



Final Assessment of M-ERA.NET (2012-2015)

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M-ERA.NET in Brief

- long history of network including predecessor networks since 2004 (MATERA/MNT-ERA.NET → M-ERA.NET → M-ERA.NET2)
- M-ERA.NET: “From materials science and engineering to innovation for Europe”
- All phases of innovation chain
- Coordinator: FFG (Austria)
- 25 countries – 36 funding organisations + observers
- 4 calls 2012–2016; 2-stage submission
- Approx. 600 pre-proposals; 90+ funded transnational projects

Organisation of Assessment

Accompanying Assessment

- Internal; Task force of 6 Consortium Members
- Surveys/statistical analysis, report, discussion session for improvement

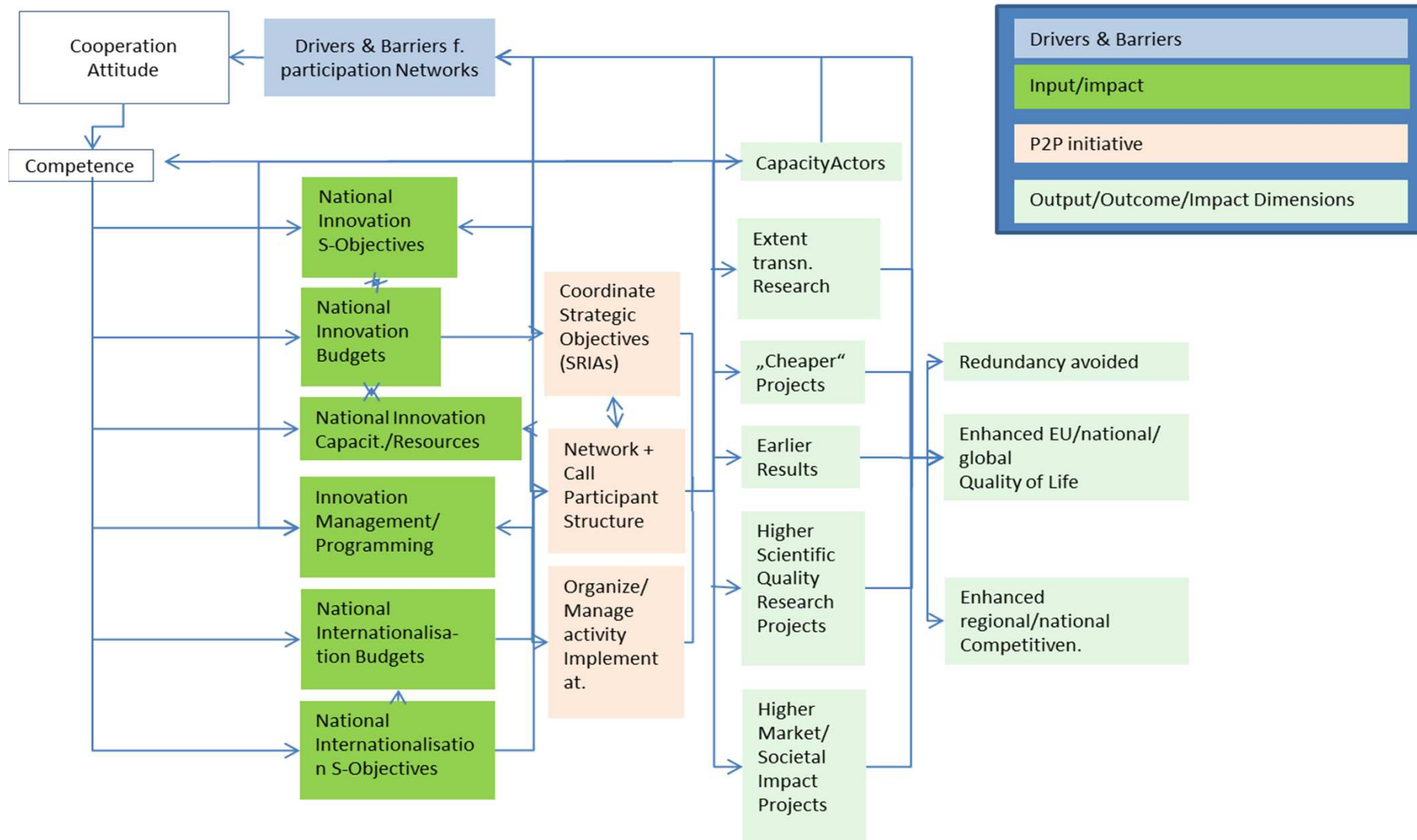
Final Assessment

- With external support; VDI/VDE-IT (iit Berlin)
- Surveys/statistical analysis, report, discussion session for improvement

Subject: M-ERA.NET Objectives and Indications

Aspect	M-ERA.NET objective
Total call budget (national funding) mobilised per call	EUR 35 million (+400 %)
Joint strategic programmes	Systematic multi-annual joint programming
Geographical coverage of joint calls/number of countries in a call	27 countries (+200 %)
New RTD partnerships and access to new markets (Europe)	> 10 % participation of new project partners
New RTD partnerships and access to new markets outside Europe	> 5 % participation from outside Europe
Joint call procedures: clear and transparent to RTD community	80 % of call applicants agree
Coverage of emerging topics	One single, flexible umbrella structure
Newcomers to transnational RTD cooperation	>10 % of applicants in a joint call
Number of projects funded by ERA-NETs through joint calls	200 (+900 %)
Complementarity to other funding instruments	80% agree
Leverage effect: EC contribution for the ERA-NET coordination mobilises national funding	1:50 (+900 %)
Support for the innovation chain	Whole innovation chain is covered by consortium

Assessment Subjects in Functional Frame (Netw.)



Assessment Approach

Perspective:

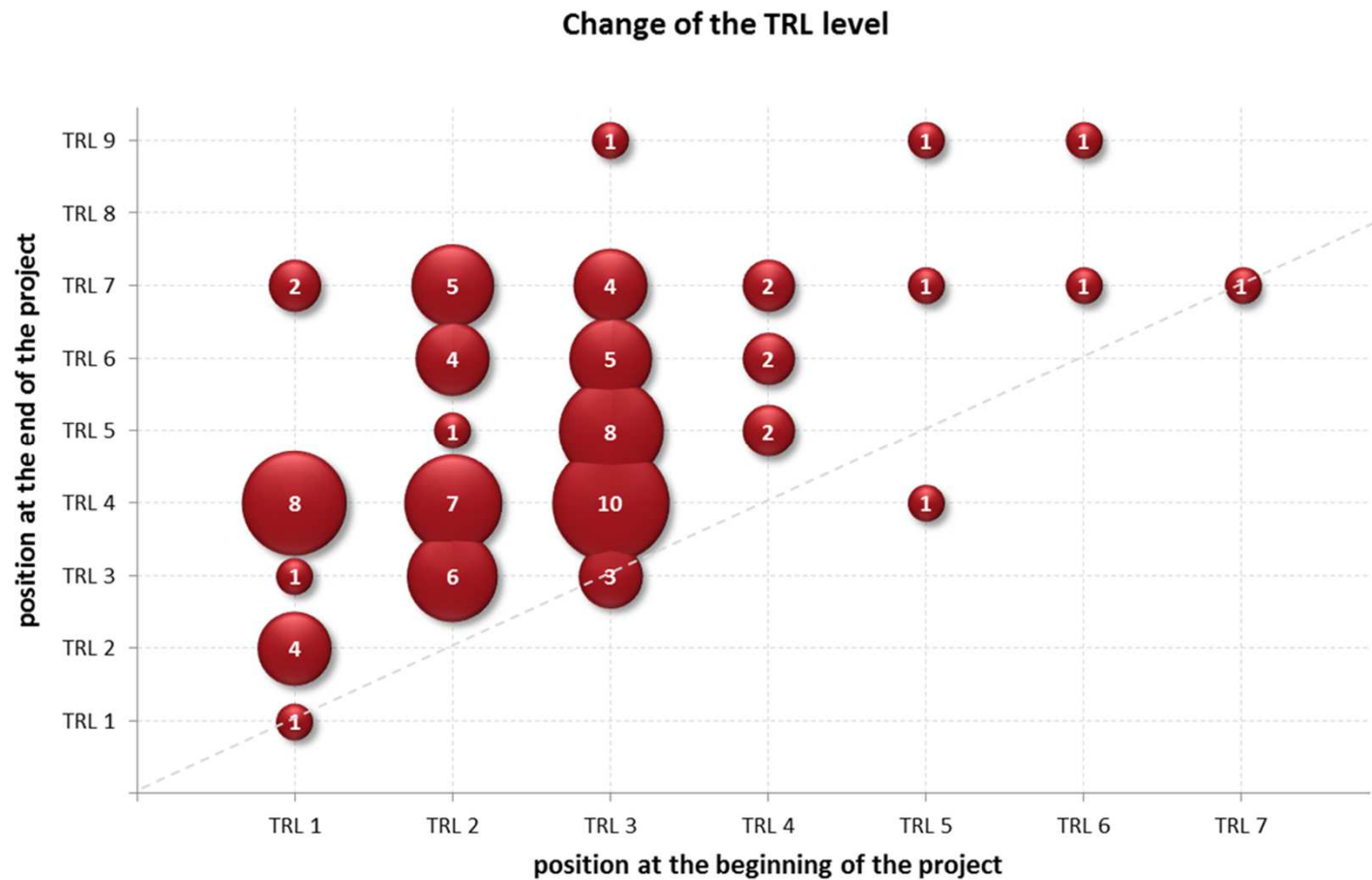
- The **network** perspective
 - ➔ Achievements/facts regarding objectives of the network
- The **research community** perspective
 - ➔ Comparative attractiveness of funding offer
- The **consortium member's objectives** perspective
 - ➔ National benefits from cooperation
 - ➔ What made you stay in – or leave – the network?
- The **network management**
 - ➔ Appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of network management

Data and Approach:

- Incl. **MNT-ERA.NET, MATERA and ERA-LEARN** sets of questions, data/reports
- Some **additional aspects to self assessments** (TRLs, Leverage effects)
- **Search for lessons learned and potential for improvement** rather than scientific statistical analysis ➔ emphasis on *discussion* of results

Selected Results I

Adressing the Innovation chain: TRL Analysis



Selected Results II – Network members' perception

Impacts:

- +++ Learning from each other (innovation programming)
 - ➔ Should there be specific formats supporting this aspect?

- ++ Higher research quality of funded projects

- ++ Earlier and better results than national projects
 - ➔ How are these drivers of competitiveness to be assessed?

Selected Results III – Drivers and Barriers for network participation

Drivers:

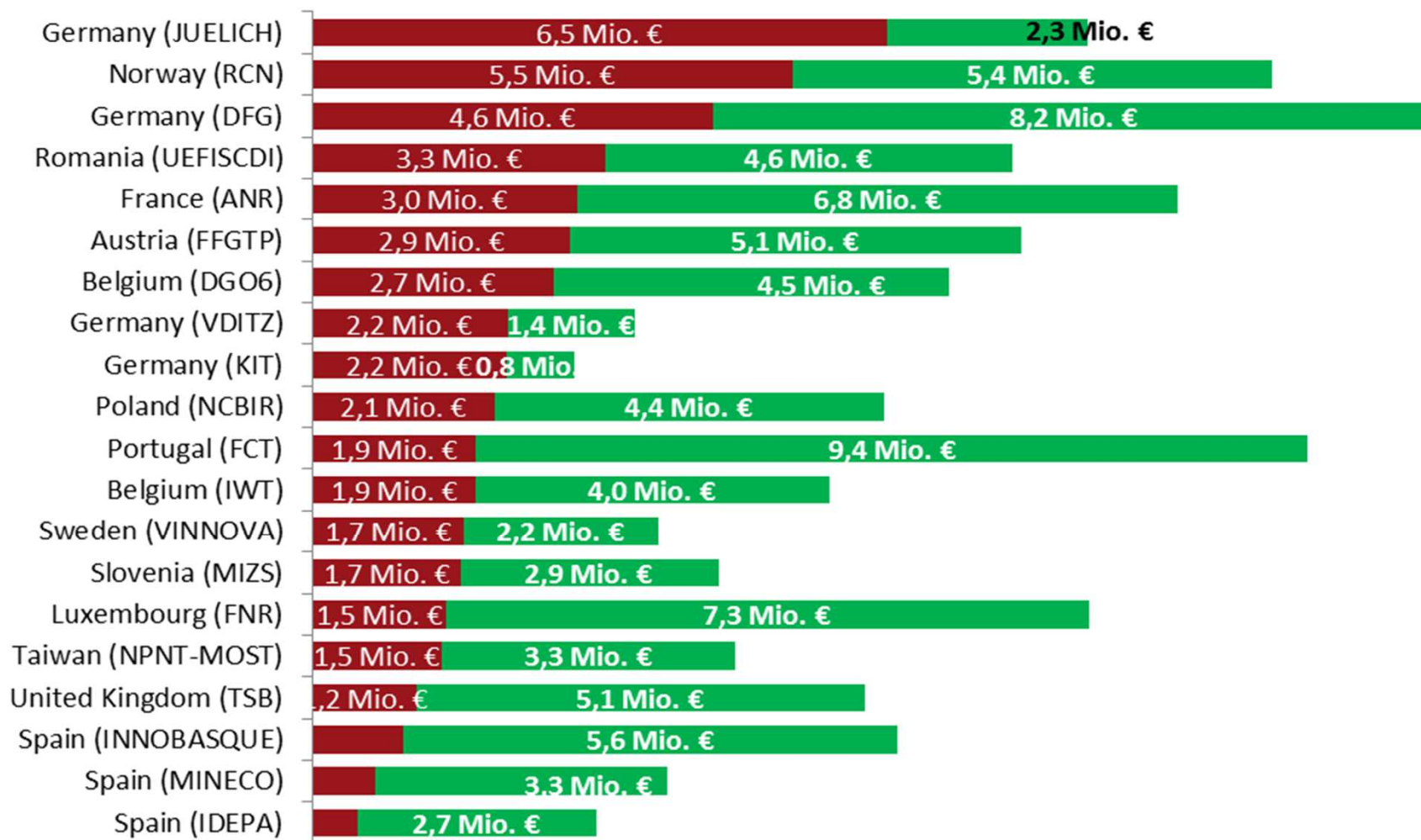
- +++ Good operational management of network and calls
- +++ Ability of network to realize critical masses of transnational projects
- +++ National strategic approach for internationalisation through network participation

Barriers:

- National budgetary situation
- Mismatch of national and network objectives

Selected Results IV - Leverage Effects

Leverage effect by programme 2012 - 2014
Own funding (red) - leveraged foreign project cost (green)



Lessons Learned

- Addressing previously funded projects is ...
 - difficult (maintain database → contact persons!)
 - invaluable, necessary? → very specific analysis
- Form and channels of addressing still under discussion
- Indications on positive effects/impact change while networks mature/EU develops
 - „Geographical coverage“ → having the programmes/budgets of the right countries in the right network
 - National/regional benefits from transnational cooperation seem to matter more than EC



Thank you!

More information:

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(final assessment)

M-era.Net

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(from 2016)