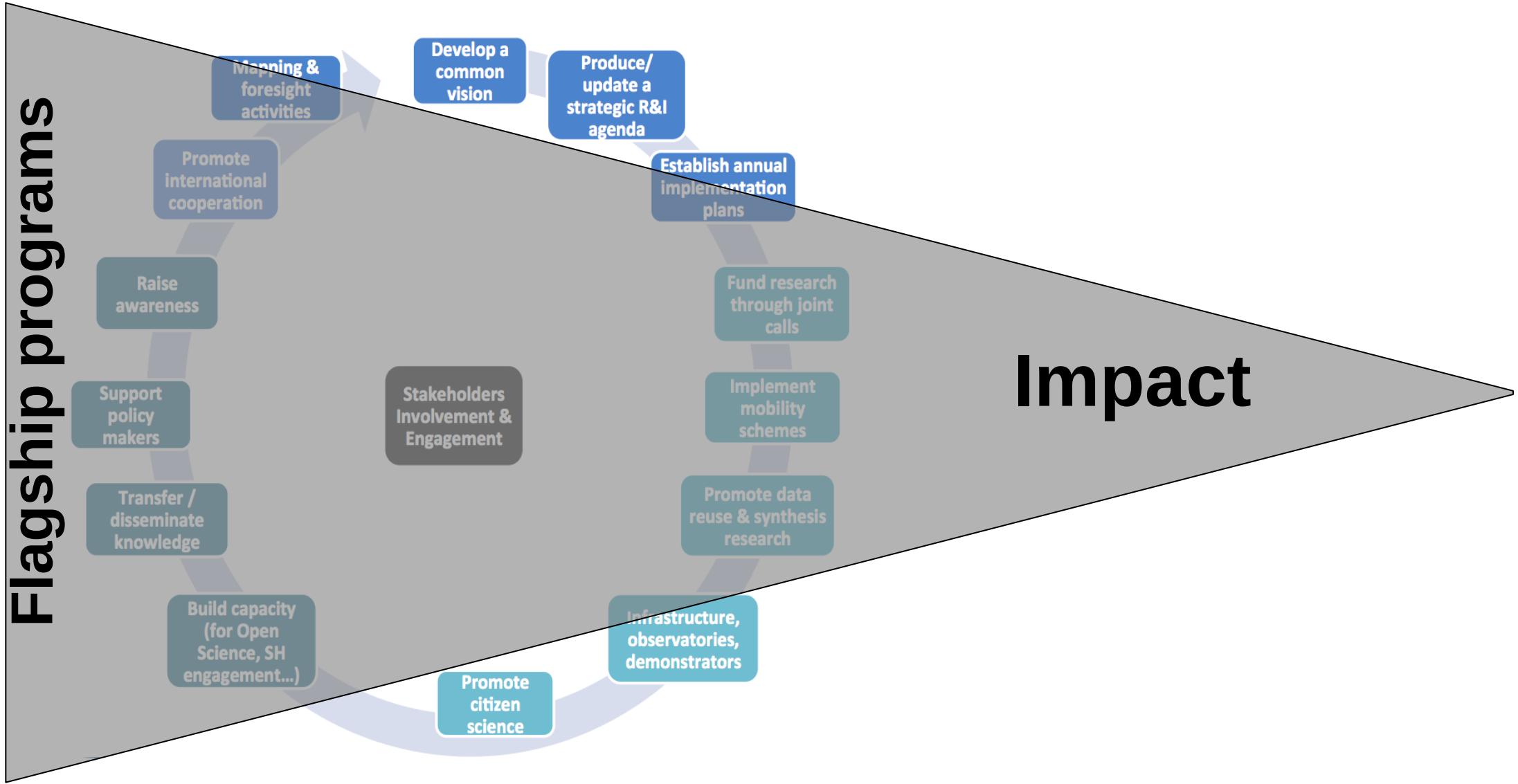
ipbes

Programs based on synthesis centres for reuse of existing data
Capacity building
(Open Science; Citizen science…)

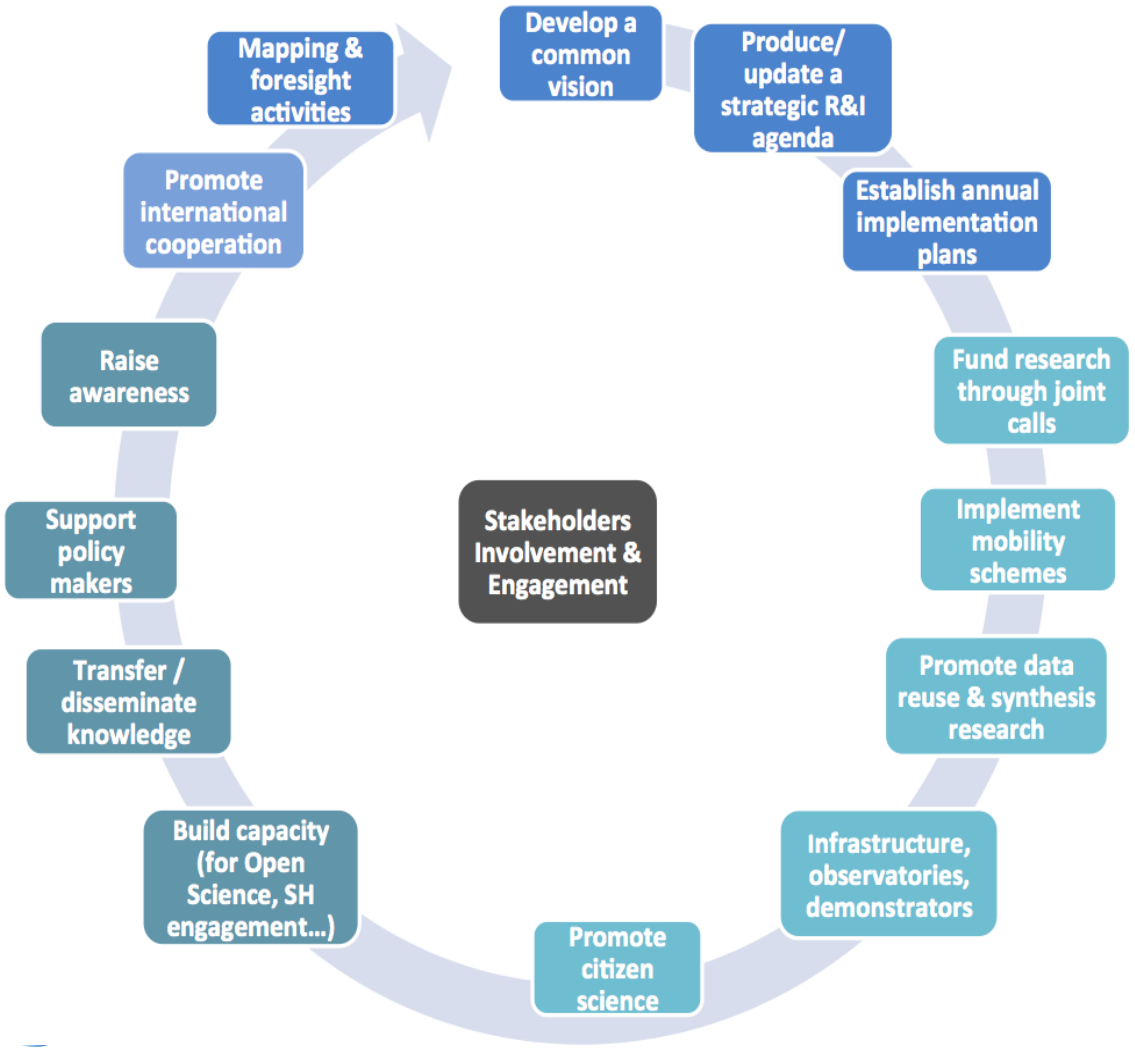
- Already **a broad range of activities**
- **With the Partnership:**
  - ⇢ Increased mobilization, resources, political support
  - ⇢ Reinforced national alignment
  - ⇢ Better synergies with EC
  - ⇢ Better link to private actors
  - ⇢ Reinforce international dimension
  - ⇢ Science-based support to policy

➔Topical flagship programs using diverse activities in a systemic manner

Plans for the co-funded partnership **“Rescuing Biodiversity to Safeguard Life on Earth”**



Plans for the co-funded partnership **“Rescuing Biodiversity to Safeguard Life on Earth”**



Important issues:

- **Activities guided by expected impacts**
- **Feasibility:** need to remain realistic and plan the right level of activities as compared to resources
- **Flexibility**: adjust the activities planned during the course of the partnership
- **Resources:**
  - ⇢ what level of resources for the different activities & what support from EC?
  - ⇢ Find a good balance between resources allocated to research funding & other activities
  - ⇢ Allow participation from the private sector (incl. sponsorship)
- **Collaboration with key other initiatives :**
  - ⇢ Role of a few key initiatives to reach some objectives (Third Parties)

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Input from: Driving Urban Transitions
Margit Noll (FFG)

Experiences – JPI Urban Europe on Programme Management

- **AGORA – Shaping and managing a stakeholder platform**
- Facilitating science-policy exchange and learning
- ‘Low threshold’ settings
- **Various formats for dissemination of R&I results**
- Clustering of projects, contribution to advancement of instruments
- Target-group specific exploitation and dissemination of results (webinar series, policy briefs, synthesis)
- **Capacity building for urban practitioners**
- Promotion of Urban Living Labs and co-creation formats
- First training exercises
- **Contribution to urban policy making**
- Cooperation with UAEU, Leipzig charter, cooperation with policy networks

Plans – Driving Urban Transitions, Portfolio of Measures

Instruments

From knowledge creation to implementation

Towards implementation and investment	Synthesis and knowledge hubs	Replication schemes	Link to investment programmes & structural funds		Communication and dissemination
Community and capacity building in/across all stakeholder groups	UERA	AGORA – stakeholder platform	Workshops, seminars, webinars	Trainings	
Co-creation and testing of new knowledge, innovative approaches and solutions	Joint Calls – R&I projects, ULLs, Innovation actions, alignment actions				
Strategy and alignment	Monitoring	National coordination	Partnerships with related networks	Widening and international outreach	

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Supporting the preparation of future European Partnerships

9 - 10 March 2020, Brussels

Session D: “Activities and contributions beyond joint calls”

Input from: **ANSES - French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety**
Preparation of Partnership on Chemicals risk assessment - Adrienne Pittman
EJP One Health Coordinator - Arnaud Callegari
Participation in EJP HBM4EU
VITO - Flemish Institute for Technological Research *Greet Schoeters & Kirsten Baken*
Co-coordination of HBM4EU and involved in preparation of Partnership on Chemical Risk Assessment

Experiences –

Notably from EJP "One Health" and HBM4EU

- Many different activities and types of contributions also depending on the many different types of actors and objectives of the "partnership"
    - Research activities through calls for research projects and PhD projects
    - Integrative activities through joint integrative projects: 1) training and capacity building; 2) experimental facilities/models; 3) detection-/typing methods/protocols; 4) strain collections/reference materials/biobanks; 5) digital infrastructures/data sharing protocols/bioinformatics; 6) surveillance strategies/reporting/signalling; 7) legal/policy aspects
    - Education activities
    - Strategic interactions with European stakeholders and other EU-funded projects and initiatives
- Multiplication of boards – different contributions – Ministries, agencies, research organisations and academia
- Co-funding different according to the activities (100% EU funded activities e.g. costs relating to the organisation of activities undertaken within the partnership and other "co-funded" activities e.g. scientific activities) → difficulties in the variable co-funding rate from one partner to another
- Research activities through internal calls
- Budget → cannot plan precise allocation at proposal stage, while activities are defined according to progress

Please let us know your key lessons learned based on your experience.

Plans -

Suggestions we will make for the partnership on Chemicals risk assessment based on our experiences

- Activities still to be clearly defined but according to a structure with 6 components (major pillars of the partnership) and building blocks (main activities) in each component
    - 2 major scientific components: exposure and toxicology which will include Research activities through calls for research projects (format still to be defined) and integrative activities to work on e.g. case studies
    - 2 other central components for data management and safe by design which will include harmonisation and analysis activities and platform creations
    - Activities to turn national activities (such as human biomonitoring programmes) into added value at EU level
    - Activities to link policy and science: including knowledge management, priority setting activities as well as training and collaboration activities
    - Sustainability and outreach activities: including capacity building, interactions with stakeholders, communication and dissemination activities
- Different types of activities = different types of actors. Multiple boards providing diverse input. Need co-leaders for each component & building block; clear and precise definition of roles & eligibility, including a certain autonomy in the management of the “components” & building blocks
- Some activities, such as those to promote harmonisation (questionnaires, surveys, study design, sample collection, laboratory measurements), efficiency, data management & data sharing at EU level require substantial funding that will not be allocated via calls
- Budget & reporting of activities → need more flexibility, allocation according to implemented activities as the partnership progresses; better rate of planning and reporting of activities undertaken to focus on impacts: work plans to be replaced by short-term (2-3 years), medium-term (7 years) objectives work plans and flexibility to adjust these according to progress

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Please let us know your fundamental plans for your Horizon Europe Partnership.

Thank you.